

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY REHABILITATION

"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"

RP2402 WORKING WITH PEOPLE WITH CHALLENGING BEHAVIOURS

Winter 2002 - January 7 to April 12, 2002

Location: E311

Times: Monday 10:00 - 11:20
Wednesday 8:30 - 9:50

Instructor: Marsha C. Zalik

Office: H230

Phone: 539-2894

Email: Please use Email on the course WebCT site to contact the instructor

Office Hours: Thursdays: 1:30 - 4:00
Fridays: 1:30 - 4:00

The instructor will also meet with students outside of office hours by appointment or drop-in.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course refines and builds on concepts and methods related to programming for skill development and behaviour management as covered in RP1102 and RP1202. The principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis will be reviewed. Those principles will then be applied to value-based normative programming for people whose behaviour is considered problematic.

Decrease of problematic behaviours will be approached through skill development and environmental modification. This approach is based on the assumption that problematic behaviours are often attempts to get one's need met. Students will learn to use information obtained through functional analysis of these behaviours to facilitate a better fit of environmental demands and the needs of the individual so that the individual no longer finds the problematic behaviour necessary.

PREREQUISITES

RP1100, RP1202, RP2315

CLASS FORMAT

Classes will use a variety of formats. There will be small group work, class discussions, mini-lectures, and a variety of other activities designed to promote active learning of the course content.

WebCT will be used to provide learners with up to date information about reading and exercises required to prepare for classes. Handouts, assignment guidelines, and due dates will also be posted on WebCT. Learners are required to check WebCT prior to each class to ensure that they are prepared to participate in the class and that they have all required materials.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is divided into two (2) modules.

Module I will be covered in the first third of the course. It will provide students with a review of application of ABA concepts and techniques from RP1102 and RP1202.

Students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and application of principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis assessment and intervention skills including
 - a. Behavioural definitions and objectives
 - b. Behavioural recording
 - anecdotal reports
 - incident reports
 - permanent product recording
 - event recording
 - interval recording
 - time sampling
 - latency recording
 - duration recording
 - graphing
 - c. Single subject designs
 - AB design
 - changing criterion design
 - changing conditions design
 - d. Increasing behaviours

- types of reinforcers
 - factors affecting effectiveness of reinforcers
 - schedules of reinforcement
- e. Decreasing behaviours
- differential reinforcement strategies for behaviour reduction
 - extinction
 - P- : response cost and time out
 - P+ : aversive techniques
- f. Stimulus control
- g. Shaping
- h. Generalization

Module II will be covered in the final two thirds of the course. It will provide students with concepts and skills to work effectively with people who behave in challenging ways.

Students will:

2. Compare and contrast eliminative and educative approaches to behaviour problems.
3. Assess the communication and functionality associated with excess behaviours.
4. Prioritize behaviours for intervention, discriminating excess behaviours that require intervention from those that do not.
5. Demonstrate familiarity with selected strategies that support behaviour change.
6. Demonstrate ability to design intervention plans for behaviour problems so that intervention reflects values, utilizes normative ecological and consequence procedures, and promotes development of adaptive behaviours.
7. Demonstrate knowledge in the area of crisis management