

**SAMPLE SYLLABI: Note CHANGES to content, texts, requirements and dates may occur**

**Seminar: Functional Assessment and Treatment of Behavior Disorders  
Syllabus  
CPSY 530 Seminar: Functional Analysis – Fall 2005**

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**Instructor:** Dr. John Rapp  
**Office:** Education Bldg. Office A261  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 am – 11:30 am, Friday 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm or by appt.  
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*Content and Course Objectives*

Most contemporary approaches to behavioral assessment have a similar focus: They attempt to identify the determinants (functional antecedents and consequences) of a particular problem behavior. Collectively, these approaches have been called “functional behavioral assessment” or “FBA” (1997 revisions of IDEA). In this seminar, we will examine the three general methodologies currently in use: (a) functional (experimental) analysis, (b) descriptive (naturalistic) analysis, and (c) indirect (anecdotal) methods. After becoming acquainted with the defining characteristics, variations, strengths, and weaknesses of each approach, we will examine research in which functional analyses were either evaluated or used for diagnostic or prescriptive purposes.

*Readings*

The literature on FBA has grown to over 1500 studies over the past 15 years. In an attempt to promote in-depth discussion yet provide exposure to as much information as possible, I’ve adopted a two-tier list of readings. “Required” readings (usually 2 to 4) will be assigned for each class period (see schedule), for which all of you will be responsible and one person will lead the discussion. “Supplementary” readings (usually 1 or 2) will serve as additional material for discussion.

Readings will be drawn from two sources:

- A large number of articles will be from *JABA*, which is readily available to most of you (many articles are available from the JABA website).
- Articles and chapters from other sources are available in the library. DS2L contains outlines of articles prepared by students in previous courses, which are included simply as additional resources.

*Format*

- Seminar format: I may provide a brief lecture for some topics, which will introduce or supplement material contained in the readings. The majority of class time will be spent discussing the assigned readings (listed on the attached class schedule).
- \*\*Leading Article Discussion: You should be prepared to lead the class discussion for the article you were assigned and to participate in the discussion of all of the required readings.

- **Critiques:** On the weeks that you are NOT assigned to lead the article discussion, you will submit a 4-page (double spaced) critique for one of the required or supplemental readings. The critique should briefly summarize the reading (no more than one paragraph), indicate both strengths and weaknesses, and identify areas for future research. Critiques will be graded on a 10-pt scale (8 for content, 2 for style).
- **Research proposals:** You will submit a research proposal (see due date on the schedule) focusing on one or more aspects of assessment or treatment covered in the course. The proposal should be a 5-7 page “protocol,” which will include:
  - Statement of purpose with citations to key literature,
  - Method section specifying essential procedures,
  - Brief discussion of anticipated findings, and
  - Reference list.

Each proposal will be presented orally and will be discussed during class. The proposals will be graded on a 20-pt scale (16 for content, 4 for style).

### **Grading**

For students enrolled in **CPSY 530**, final grades will be based on in-class participation (40%), critiques (25%), leading article discussions (10%; 2 or 3 articles), and proposals (25%).

### **Week 1 (September 7): Introduction and Lecture (by me) on the History of Experimental Analyses and assign discussion leaders and critiques.**

### **Week 2: (September 14): Overview and Early Examples of Experimental Analysis**

#### *Required*

1. Lovaas, O. I., & Simmons, J. Q. (1969). Manipulation of self-destruction in three retarded children. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 2, 143-157.
2. Berkson, G., & Mason, W. A. (1965). Stereotyped movements of mental defectives: 4. The effects of toys and the character of the acts. *American Journal of Mental Deficiency*, 70, 511-524.
3. Carr, E. G., Newsom, C. D., & Binkoff, J. A. (1980). Escape as a factor in the aggressive behavior of two retarded children. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 13, 101-117.

#### *Supplemental*

4. Iwata, B. A., Kahng, S., Wallace, M. D., & Lindberg, J. S. (2000). The functional analysis model of behavioral assessment. In J. Austin & J.E. Carr (Eds.), *Handbook of applied behavior analysis* (pp. 61-89). Reno, NV: Context Press.
5. Schaefer, H. H. (1970). Self-injurious behavior: Shaping “head-banging” in monkeys. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 3, 111-116.

### **Week 3 (September 21): Experimental Analysis, General Models**

#### **Required**

1. Iwata, B. A., Dorsey, M. F., Slifer, K. J., Bauman, K. E., & Richman, G. S. (1994). Toward a functional analysis of self-injury. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 27, 197-209. Reprinted from *Analysis and Intervention in Developmental Disabilities*, 1982, 2, 3-20.
2. Carr, E.G., & Durand, V.M. (1985). Reducing behavior problems through functional communication training. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 18, 111-126.

#### **Week 4 (September 28): Experimental Analysis continued**

##### *Required*

1. Worsdell, A. S., Iwata, B. A., Conners, J., Kahng, S., & Thompson, R. H. (2000). Relative influences of establishing operations and reinforcement contingencies on self-injurious behavior during functional analyses. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 33*, 451-461.
2. Iwata, B. A., Pace, G. M., Dorsey, M. F., Zarcone, J. R., Vollmer, T. R., Smith, R. G., Rodgers, T. A., Lerman, D. C., Shore, B. A., Mazaleski, J. L., Goh, H., Cowdery, G. E., Kalsher, M. J., & Willis, K. D. (1994). The functions of self-injurious behavior: An experimental-epidemiological analysis. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 27*, 215-240.

#### **Week 5 (October 5): Experimental Analysis, The Brief Functional Analysis**

##### *Required*

1. Northup, J., Wacker, D., Sasso, G., Steege, M., Cigrand, K., Cook, J., & DeRaad, A. (1991). A brief functional analysis of aggressive and alternative behavior in an outclinic setting. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 24*, 509-522.
2. Vollmer, T. R., Marcus, B. A., Ringdahl, J. E., & Roane, H. S. (1995). Progressing from brief assessments to extended experimental analyses in the evaluation of aberrant behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 28*, 561-576.

##### *Supplemental*

3. Kahng, S., & Iwata, B. A. (1999). Correspondence between outcomes of brief and extended functional analyses. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 32*, 149-159.
4. Wallace, M. D., & Iwata, B. A. (1999). Effects of session duration on functional analysis outcomes. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 32*, 175-183.

#### **Week 6 (October 12): Descriptive Analysis**

##### *Required*

1. Vollmer, T. R., Borrero, J. C., Wright, C. S., Van Camp, C., and Lalli, J. S. (2001). Identifying possible contingencies during descriptive analyses of severe behavior disorders. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 34*, 269-287.
2. Anderson, C. M., & Long, E. S. (2002). Use of a structured descriptive assessment methodology to identify variables affecting problem behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 35*, 137-154.

##### *Supplemental*

3. Kahng, S., Iwata, B. A., Fischer, S. M., Page, T. J., Treadwell, K. R. H., Williams, D. E., & Smith, R. G. (1998). Temporal distributions of problem behavior based on scatter plot analysis. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 31*, 593-604.
4. Lerman, D. C., & Iwata, B. A. (1993). Descriptive and experimental analyses of variables maintaining self-injurious behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 26*, 293-319.

## **Week 7 (October 19): Indirect (Anecdotal) Assessment Methods**

### *Required*

1. Durand, V. M., & Crimmins, D. B. (1988). Identifying the variables maintaining self-injurious behavior. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 18*, 99-117.
2. Zarcone, J. R., Rodgers, T. A., Iwata, B. A., Rourke, D., & Dorsey, M. F. (1991). Reliability analysis of the Motivation Assessment Scale: A failure to replicate. *Research in Developmental Disabilities, 12*, 349-360.
3. Matson, J. L., Bamburg, J. W., Cherry, K. E., & Paclawskyj, T. R. (1999). A validity study on the Questions About Behavioral Function (QABF) scale: Predicting treatment success for self-injury, aggression, and stereotypies. *Research in Developmental Disabilities, 20*, 163-176.

## **Week 8 (October 26): Intervention Strategies**

### *Required*

1. Smith, R. G., & Iwata, B. A. (1997). Antecedent influences on behavior disorders. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 30*, 343-375.
2. Lerman, D. C., & Iwata, B. A. (1996). Developing a technology for the use of operant extinction in clinical settings: An examination of basic and applied research. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 29*, 345-382.

### *Supplemental*

3. Vollmer, T. R., & Iwata, B. A. (1992). Differential reinforcement as treatment for behavior disorders: Procedural and functional variations. *Research in Developmental Disabilities, 13*, 393-417.

## **Week 9 (November 2): Problem Behavior Maintained by Social-Positive Reinforcement**

### *Required*

1. Vollmer, T. R., Iwata, B. A., Zarcone, J. R., Smith, R. G., & Mazaleski, J. L. (1993). The role of attention in the treatment of attention-maintained self-injurious behavior: Noncontingent reinforcement and differential reinforcement of other behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 26*, 9-21.
2. Vollmer, T. R., Roane, H. S., Ringdahl, J. E., & Marcus, B. A. (1999). Evaluating treatment challenges with differential reinforcement of alternative behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 32*, 9-23.
3. Iwata, B. A., Pace, G. M., Cowdery, G. E., & Miltenberger, R. G. (1994). What makes extinction work: An analysis of procedural form and function. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 27*, 131-144.

### *Supplemental*

4. Lindberg, J. S., Iwata, B. A., Kahng, S., & DeLeon, I. G. (1999). DRO contingencies: An analysis of variable momentary schedules. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 32*, 123-136.

## **Week 10 (November 9): Problem Behavior Maintained by Social-Negative Reinforcement**

### *Required*

1. Iwata, B. A., Pace, G. M., Kalsher, M. J., Cowdery, G. E., & Cataldo, M. F. (1990). Experimental analysis and extinction of self-injurious escape behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 23*, 11-27.

2. Zarcone, J. R., Iwata, B. A., Smith, R. G., Mazaleski, J. L., & Lerman, D. C. (1994). Reemergence and extinction of self-injurious escape behavior during stimulus (instructional) fading. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 27, 307-316.
3. Mace, F. C., Hock, M. L., Lalli, J. S., West, B. J., Belfiore, P., Pinter, E., & Brown, D. K. (1988). Behavior momentum in the treatment of noncompliance. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 21, 123-141.

*Supplemental*

4. Lalli, J. S., Vollmer, T. R., Progar, P. R., Wright, C., Borrero, J., Daniel, D., Barthold, C. H., Tocco, K., & May, W. (1999). Competition between positive and negative reinforcement in the treatment of escape behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 32, 285-296.

**Week 11 (November 16): Problem Behavior Maintained by Automatic Reinforcement**

*Required*

1. Vollmer, T. R., Marcus, B. A., & LeBlanc, L. (1994). Treatment of self-injury and hand mouthing following inconclusive functional analysis. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 27, 331-344.
2. Piazza, C. C., Hanley, G. P., & Fisher, W. W. (1996). Functional analysis and treatment of cigarette pica. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 29, 437-450.
3. Rapp, J. T., Miltenberger, R. G., Galensky, T. L., Ellingson, S. A., & Long, E. S. (1999). A functional analysis of hair pulling. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 32, 329-337.

*Supplemental*

4. Shore, B.A., & Iwata, B.A. (1999). Assessment and treatment of behavior disorders maintained by nonsocial (automatic) reinforcement. In A.C. Repp & R.H. Horner (Eds.), *Functional analysis of problem behavior: From effective assessment to effective support* (pp. 117-145). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

**Week 12 (November 23): Thanksgiving Holiday—No class**

**Week 13 (November 30): The Problem of Multiple Control**

*Required*

1. Smith, R. G., Iwata, B. A., Vollmer, T. R., & Zarcone, J. R. (1993). Experimental analysis and treatment of multiply controlled self-injury. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 26, 183-196.
2. Kennedy, C. H., & Meyer, K. A. (1996). Sleep deprivation, allergy symptoms, and negatively reinforced problem behaviors. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 29, 133-135.
3. O'Reilly, M. F. (1995). Functional analysis and treatment of escape-maintained aggression correlated with sleep deprivation. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 28, 225-226.
4. O'Reilly, M. F. (1997). Functional analysis of episodic self-injury correlated with recurrent otitis media. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 30, 165-167.

*Supplemental*

5. Lalli, J. S., & Casey, S. D. (1996). Treatment of multiply controlled problem behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 29, 391-395.

## **Week 14 (December 7): Discussions, Commentaries, and Critiques of Functional Analysis Methodology**

\*\*\*\*Research Proposals due for students enrolled in 530

### *Required*

1. Hanley, G. P., Iwata, B. A., & McCord, B. E. (2003). Functional analysis of problem behavior: A review. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 36*, 147-186.
2. Mace, F. C. (1994). The significance and future of functional analysis methodologies. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 27*, 385-392.
3. Carr, E. G. (1994). Emerging themes in the functional analysis of problem behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 27*, 393-399.
4. Horner, R. H. (1994). Functional assessment: Contributions and future directions. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 27*, 401-404.
5. Wacker, D. P., Berg, W. K., Cooper, L. J., Derby, K. M., Steege, M. W., Northup, J., & Sasso, G. (1994). The impact of functional analysis methodology on outpatient clinic services. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 27*, 405-407.
6. Repp, A. (1994). Comments on functional analysis procedures for school-based behavior problems. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 27*, 409-411.

**Iwata, B. A. (1994). Functional analysis methodology: Some closing comments. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 27*, 413-418.**