

**CPSY 643 Social Bases
On-line Course**

Instructor: Dr. John Rapp

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Office Hours: I check e-mail a few times a day. If you want to set up a time to meet or call me, let me know via e-mail.

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Readings

All of the articles and chapters are available on D2L. Many of the articles also contain discussion questions.

- See webpage for Behavior Analysis Board Certification Guidelines for Responsible Conduct <http://bacb.com>
- See APA Ethical principles of psychologists and codes of conduct <http://www.apa.org/ethics/code.html>

Text: Mattaini, M.A., & Thyer, B.A. (Eds.) (1996) Finding Solutions to Social Problems. American Psychological Association: Washington.D.C.
Textbook chapters will be supplemented with various studies from JABA, JOBM, and other behavioral journals. All assigned readings are available on D2L.

Purpose: To present an overview of socio-behavioral (social bases) problems faced in society. The course will provide an overview of applied behavior analysis and the application of behavior analysis principles and procedures to social problems.

Considerations for this course

For this course, you are expected to participate in discussions with your classmates. Although this course is “online,” you are still expected to move at the pace specified in the syllabus (neither slower nor faster). This class is based on the same seminar format that our “on-campus” students experience. There are no formal lectures for the course content. Rather, you are assigned relevant articles and given ample opportunity to ask questions or to discuss the material with me and your classmates. I check the discussion posts several times each day. I also check my email at regular intervals, but I prefer that you ask questions regarding the course content via the discussion posts on D2L (use email for questions not relevant to the class). If you are unwilling to participate in discussions on D2L, I recommend that you drop this course. Likewise, if you are not already familiar is basic operant and respondent terminology and single-subject experimental designs, you should drop this course.

All of the students who enrolled in this course will be held to the same standards. I will scrutinize your use of behavioral terms in your postings on D2L and on the quizzes. Your posts should be based on empirical data (i.e., results from research); anecdotal information should be withheld (i.e., information about your clients) unless you have data within an appropriate single-subject experimental design that you can share with the class. Part of being an effective Behavior Analyst is cogently arguing your position with persons who may or may not agree with you (note that your arguments must empirically supported).

Research proposals: You will submit a research proposal (see due date on the schedule) focusing on one or more of the topics covered in the course. The proposal should be a 7 to 9 page “protocol,” which will include:

- Introduction section with a statement of purpose with citations to key literature (3 to 5 recently published studies),
- Method section specifying essential procedures,
- Brief discussion of anticipated findings (including Figures and Tables with fabricated data), and
- Reference list (**all** references must come from peer-reviewed sources).

Papers should adhere to the guidelines in the Fifth Edition of the APA publication manual (APA, 2001). If you do not own an APA manual, now is the time to buy a new one! The proposals will be graded on a 30-pt scale (25 for content, 5 for style). Be sure that your paper does not include plagiarized segments. ***Any instances of plagiarism will result in a zero on your proposal and possible dismissal from the program.*** Sample proposal will be posted to D2L. Please send me hard (not electronic) copies of your proposals! Only international students may send email copies for grading.

Prohibited Conduct (SCSU Student Handbook)

Academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of student status, and resume falsification. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in selling or otherwise providing term papers or other academic materials; and commercialization sale or distribution of class notes without the instructors' permission.

Behavior Analysis Certification Board - Code of Conduct

9.03 Authorship and Findings.

Behavior analysts do not present portions or elements of another's work or data as their own, even if the other work or data source is cited occasionally, nor do they omit findings that might alter others' interpretations of their work or behavior analysis in general.

Grading

Final grades will be based on your participation in on-line article discussions and leading of article discussion (I will randomly select 5 weeks for 20 points total), performance on quizzes (7 quizzes at 10 points each, drop lowest, for 60 points), and the quality of your research proposal (30 points). Thus, your grade will be out of 110 possible points.

Final course grades will be based upon the total points during the semester. Grades will be determined and distributed by the following criteria:

- A= 90-100%
- B=80-89%
- C=70-79%
- D=60-69%
- F=59% and below

IMPORTANT!! Policy on late quizzes and assignments

Proposals must be postmarked by midnight your time of the due date for full credit. If your proposal is turned in up to one week late (this includes the day after it was due), 25% will be deducted from your grade. The quizzes cannot be taken after the scheduled deadline. You will be permitted to drop one quiz. If you miss a deadline for a quiz, you must drop that quiz.

NO INCOMPLETES. Your grade will be based on the work that is turned in by the deadline. If your grade is unsatisfactory, you will need to take the course over.

Course Schedule CPSY 643

Week 1 (8/25/08-8/29/08)

Read syllabus and arrange proctors.

Week 2 (9/1/08-9/5/08)

Topic: Overview and Public Issues

- 1) Intro to text
- 2) Chapter 1
- 3) Rumph et al. (2005)

Week 3 (9/8/08-9/12/08)

Topic: Social Welfare and Ethics of Helping

- 4) Chapter 2
- 5) Chapter 3
- 6) Mattaini (2006)

*****Take Quiz 1 (open from 9/11/08-9/16/08)**

Week 4 (9/15/08-9/19/08)

Topic: Youth Violence

- 7) Chapter 4
- 8) Biglen (1995)
- 9) Mayer (1995)
- 10) Myer (1995)
- 11) Sharpe et al. (1995)

Week 5 (9/22/08-9/26/08)

Topic: Education in Crisis

- 12) Chapter 5
- 13) Ellis & Magee (2007)
- 14) Twyman (1998)
- 15) Moore (2001)
- 16) Hursh (2007)

*****Take Quiz 2 (open from 9/25/08-9/30/08)**

Week 6 (9/29/08-10/3/08)

Topic: Terrorism (special issue in BSI)

- 17) Sidman (2003)
- 18) Mattaini (2003)
- 19) Nevin (2003)
- 20) Nevin (2004)

Week 7 (10/6/08-10/10/08)

Topic: Behavioral Safety

- 21) Austin et al. (1998)
- 22) Boyce & Geller (2001)
- 23) Jason & Liotta (1982)
- 24) Van Houten et al. (2005)

*****Take Quiz 3 (open from 10/9/08-10/14/08)**

Week 8 (10/13/08-10/17/08)

Topic: Sexual Coercion

- 25) Chapter 11
- 26) Johnson et al. (2005)
- 27) Johnson et al. (2006)
- 28) Lumley et al. (1998)
- 29) Miltenberger et al. (1999)

Week 9 (10/20/08-10/24/08)

Topic: Child Maltreatment

- 30) Chapter 9
- 31) Green et al. (1995)
- 32) Shore et al. (1995)

*****Take Quiz 4 (open from 10/23/08-10/28/08)**

Week 10 (10/27/08-10/31/08)

Topic: Resource Conservation

- 33) Nevin (2005)
- 34) Grant (2007)
- 35) Foxall et al. (2007)
- 36) McSweeny (1978)

Week 11 (11/3/08-11/7/08):(Research Proposals due by 11/7/08)

Topic: Behavioral Health Studies

- 37) Honner & Klenke (1990)
- 38) Montesinos et al. (1990)
- 39) Iwata & Beckfort (1981)
- 40) Kneringer & Page (1999)

*****Take Quiz 5 (open from 11/6/08-11/11/08)**

Week 12 (11/10/08-11/14/08)

Topic: Drug use and rehabilitation

- 41) Stitzer et al. (1982)
- 42) Fournier et al. (2007)
- 43) Jason et al. (2006)
- 44) Petry et al. (1998)

Week 13 (11/17/08-11/21/08)

Topic: Racism and Sexism

- 45) Chapter 6
- 46) Chapter 8
- 47) Guerin (2005)

*****Take Quiz 6 (open from 11/20/08-11/25/08)**

Week 14 (11/24/08-11/28/08)

Topic: Sexuality

- 48) Reyes et al. (2006)
- 49) Rekers & Lovaas (1974)
- 50) Winkler (1977)
- 51) Nordyke et al. (1977)
- 52) Rekers (1977)

**Complete course evaluation on-line!!

*****Take Quiz 7 (open from 11/27/08-12/2/08)**