

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **PSYC 320**

#### **BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The application, implementation, measurement, and evaluation of behavior management techniques in various settings including hospitals, institutions, and schools.

#### **RATIONALE**

Behavior modification is the study of basic principles of behavior. Integral to this discipline is the examination of environmental events that impact human behavior. By exposing the students to the far-reaching principles of behavior modification, it is hoped they will attain a better understanding of the complexities of our human existence and be more able to help people cope with the many problems they face in life.

#### **I. PREREQUISITES**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

- A. Use critical thinking to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
- B. Apply the multiple perspectives of psychology as a discipline and Christian/Biblical faith in order to weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect values in their personal and professional behavior.
- C. Communicate effectively in written, oral, and technological formats.

#### **V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and presentations.
- B. Course Requirements Checklist  
After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forums (6)  
The student will participate in 6 Discussion Board Forums throughout this course. The student must submit a thread of 300–500 words in response to the provided prompt. In addition to the thread, the student is required to submit replies of 100–150 words to 2 of his/her classmates' threads. The student must use current APA formatting to cite the Bible, the textbook, and at least 1 peer-reviewed article in his/her thread and responses. A references section must be included.
- D. Behavior Modification Project  
This project will be completed in 4 parts:  
Part 1: Research Paper  
The student will write a 5-page, APA formatted, research paper that will aid in his/her Behavior Modification Project. The paper will include a title page, abstract, 5-page body, and references page. The body of the paper should include an introduction, 2 sections (research on the target behavior, and research on the treatment you will use), and a conclusion. The student must reference the textbook and at least 4 additional peer-reviewed journal articles.  
Part 2: Baseline Phase Report  
The student will create a graph, description, and narrative of observations made during the baseline phase. The student will compile these items into a Word document.  
Part 3: Treatment Phase Report  
The student will submit a report including a description of the treatment, a narrative of the process, and a graph showing the results of the treatment phase. The graph should show both the baseline phase and the treatment phase with proper annotation.  
Part 4: PowerPoint  
The student will create a PowerPoint presentation of his/her Behavior Modification Project. The following 7 slides are needed: title page slide, highlights of literature review, baseline phase, treatment phase, summary of results, limitations and recommendations, and references slide. The student will also post responses to 2 classmates' presentations.
- E. Exams (3)  
The student will complete 3 open-book/open-note exams throughout this course. Each exam will consist of a variety of multiple-choice questions. Exam 1 will cover chapters 1–4, Exam 2 will cover chapters 5–9, and Exam 3 will cover chapters 10–12.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES****A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (6 at 30 pts ea)		180
Behavior Modification Project		
Research Paper		150
Baseline Phase Report		125
Treatment Phase Report		125
PowerPoint		120
Exam 1	(Modules 1–2)	100
Exam 2	(Modules 3–5)	100
Exam 3	(Modules 6–8)	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

**B. Scale**

A = 900–1010   B = 800–899   C = 700–799   D = 600–699   F = 0–599

**C. Late Assignment Policy**

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

**D. Disability Assistance**

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **PSYC 320**

Textbook: Miltenberger, *Behavior Modification: Principles & Procedures* (2012).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Miltenberger: chs. 1–2 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 30
<b>2</b>	Miltenberger: chs. 3–4 2 presentations	DB Forum 2 Exam 1	30 100
<b>3</b>	Miltenberger: chs. 5–6 1 presentation	BMP: Research Paper	150
<b>4</b>	Miltenberger: chs. 7–8 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 BMP: Baseline Phase Report	30 125
<b>5</b>	Miltenberger: ch. 9 1 presentation	DB Forum 4 Exam 2	30 100
<b>6</b>	Miltenberger: ch. 10 1 presentation	DB Forum 5 BMP: Treatment Phase Report	30 125
<b>7</b>	Miltenberger: ch. 11 1 presentation	BMP: PowerPoint	120
<b>8</b>	Miltenberger: ch. 12 1 presentation	DB Forum 6 Exam 3	30 100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board    BMP = Behavior Modification Project

**NOTE:** Each course week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.