

The University of Mississippi
PSY 701:02 Behavioral Applications & Philosophies Seminar
Fall 2016-17

Syllabus Date: 4/14/2016

Instructor:	Karen Kate Kellum, Ph.D.	Email:	kkellum@olemiss.edu
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Office:	306 Falkner (across from Johnson Commons)	Office Hours:	stop by anytime you'd like email or call to arrange an appointment

Class meeting information:

This class meets 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, in Falkner 207. We will meet for the final exam during the scheduled examination time (8am Friday Dec 9th).

A description:

Frazier, a character in B. F. Skinner's fictional Walden II asked, "**What would you do if you found yourself in possession of an effective science of behavior?**" (1948, p.240).

When I ask myself this question, an answer I hear is "teach others about an effective science of behavior using an effective science of behavior". I believe that Behavior Analysis (BA (this is said as letters)) is one such effective science of behavior. I also believe that the application of this science of behavior, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA (also said as letters)), can make significant differences in the lives of people who come in contact with it. Thus, this course is designed to arrange conditions under which students are likely to:

- a) develop a understanding of the philosophies and principles of behavior analysis
- b) know how various Behavior Analysts have answered this question
- c) answer this question for themselves

Course Objectives:

During this course, successful students will demonstrate the ability to:

- 1) Describe various behavioral philosophies and approaches to defining behavior (covert & overt, verbal & non-verbal)
- 2) Develop definitions of socially relevant behaviors that are observable and measurable
- 3) Choose appropriate methods of measuring relevant dimensions of behavior
- 4) Describe practical uses of behavior analytic principles and practices with a variety of settings and populations
- 5) Describe and evaluate various techniques for testing for functional relationships between behavior and controlling variables
- 6) Create appropriate behavior change plans that typify the ethical use of behavior change strategies
- 7) Choose appropriate time-series design elements to evaluate behavior change strategies

Materials:

- Required Books & Materials
 - a. On-line articles & web-sites
 - b. SAFMEDS (available for purchase from UM Bookstore)
- Connectivity
 1. Blackboard account and Internet access
 2. Regular access to olemiss.edu email account
- Recommended Books
 1. Biglan, A. (2015). *The Nurture Effect*
 2. Schneider, S.M. (2012). *Science of Consequences*
 3. Hayes, S.C., Hayes, L.J.P., Reece, H.W., & Sarbin, T.R. (1993). *Varieties of Scientific Contextualism*

Ways to earn points:

Success in any course, as measured by your final grade and the degree to which your verbal and nonverbal behavior has changed, is dependent upon the effort you and your instructor put into the course. As the instructor, I believe it is my job to arrange conditions under which you are likely to successfully meet the objectives of this course.

Instead of relying solely on major exams, this class arranges multiple *frequent* opportunities for students to practice and demonstrate skills related to the course objectives.

University policy provides for reasonable accommodations to be made for students with verified disabilities on an individualized and flexible basis, and I welcome opportunities to discuss accommodations.

Assignments:

	Maximum Number	Maximum Points	Potential Points
In-Class Reading Quizzes	14	5	70
Live SAFMEDS	4	40	160
Daily Discussion Contributions	14	15	210
Reading/Prep Guides	14	15	210
Final Project/Self Proposed	1	100	100
Final Exam	1	100	100
Clicker Training	1	50	50
Total Possible Points			900

Weekly Assignments

Prep-guides require that students complete

Late Assignments:

All assignments are due **on-line by 11:59 pm** on the scheduled date, without exception. For most late assignments, I will take off the following percentage of the possible points before grading:

How Late?	Percent Off	Example: Highest possible for assignment worth 50 points
Next day	5%	47.5
2-7 days	10%	45
7-14 days	50%	25
15 + days	100%	0

n.b. In-Class Discussion points are not available after the class period.

Grades:

The grades are calculated using 850 as the total number of points (i.e., there are 50 'extra' points in the assignments so you can choose not to complete them all without negatively impacting your grade)

A	795+	B+	740-764	C+	655-679	D	552-594
A-	765-794	B	705-739	C	595-654	F	<552
		B-	680-704				

Academic Conduct:

Students are expected to adhere to the University of Mississippi Creed and the Standards of Honesty as described in Policy Code ACA.AR.600.001 and written in the M Book. If you violate the Standards of Honesty, you will be reported and subject to the appropriate sanction which may include expulsion from the University.

Grade Appeals:

If you would like to dispute a grade on any assignment, you may do so by writing a reasonable explanation and turning it in with the graded assignment. Based upon your explanation and my evaluation, the number of points may stay the same, increase, or decrease.

Attendance and Classroom Behavior:

I believe that you have the greatest opportunity to learn when you have multiple opportunities to practice, and classes provide such opportunities. I expect students to attend classes, arrive on time, participate in discussions, and stay until the end of class. Students have a choice whether or not to attend class; however, I also expect students to reduce the number of potential distractions during class (i.e., no reading other materials, minimum text messaging, no phone calls, no crossword puzzles, no studying for other classes).

Title IX Compliance:

The University of Mississippi is committed to protecting students from sexual discrimination, sexual assault, stalking, sexual harassment, and relationship violence. If you are affected by any of these issues, please reach out to the Title IX Coordinator at 662-915-7045 or eeo@olemiss.edu. The University may be able to offer services and assistance. Also, the Title IX Coordinator may contact you if you write about or report any of these concerns to any faculty or staff members. Faculty and Staff are required by law to report sexual discrimination, but you are not required to follow up on the report. If you are dealing with any other issue involving unlawful discrimination, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Regulatory Compliance at 662-915-7735.

Attendance & Financial Aid

The university requires that all students have a verified attendance at least once during the first two weeks of the semester for each course. If attendance is not verified, then a student will be dropped from the course and any financial aid will be adjusted accordingly. Please see <http://olemiss.edu/gotoclass> for more information.

Modifications to syllabus and assignments

I reserve the right to modify this syllabus during the course of the semester after notification to the class.