Syllabus Spring 2023



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON**

**Course Title: PSYC 4420-001 Experimental Analysis of Behavior**

**Instructor:** Dr. Scott Coleman

**Email:** Send electronic mail via Canvas

**Office:** Room 415 Life Sciences (LS), UT Arlington, Box 19528, Arlington, TX 76019

**Office Phone:** Department (817) 272-2281; Office (817) 272-0345

**Office hours:**  10:00 am. to 11:00 am. MW via Teams or by appointment

**Teaching Assistant:** Julieta Trejo, email: Julieta.Trejo@mavs.uta.edu .

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** 11:00 to 11:50 a.m., MWF, LS 420 and via Teams

**Time and Place of Lab Meetings:** 9 am. to 10:50 am., Fridays via Teams and via Teams

**Required Texts and Course Materials:**

(1) Applied Behavior Analysis 2nd ed. Cooper, Hero, & Heward. Pearson:Boston.ISBN- 13: 978-0-13-142113-4. (Lecture)

(2) Sniffy The Virtual Rat Pro (v. 3). Alloway, Wilson, & Graham. Wadsworth: Cengage Learning. ISBN-13:978-1-111-72625-6. (Lab)

Study Guides and supplemental reading material will be posted on Canvas.

**Course Description:**  An overview of behavior control techniques for remediation and prevention of problem behaviors and for optimization of normal behaviors in real life settings. Contrasting therapeutic approaches, the ethics of behavior control, and the social implications of behavior analysis will be also be addressed.

**Requirements:** Psyc (1315) Introduction to Psychology, Psyc 3304 Analysis and Management of Behavior, or permission of the instructor.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** The goal of Psychology 4420 is to familiarize students with theoretical, technical, and analytical concepts involving experiment analysis of behavior. Students will be shown how to analyze human and animal behaviors. Students will gain experience collecting data, performing a variety of data analysis procedures, and writing lab reports detailing experimental finding. Student will understand steps in functional analysis and application of behavior modification techniques in a variety of applied settings.

**Attendance:** The way the course is structured, the grade you earn is associated with the amount of book reading, study, lab performance, and test-taking behavior you produce. You might note that attendance at lectures can increase your grade one letter (B to A; C to B; etc.). That is because 10 to 20% of each weekly quiz covers the lecture(s) for that week.

**Grade Calculation:** There will be 12 weekly unit tests in this course, of which only the highest 10 scores will be counted; the two lowest test scores will be dropped completely. Each test will consist of a combination of 8 to questions from the textbook material and 1 to 2 questions from lecture. Each test will be worth 100 points (10 points per question). There will also be 3 individual lab reports (in standard APA format). Each lab report will be worth 150 points. In addition, there will be 2 lab exercises each worth 25 pts. Additionally, there will be an individual presentation assignment concerning functional analysis of problem behavior worth 200 points. Details of the functional analysis presentation will be provided during lab. Thus, the total possible number of points available is 1700 points (10 highest tests x 100), plus 500 (lab exercises and reports) and 200 points for functional analysis (presentation). The course grade will be calculated as follows:

 A = 1530 - 1700 points= 90% of 1700

 B = 1360 - 1529 points = 80-89% of 1700

 C = 1190 - 1359 points = 70-79% of 1700

 D = 1020 - 1189 points = 60-69% of 1700

F = 0 - 1019 points = 0-59% of 1700

**Technology Requirements:** Students will use a variety of online tools in this course including Canvas, Teams, Respondus Lockdown and Monitor. Students can access tutorials on these tools by clicking on the “Get Started” Box on their Canvas Homepage. Students must have access to reliable internet, computer with UTA compatible internet. This course requires the use of LockDown Browser and a webcam for online exams. The webcam can be the type that's built into your computer or one that plugs in with a USB cable. Note for exam purposes wireless internet is not recommended. See link for additional information <https://web.respondus.com/lockdownbrowser-student-video/>. Lab exercises will use a computer-based behavior simulation program. Use of program may be specific to computer operating system and computer drive. Students with access to PC with windows and a CD drive generally have best experience using the program. In addition, spreadsheet, graphing and word processing programs are necessary for lab assignments.

**Academic Integrity:** It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University’s regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. According to the UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

**UT Arlington Honor Code**

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will only submit work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

**Disability Accommodations: UT** Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).** Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364.

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit*[*uta.edu/eos*](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php)*. For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**Student Support Services Available:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals to resources for any reason, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline by calling 817-272-6107 sending a message to resources@uta.edu, or visiting [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. For the Spring 2023 semester, the last day for undergraduates to drop a course is **March 31st.**  It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information. (<http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

**Electronic Communication Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. ***Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.*** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington. To obtain your NetID or for logon assistance, visit <https://webapps.uta.edu/oit/selfservice/>. If you are unable to resolve your issue from the Self-Service website, contact the Helpdesk at helpdesk@uta.edu. Important emails regarding class information will be sent to students through Canvas. It is your responsibility to regularly check Canvas for such emails, or set up Canvas to forward emails to an email account that you regularly use.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Grade Grievance:**

Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. The instructor reserves the right to re-grade any assignment or exam in its entirety when a grade is disputed. For more information on UTA grading policy or grade grievance use the following links: <https://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>

or <https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/dos/file-a-complaint>

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located on the North side of the Life Science Bldg.. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located on the North side of the Life Science Bldg.. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Active Shooter:** The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by UTA Police regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. <https://police.uta.edu/activeshooter>

**Course Outline**

(Note: *As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Dr. Coleman*)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Reading Assignment (Lecture/Lab Sniffy)** | **Test # & Date** |
| 1 | None/Ch. 1 | no test 1/21  |
| 2 | Ch. 1,2/Ch. 2 | 1 - 1/27 |
| 3 | Ch. 3,4/Ch. 3 | 2 – 2/3 |
| 4 | Ch. 5,6/Ch. 4 | 3 - 2/10 |
| 5 | Ch. 11/Ch 9 | 4 - 2/17 |
| 6 | Ch. 19,20/Ch.10 | 5 - 2/24 |
| 7 | Ch. 13/Ch.12 | 6 - 3/ |
| 8 | Ch 21-22/Ch. 12 | 7 - 3/10 |
| 9 | None/None | no test 3/17 |
| 10 | None/None | no test 3/24 |
| 11 | Ch. 17/Ch. 13 | 8 - 3/31 |
| 12 | Ch 12,18/None | 9 - 4/7 |
| 13 | Ch 14,15/None | 10 - 4/14 |
| 14 | Ch 7,8/None  | 11 - 4/21  |
| 15 | Ch 9,10/None | 12 - 4/28 |

**Lab Schedule**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Lab Assignments** |
| 1 (1/20) | Introduction, Functional Analysis Assigned |
| 2 (1/27) | Test 1, Classical Conditioning Lecture |
| 3 (2/3) | Test 2, Sniffy Rat Simulation (ex. 1-3) |
| 4 (2/10) | Test 3, Lab Assignment 1 due, Sniffy.. (ex.6-8) |
| 5 (2/17) | Test 4, Lab Assignment 2 due, Operant conditioning |
| 6 (2/24) | Test 5, Sniffy… (ex. 22-24) |
| 7 (3/3) | Test 6, FA presentation |
| 8 (3/10) | Test 7, FA presentation |
| 9 (3/17) | SPRING BREAK |
| 10 (3/24) | Lab Report 1 due, Sniffy…(ex. 32, 34-36) |
| 11 (4/1) | Test 8, Discrimination Lecture |
| 12 (4/7) | Test 9, Sniffy…(ex. 39, 41, 43) |
| 13 (4/14) | Test 10, Lab Report 2 due |
| 14 (4/21) | Test 11, TBD |
| 15 (4/28) | Test 12, Lab Report 3 due, Last Lab |