Learning

Overview of Course
This course provides a background in principles of learning developed via experimental analysis of human and nonhuman behavior. The course presents traditional approaches to learning but emphasizes current work in the experimental analysis of behavior. Students will become familiar with a conceptual framework for understanding behavior-environment relations will learn how principles enhance our understanding of human behavior across settings.

Required and Optional Readings
All readings will be available via ASULearn. There is no textbook; instead the course focuses on readings, many of which are seminal in the field. Supplemental materials will be added as the semester progresses.

Grading Scheme
Grades will be based upon discussion questions, daily quizzes, and two in-class exams.

Daily Quizzes
There will be a brief (5-8 min quiz) on average of every other class (VR-2 schedule). At the start of each class I will flip a coin to determine if a quiz on readings will be given. Each quiz is worth 10 points, the two lowest scores will be dropped. The total value of the quizzes towards the final grade will be 100 points, the value of one exam. Actual point value will thus be made proportional to 100 points. For example, if there were 11 quizzes and a student earned 75 points (after dropping the two lowest) then this would translate into 75/90 or 83/100.

Discussion Questions
Students are responsible for turning in two discussion questions per class. Discussion questions should be substantive, spanning readings. Discussion questions for a class will be graded on a 5-point scale. There are 100 points available for discussion questions.

In-Class Exams
There are two in-class exams; exams will consist of 6 questions, you will pick 5 to answer. Each exam is worth 100 points.

Grades will be assigned as follows (out of 300 possible points):

| A = 270-300 |
| B = 240-269 |
| C = 210-239 points |
| F = less than 210 points |

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**Assigned Readings**

- Foundations for an Experimental Analysis of Behavior
- Single-Case Designs
- Selectionism, Physiology, Phylogony
Introduction to Respondent Conditioning

Positive Reinforcement

Negative Reinforcement

Schedule Performance

Conditioned Reinforcement

Extinction

- **Stimulus Control**

- **Punishment**

- **Choice**

- **Matching**

- **Behavioral Economics**

- **Operant Extinction**
- **Stimulus Equivalence**

- **Verbal Behavior**


- Acquisition and Maintenance

- Cognition and Memory
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