EDBA 4306 ABA Applications for Behavior Change

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

This course builds on ABA3301 Introduction to ABA to teach elements of behavior change. Students learn how to use reinforcement in conjunction with fading and shaping to increase desired behavior. Students also learn about various differential reinforcement procedures. Self-management strategies, behavioral contracts, and group contingencies are also introduced. A focus will be placed on reinforcement strategies while learning the disadvantages and risks of using aversive procedures.

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon Completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Define reinforcement.
2. Distinguish between positive and negative reinforcement and punishment.
3. Describe various differential reinforcement procedures.
4. Describe self-management strategies.
5. Describe the disadvantages and risks of aversive procedures.

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

Positive and Negative Reinforcement
Schedules of Reinforcement
Fading & Differential Reinforcement
Shaping and Chaining
Extinction
Teaching Verbal Behavior
Token Economies, Group Contingencies, and Contingency Contracting
Generalization, Maintenance, and Self-Management

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Students will study course content provided through selected texts and Blackboard postings. These resources include:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association 2020: The official guide to APA style* (7th ed.). American Psychological Association.

Cooper, J. O., Heron, T. E., & Heward, W. L. (2020). *Applied Behavior Analysis* (3rd ed.). Pearson Education Limited.

Fisher, W. W., Piazza, C. C., & Roane, H. (2021). *Handbook of Applied Behavior Analysis* (2nd ed.). Guildford Press.