

APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS -- psychology 734 -- professor - Stephen A. Graf, Ph.D.
Texts: Behavior Analysis & Behavior Modification Handbook of the Standard Beh. Chart
Class meets: MTWF 800-850am Room 94, ASCOB

This is your course outline. Please read it and keep it handy as a reference.

GRADING POLICY. There are specific behaviors which will be required of you. Both the accuracy and frequency levels will be specified, as will the dates on which you'll be expected to have achieved the accuracy and frequency aims. We'll call these the "Basic Goals" of the course.

There will also be daily behaviors required. That is, we'll be doing things in class every day upon which you'll be 'graded'. Your responses will be classified as "bullseyes", "closes", and "tries". Your non-responses will be classified as "skips" and "no chances". We'll keep track of the counts and the times, and ultimately the frequencies for these responses and non-responses. We'll add bullseyes, closes, and in many instances tries, and call those "hits". We'll add the skips and no chances and occasionally the tries, and call those "misses". Each day we'll total your "hits" and "misses" and add those totals to previous totals. The ratio of hits to misses will determine your "Class Grade".

A ratio of 40 or above earns a class grade of "A". 20-39="B". 10-19="C". 5-9="D". A ratio of less than 5 means failure.

Success on the Basic Goals is tied into your Class Grade in the following manner. Each successive accomplishment on the Basic Goals elevates the ceiling of your "goal grade". You move from a goal grade of "F" at the start to "D" to "C" to "B" to "A". Reaching the goal grade of "A" means you have accomplished all the basic goals of the course. Your "Course Grade" is determined by inspecting your "Class Grade" and your "Goal Grade". Whichever is lower becomes your Course Grade. The intent is that each person in the course will earn an "A".

Various possibilities will be discussed in class so that we can be sure you understand the setup.

ATTENDANCE POLICY. If you miss class, you receive a "no chance" for each of the exercises we do that you miss. As explained above, these "no chances" enter into the determination of your "Class Grade". If you should happen to get a "no chance" day (an absence), each successive class without a "no chance" can help you erase those no chance misses. This is how it works. When your consecutive presences match the number of absences, the count of your total presences will be subtracted from your "misses" of your Class Grade. We'll go over examples in class so that you'll be sure to understand this feature.

NOTE. You'll have a folder to pick up at the beginning of class every day. A sheet in this folder will update your status in the course as to Goal Grade and Class Grade.