

SE 571: Behavioral Assessment

Course Description and Abbreviated Syllabus

4 credit hours (60 hours towards BCBA content)

Students will receive the following course content towards BCBA requirements:

- 30 hours of Identification of the Problem and Assessment
- 5 hours of Intervention & Behavior Change Considerations
- 25 hours of Discretionary content

Catalog description:

Course provides an overview of assessment techniques used in behavioral intervention planning. Specific topics include the history and present use of functional assessments, completion of the functional assessment interview, descriptive and functional analysis, data collection and interpretation, preference assessment, and interpretation of evaluation tools for various populations.

This course is open to graduate and post-graduate students interested in obtaining knowledge of Behavior Analysis and certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). Students are expected to read professional literature, participate in discussions, complete literature research, and practice the application of behavioral principles. Completion of assignments and class participation are essential to meeting the course objectives.

Additional Course Information:

Students will be expected to read all materials prior to the scheduled class time in order to better understand the class content and participate in class discussion. Students will be graded on their participation, weekly quizzes and exams. The instructor will be responsible to preparing lecture and activity based materials to help facilitate learning the course objectives. The instructor also provides ample opportunities for applied experiences with in the community for students who are interested in the real life applications of the skills learned in class. Topics covered in this course are taught in a specific sequential order. All material builds on previously covered topics. Missing a class will directly impact your ability to understand the next lecture and ultimately impact your overall grade. Students should plan on attending all classes.

Prerequisite: SE 570

Course objectives: After completing this course students will:

1. Be able to complete a Functional Assessment Interview
2. Be able to complete a Descriptive Analysis
3. Be able to complete a Functional Analysis
4. Determine what data to collect at baseline and how to interpret it
5. Be able to complete a Preference Assessment
6. Be able to interpret the results of all the evaluation tools to determine how to treat a client.