

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE		
TERM: Fall 2017	COURSE NO: ABA 411	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE NAME: PRACTICUM III - ASSISTANT BEHAVIOR ANALYST®	
OFFICE:	SECTION NO:	CREDITS: 3
LOCAL:		
E-MAIL:		

COURSE FORMAT: 150 hours of BCBA(D) supervised university-based intensive practicum.

A total of 11.5 hours per week with the following distribution:
10% or 1.5 hours (90 minutes) BCBA(D) supervision

The remaining 10 hours of field work is allocated as follows:

A maximum of 5 hours of direct service (e.g., BI work)

A minimum of 5 hours of “higher level” tasks as appropriate to the BCaBA position (see Learning Outcomes below).

- While there is a maximum of 5 hours of direct service experience, there is no limit on the amount of “higher level” activities. That is, all 10 hours of fieldwork may be allocated to “higher level” activities. Students are not required to do any direct service hours if that is appropriate to the practicum setting/supervisor.
- **This distribution of hours is based on a 13-week timeline. However, the semester is 15-weeks long, which allows 2 weeks at the end to make up any hours the student may be “short”.**
- **The instructor will be offering 45 minutes per week of optional group supervision. If students attend on-campus group supervision, they must obtain at least 45 minutes of 1:1 supervision from their BCBA supervisor.**

COURSE PREREQUISITES: ABA 410.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will have obtained the remaining **150** hours of the **500** hours intensive university-based practicum required towards certification as a Board Certified Assistant Behaviour Analyst (BCaBA)®.

With successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- 1) Follow all conduct codes and procedures required by the practicum setting.
- 2) Describe ethical codes and standards for behaviour analysts.
- 3) Obtain informed consent and maintain confidentiality rules as defined by the practicum setting and professional codes of conduct.
- 4) Describe the individual and behaviour to be changed within the context of the family, team approach, person-centred planning, and the individual treatment program.
- 5) Review and utilize research related to the behaviour to be changed.
- 6) When possible, assist with operationally defining target behaviours.
- 7) When possible, assist with a functional behaviour assessment (FBA).
- 8) When possible, assist with the development and use of data recording procedures and select the most efficient, reliable, and valid method.
- 9) When possible, assist with the collection of inter-observer reliability data during baseline and treatment phases.

- 10) When possible, assist with the development and implementation of a behavioural intervention procedure that is consistent with behavioural research and principles of behaviour.
- 11) When possible, assist with the selection of the best data display to effectively communicate progress.
- 12) When possible, assist with monitoring of the effectiveness of the behavioural intervention and make changes in the procedures as needed based on data.
- 13) When possible, assist with the behaviour change procedures that will promote stimulus and response generalization and maintenance. Assess change and revise programs to maximize generalization and maintenance.
- 14) Provide project updates and summaries to the individual, parents/guardian, practicum setting/supervisor, and the instructor.

REQUIRED READINGS:

<http://bacb.com>

Behavior Analysis Board Certification® Guidelines for Responsible Conduct.

<http://www.apa.org/ethics/code.html>

APA Ethical principles of psychologists and codes of conduct.

Journal articles related to individual project.

COURSE CONTENT:

- Orientation (if required)
- Read Syllabus and all forms and requirements for Practicum
- Read BACB® Conduct Guidelines
- Submit Practicum Contract
- Submit Informed Consent if required
- Submit background information
- Conduct article reviews on behaviour change project (at least 3 articles)
- When possible, write operational definitions
- When possible, do functional behavior assessments
- When possible, revise operational definitions
- When possible, develop measurement procedure worksheets
- When possible. obtain baseline data and graph on appropriate data form (do 5 observations)
- When possible, obtain Inter-observer reliability for baseline
- When possible, develop draft of Behavioural Intervention Plans
- When possible, develop Behavioural Intervention Plans
- When possible, implement Behavioural Intervention Plans
- When possible, collect and graph data for at least 5 sessions
- When possible, evaluate Behavioural Intervention effectiveness
- When possible, revise intervention as necessary
- When possible, write up Behavioural Intervention Plan summary
- Submit project summary to practicum setting/supervisor (and parents if required) after feedback from instructor

EVALUATION PROFILE:

Submit fully completed & signed contracts	10%
Personal Practicum Evaluation (1)	15%
Midterm Practicum Activity Log	10%
Final Practicum Activity Log	15%
Article Review (10% each x 2)	20%
Practicum Evaluation by Supervisor (1)	<u>30%</u>
	100%

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 77 - 79%	C+ = 67 - 69%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89%	B = 73 - 76%	C = 63 - 66%	F = 0 - 49%
A- = 80 - 84%	B- = 70 - 72%	C- = 60 - 62%	

ASSIGNMENTS:

- Submit Contracts:** The student must submit fully completed and signed contracts by the end of the second week of the term at the latest. This is worth 10% of the final mark and each incorrect or missing item will result in a -.25% deduction.
- Article Reviews (2):** Students will complete two (2) applied article reviews during the term. The objective is to critique a research article of direct clinical relevance to your practicum placement (e.g., related to a skill acquisition or behaviour intervention plan, etc.). The paper you choose should support one (or more) of the strategies/techniques incorporated in your practicum work.
- Submit a typed (double spaced, size 12, Times New Roman) MS Word document and include your name and the assignment in the file name. Use page numbers. Submit both electronically and hard copy (unless an on-line student).
- Must be written in full narrative (not point form) and remember to indent paragraphs.
- The Instructor is your audience. Make sure to fully explain the article!
- Practicum Evaluation:** The student will write a frank appraisal of their practicum experience. The contents of this assignment will not be communicated with the on-site supervisor but rather gives the faculty feedback on the site and supervisor for placing future students. The student should evaluate whether she/he thinks that the course objectives have been met and provides thorough evidence in support or a plan on how to improve.
(See Handbook: Personal Practicum Evaluation)
- Practicum Evaluation by Supervisor:** The grade for practicum evaluation is based on both the frequency and the quality of the student's comments, questions and observations, with the emphasis on quality AND whether or not the student has acquired the skill set for an effective BCaBA. The quality is determined by, among other things, the relevance, insight, clarity of remarks. This evaluation also takes into account elements of professionalism as outlined in the Student Handbook and applies to both classroom and practicum. Please note, completion of the practicum and a passing grade does not necessarily mean that the BCBA supervisor is ready to "sign off" on the skill set developed by the student (i.e., Experience Verification Form), indicating that the student is ready to move to the next level and is qualified to write the BACB exam to become a BCaBA. The supervisor may indicate that the student needs additional hours of training and supervision. In either case, if the student has achieved a grade of "C" or greater in the required course work and has met all other degree requirements, the student will be eligible for graduation with a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Behaviour Analysis – Autism (or Post Baccalaureate Diploma).

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Attendance: Attendance is essential for a successful experience in this course. Students missing more than two practicum sessions and/or one practicum meeting must participate in a faculty review and may be asked to repeat the course.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

The ABA-A department adheres to the definition of cheating and plagiarism found in the Study Policy Handbook which students are responsible for obtaining. Cheating and plagiarism may result in a grade of zero, either for the assignment or the entire course.

Missed Exams: Make-up exams are given only in exceptional circumstances and with prior notice to the instructor. A penalty of up to 20% will be levied on those make-up exams when granted.

Submission for waiver of late penalties for exceptional circumstance may be presented, in writing, with the appropriate documentation to the ABA-A department.

Late Assignments: Due dates for papers and assignments will be announced and guidelines will be distributed in class.

All papers must be submitted directly to the instructor at the beginning of the class period. Late papers will be penalized 20% for up to one week. No papers will be accepted later than this one week except under exceptional circumstances.

Incomplete Grade: An incomplete grade will be given only in exceptional circumstances, and require the approval of the ABA-A department rather than the instructor.

English Usage: University level writing skills are required in all assignments. American Psychology Association (APA) writing guidelines, including the use of non-sexist language, must be followed. All assignments must be original and must be used for this course only. Keep copies of all drafts, including copies on disk labelled "Draft1," "Draft2," etc. Hand in the original which must be typed. For written assignments, students may be required to go to the Writing Centre as part of a revision process.

Confidentiality: The ABA-A department adheres to professional standards of ethics and confidentiality. Personal information that students give to an instructor would not normally be shared with anyone outside the department without student's authorization. However, there are a few exceptional circumstances in which an instructor may be required by law to disclose information, e.g. if there is an indication that a minor (under the age of 19) is being abused sexually or physically, or neglected; or, disclosure of information is made necessary for legal proceedings; and certain other circumstances.

Electronic Devices: No personal electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, calculators, electronic dictionaries, etc...) may be used during an examination without prior approval from the instructor. During an exam, turn off all cell phones and pagers and remove them from the desk.

Emergency Procedures:

Please read the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom and/or practicum placement.

Week	Course Activities
1	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
2	* Practicum Contracts DUE (Capilano University and BACB versions) 11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
3	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
4	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
5	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
6	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours * Article Review #1 DUE * First Practicum Activity Log DUE
7	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
8	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
9	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
10	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
11	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
12	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours
13	11.5 hours practicum fieldwork & supervision hours * Article Review #2 DUE
14	Final Exams Period * Make up hours if required
15	Final Exams Period * Make up hours if required DUE - Personal Practicum Evaluation - electronic - Second Practicum Activity Log - electronic - Practicum Evaluation by Supervisor - emailed