

PSYCHOLOGY 2810

PRINCIPLES OF BEHAVIOR

1997-98

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

INSTRUCTOR: L. R. ANDREOTTI
OFFICE NUMBER: C403
PHONE NUMBER: 539-2994
OFFICE HOURS: M-W-F 10:00 - 11:00, or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is intended to introduce the student to the basic principles of conditioning and learning. Specific topics to be examined involve principles of operant and classical conditioning, along with the origin of these principles in animal experimentation and learning theory. Special attention will be paid to behavior analysis (operant conditioning) and social learning theory.

In addition, the course is intended to introduce the student to behavior change techniques as they are currently employed in dealing with specific behavior problems. This will involve an examination of the application of these principles to specific behavioral problems (along with an evaluation of the effectiveness of these techniques).

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The successful student should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the relevant concepts, terminology, theoretical principles, and techniques that will be examined. S/he should also be able to describe and illustrate how these might be applied to change or "treat" various behavioral problems.

PREREQUISITES: PY1040 and PY1050

TEXT: Pierce, W.D. and Epling, F.W. (1995). Behavior analysis and learning. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.

A tentative timetable for the course is presented on the next page. Various changes in the timetable may be announced in class.

Dates

September 4 - 9

September 11

September 16 - 18

September 23 - 25

SEPTEMBER 30

October 2 - 7

October 9 - 14

October 16

OCTOBER 21

October 23 - 28

October 30

November 4 - 6

November 13

November 18

November 20

November 25 - December 2

DECEMBER 4Pierce & Epling

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Chapters 4 & 5

EXAM I

Chapters 6 & 7

Chapter 8

Chapter 9

EXAM II

Introduction to behavior therapy

Papers by Eysenck, Bergin, & Smith and Glass

Anxiety Disorders

Depression

Eating Disorders

Alcoholism & cigarette smoking

Developmental disorders (Autism & Mental retardation)

EXAM III¹

Marks in the course will be weighted as follows:

September 30th Exam	30%
October 21st Exam	30%
December 4th Exam	30%
Subjective Evaluation ²	<u>10%</u>
	100%

¹This third exam is not a final exam.

²As explained in class, no student will receive a mark for subjective evaluation that is lower than the student's exam average.

GRADING SYSTEM:

SCALE	TRANSLATION	<u>APPROXIMATE % EQUIVALENT</u>
9		90 - 100
<u>8</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>80 - 89</u>
7		72 - 79
<u>6</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>65 - 71</u>
5		57 - 64
<u>4</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>50 - 56</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>Failure</u>	<u>45 - 49</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>Failure</u>	<u>26 - 44</u>
1		0 - 25

It should be noted that students will be held accountable for lectures delivered in addition to any announcements that will be made in class. If any student is unable to attend a particular class, it will be his/her responsibility to find out what was missed.

Special note should be made of the fact that the material covered after the second exam will be based entirely upon lectures (with the exception of the papers to be discussed on November 5th). Since there is no textual reference for this material, students who are unable to attend the lectures to take notes will find the last third of the course to be a serious challenge.

If it becomes apparent to a student that s/he will be unable to write an exam at a scheduled time, the student should notify the instructor immediately. In the event that the student cannot reach the instructor in person, s/he should leave a message for the instructor on the answering machine (539-2994).

The exam dates listed on this handout are tentative. Due to unforeseen circumstances, it may become necessary to administer one or more of the exams on different dates. Students should not make plans for travel, holidays, employment, etc, which would interfere with their writing exams during **any** scheduled class time. As a general rule, there will be no opportunities to re-write missed exams. It should be noted again that there is **no final exam** for this course.

Since the information recorded on this outline will be required by the student throughout the semester, I recommend that precautions be taken to insure that it is not lost.

Students are strongly encouraged to see me after class or in my office (C403) if they are having difficulty in the course or simply wish a further discussion of the material.

STUDENT RECORD OF MARKS ON EXAMS:

EXAM I.....

EXAM II.....

EXAM III.....