INSTRUCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES

MASTERS COMPREHENSIVE EXAM IN BEHAVIORAL LEARNING

The masters comprehensive exam in Behavioral Learning is drawn from basic concepts and principles of behavior analysis as they relate to humans and as they have been derived from experimental operant and respondent research. Questions will cover strategies and tactics for investigating causes of human behavior from within a behavior-analysis paradigm. Questions will also incorporate knowledge about research findings and the application of basic principles of behavior to socially relevant problems. The exam requires an understanding of why problem behaviors occur and how an effective intervention can be developed, implemented, and evaluated.

This information is covered in the core course: EDPS 863: Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis. The material is covered in the course text book: Behavior modification: Principles and procedures (6th ed.) by R. G. Miltenberger.

The exam uses a multiple-choice format; To check your knowledge, you can practice the items from the Quizlet folder that Dr. Daly created: https://quizlet.com/join/UJ6WXG6Ve.

Objectives:

1. Be able to define, record, display, and interpret behavioral observation data.
2. Understand basic operant and respondent principles of behavior and how they are relevant to the study of human behavior.
3. Apply basic principles of behavior to solving problems, including how to increase desirable behaviors, how to decrease undesirable behaviors, and how to establish new behaviors.
4. Understand how to conduct functional assessments for behavioral excesses and behavioral deficits.
5. Understand how to use single-case experimental designs to investigate and resolve educational and clinical problems.