



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Applied Behavior Analysis

EDBA 5303 Ethics and Professionalism in ABA

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

This course defines ethics in ABA and reviews the Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysts published by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board. Students learn the importance of maintaining ethics and professionalism when providing ABA services. Ethical issues are discussed and resources for ensuring the ethical and professional implementation of ABA are given. This course also discusses policy and legal issues that impact the delivery of ABA services to people with disabilities.

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

1. Define ethics in ABA.
2. Identify the importance of maintaining ethics and professionalism when providing ABA services.
3. Discuss ethical issues in various situations when providing ABA services.
4. State resources to assist in ethical dilemmas.

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

Background for Ethics in ABA
Understanding the Ethics Code
Responsibility as a Professional & in Practice
Responsibility to Clients, Stakeholders, Supervisees, and Trainees
Responsibility in Public Statements & Research
Delivering the Ethics Message & Cultural Considerations
Ethical Work Places

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

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

Bailey, J., & Burch, M. (2022). *Ethics for behavior analysts* (4th ed.).
Oxfordshire, UK: Taylor & Francis.

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

Sush, D. J., & Najdowski, A. C. (2021). A workbook of ethical case scenarios in applied behavior analysis (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Elsevier.