

The mission of McKendree University is to provide a high-quality educational experience to outstanding students.

~Responsible Citizenship ~Engagement ~Academic Excellence ~Lifelong Learning~

ABA 330 Basic Principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (3)

A study of the development of the individual from infancy through adolescence with emphasis on major developmental theories, specifically as related to psychosexual, psychosocial, cognitive, moral, and physical development. Methodologies in child research are also explored. Requires systematic observation of children and adolescents. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- 1. Become fluent in the basic principles of ABA
- 2. Learn the theory behind common ABA procedures and learn about best practices for implementing these.
- 3. Learn about research design in ABA
- 4. Learn how to take different forms of behavioral data
- 5. Learn about ethics and the professional practice of ABA, and hopefully have their interest piqued in future careers.

Course Topics

- 1. Research methods in ABA
- 2. Basic operant conditioning principles
- 3. Stimulus control
- 4. Verbal behavior
- 5. Shaping and chaining
- 6. Functional assessment of behavior
- 7. Behavior-change plans
- 8. Professional ethics



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ABA 398 Ethics in Research and Therapy (3)

This course will cover the ethical principles and code of conduct for individuals in various helping professionals. Specific topics and case studies will include ethical issues related to competence, human relations, privacy and confidentiality, advertising, record keeping, education and training, research, assessment, and therapy. Ethical codes from the American Psychological Association, American Counseling Association, Behavior Analyst Certification Board, the Association for Applied Sport Psychology, and the American Occupational Therapy Association will be the primary resources. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will:

- 1. Exhibit personal and social responsibility.
- 2. Cultivate integrity through personal responsibility and ethical standards.
- 3. Clarify personal values and self-awareness and develop a personal code of values and ethics.
- 4. Observe ethical activity in an applied environment.
- 5. Critically analyze themselves and society related to an ethical dilemma

COURSE TOPICS

- 1. The APA Code of Ethics
- 2. Human rights
- 3. Privacy and confidentiality
- 4. Ethical decision making
- 5. Resolving ethical dilemmas
- 6. Competency for practice
- 7. Research ethics
- 8. Ethics in therapy
- 9. Ethics in assessment