



COURSE OUTLINE		
TERM: SPRING 2026	COURSE NO: ABA 201	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE TITLE: APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS FOR DIRECT SERVICE PROFESSIONALS	
OFFICE: LOCAL: E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3.0
OFFICE HOURS:		
COURSE WEBSITE:		

Capilano University is named after Chief Joe Capilano (1854–1910), an important leader of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation of the Coast Salish Peoples. We respectfully acknowledge that our campuses are located on the unceded territories of the səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh), shíshálh (Sechelt), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.

COURSE FORMAT

Weekly online, asynchronous class lessons across a 15-week semester, which includes a two-week final exam period.

COURSE PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES

None

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to the use of ABA principles and procedures to support the learning and development of those with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. Through course readings, activities, lectures, and assignments, students will learn a variety of practical strategies to apply when working with various populations of individuals who experience developmental challenges. Completion of this course will enable students to seek certification as a Registered Behavior Technician®. This course is appropriate for those seeking to provide direct intervention services to children, youth, and/or adults with autism and other developmental disabilities in a variety of settings, including home, school, and communities.

COURSE NOTE

This course is based on the RBT Task List (3rd Ed.) and is designed to meet the 40-hour training requirement for RBT certification. This course is offered independent of the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB).

REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

- 1) Wallace, M. & Mayer, G.R. (2025). Principles of applied behavior analysis for behavior technicians and other practitioners (4th ed.). Cornwall on Hudson, NY: Sloan Publishing.
- 2) RBT® Task List (3rd Edition) (provided in eLearn)
- 3) RBT® Handbook (provided in eLearn)
- 4) RBT® Ethics code (2.0) (provided in eLearn)

Additional supplementary readings will be available in eLearn.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- 1) Describe core principles of applied behavior analysis
- 2) Identify and describe necessary steps to prepare for data collection
- 3) Implement a variety of measurement procedures (e.g., continuous, discontinuous, permanent product)
- 4) Enter data and update graphs
- 5) Describe behaviour and environment in observable and measurable terms
- 6) Describe how to conduct preference assessments
- 7) Describe procedures for conducting individualized assessments
- 8) Describe procedures for conducting functional assessments
- 9) Describe essential components of written skill acquisition and behavior reduction plans
- 10) Describe a variety of skill acquisition procedures (e.g., discrete trial teaching, naturalistic teaching, prompting and prompt fading, shaping and chaining, etc.)
- 11) Describe common functions of behavior
- 12) Describe a variety of behavior reduction procedures (e.g., antecedent modifications, differential reinforcement, extinction)
- 13) Describe crisis management procedures
- 14) Describe the components of objective session notes
- 15) Describe BACB ethical requirements, specifically with regard to professional conduct and scope of practice
- 16) Demonstrate the ability to respond appropriately to challenging ethical situations within the boundaries of the RBT® Ethics Code

COURSE CONTENT

The content and week-by-week breakdown of the course will vary by term and instructor. Please refer to the course syllabus for more details. The following is an example:

WEEK	TOPIC and MODULES
1	Foundational Knowledge: 1) Course Overview 2) An Introduction to ABA and the role of the RBT 3) An Overview of Developmental Disabilities and ASD
2	Basic Concepts and Principles of ABA
3	Measurement and Data Collection

WEEK	TOPIC and MODULES
4	Graphing and Visual Analysis
5	Assessment
6	Promoting Skill Acquisition
7	Promoting Skill Acquisition: Teaching Methodologies
8	Promoting Skill Acquisition: Teaching Methodologies
9	Understanding and Addressing Problem Behavior: Assessment
10	Understanding and Addressing Problem Behavior: Antecedent-Based Interventions
11	Understanding and Addressing Problem Behavior: Consequence-Based Interventions
12	Professional Conduct
13	The RBT Code of Ethics
14-15	Final Exam Period: Final Exam

EVALUATION PROFILE

Quizzes	30%
Lesson-Based Activities	35%
Final Exam	<u>35%</u>
TOTAL	100%

Quizzes

Embedded within each lesson, students will complete quizzes related to specific topic areas covered within the lesson. These quizzes are designed to assess basic knowledge and application of material covered in the readings and lessons, and to help students prepare for the RBT® certification exam. Quizzes will consist of multiple-choice questions. Students are expected to complete the quiz independently (i.e., not with a classmate). Each student will receive a randomly-selected set of questions from a larger bank of questions; no two students will receive the exact same set of questions. Students must achieve at least 80% on each quiz before being able to move to the next section in the lesson. Students have an unlimited opportunity to achieve 80%.

Lesson-Based Activities

Throughout the course, students will be provided with opportunities to apply course-related concepts and skills to lesson-based activities. These activities are designed to provide students with the opportunity to practice applying the concepts and skills they are developing and will use when working as a Registered Behavior Technician®. These lesson-based activities will be described in more detail as students move through the course.

Final Exam

At the end of the term, students will take a comprehensive final exam. This final exam will cover all content from assigned readings and course lessons. As this is an online course, the final exam will be held online. An online exam proctoring service, ProctorU, will be utilized for the final exam. Additional information will be provided to students early in the term.

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	

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

Late Assignments

Due dates for assignments are listed in the course content table. All assignments must be submitted directly to the instructor (or online, if directed) at the **beginning** of the class period. Late papers will be penalized 5% per day for up to one week. **No assignments will be accepted later than one week** except under exceptional circumstances (e.g., death in the family, etc.). Under exceptional circumstances (e.g., prolonged illness), assignment extensions **may** be granted; students who anticipate the need for an extension should request one at least 48 hours prior to the due date.

Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.

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. Submissions for waiver of late penalties for exceptional circumstances may be presented, in writing, with the appropriate documentation, to the instructor. Accommodations can be made to honour community needs and traditional practices.

Attendance

This course is part of a professional program in that it meets the academic requirements for Registered Behavior Technician® certification. As part of your professional training, you are expected to treat course lessons as you would client sessions. This means giving your full and undivided attention to all class lessons, being prepared for class lessons, and participating in all activities to the best of your ability. Extensions for class lessons may be granted by the instructor on a case-by-case basis, but only if notice is provided well in advance of class time and the absence has been approved before class begins, or in the case of a serious emergency. Medical notes may be required.

Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities. For on campus classes, this means physically attending all classes and associated activities. For online classes, this means attending to and completing all online lessons and activities, following the schedule outlined in the course syllabus.

- Attendance is essential for the successful completion of this course and to meet the Behavior Analyst Certification Board® (BACB®) course hour requirements for Registered Behavior Technician® certification.

- A student who misses more than 2 classes (on campus) or 2 lessons (online) will not receive credit for this course. A faculty review will occur in the event the maximum number of absences has been exceeded. Program probation may be a result of the review.
- This pertains to all students who are taking this course, whether or not they are seeking RBT® certification.

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. It is recommended that students keep copies of all drafts, including copies on disk labelled "Draft1," "Draft2," etc. Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

Electronic Devices

This course is fully on-line and asynchronous, requiring access to a computer (laptop or desktop) and a reliable internet connection.

On-line Communication

Students may contact the instructor via email. The instructor regularly uses eLearn to communicate with the entire class; as such, it is important that students check eLearn regularly. Individual messages from the instructor, and official communication between Capilano University and students, will be sent to students' official Capilano University email address. It is important that students regularly check their Capilano University email account.

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS**Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/>

Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Safe Alert App](#)

Policy Statement (S2009-06)

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

Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information:

<https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

Academic dishonesty is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

Cheating: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

Fraud: Creation or use of falsified documents.

Misuse or misrepresentation of sources: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

Plagiarism: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

Self-Plagiarism: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

Prohibited Conduct: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

Emergencies: Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.

DEPARTMENT OR PROGRAM OPERATIONAL DETAILS**Confidentiality**

The ABA-A Department adheres to professional standards of ethics and confidentiality. Personal information that you give to an instructor would not normally be shared with anyone outside the department without your authorization. However, there are a few exceptional circumstances in which an instructor may be required by law to disclose information about you, 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 about which you may inquire.

About the [Registered Behavior Technician® Certification](#)

This course is based on the RBT Task List (2nd Ed.) and is designed to meet the 40-hour training requirement for RBT certification. This course is offered independent of the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB). For students wishing to pursue RBT® certification, additional information will be provided during the first class lesson. Additional requirements for obtaining RBT® Certification include:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have a high school diploma
- Pass a background (criminal records) check
- Complete the 40-hour training course (this course)
- Complete the initial assessment of competency

The initial [assessment of competency](#) must be completed by a BACB Certificant (BCaBA, BCBA, or BCBA-D) who has completed the 8-hour supervision training. This assessment requires that an RBT applicant engage in specific tasks to demonstrate knowledge and skill across all areas of the [RBT® Task List](#). **Some skills must be demonstrated with an actual client.** Capilano University does not provide this competency assessment service. Students are responsible for seeking out a qualified assessor of their own choosing who meets the above requirements. Your course instructor may be able to assist in connecting you to a qualified assessor.