



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Applied Behavior Analysis

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 & Negative Reinforcement
Fading & Differential Reinforcement
Shaping & Chaining
Extinction
Verbal Behavior
Token Economies
Group Contingencies
Generalization & Maintenance

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

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

- 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.