REHB 594B: Practicum in Behavior Analysis

**Instructor**
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**Supervision Meetings**

**Course Description**
This course is designed to provide students with practical experience with behavior analytic methods and procedures. As an accredited degree program, this course is designed to meet the standards and requirements stipulated by the BACB for *Intensive University Practicum*.

**Objectives**
- Students will engage in the ethical provision of behavior analytic services
- Students will engage in thoughtful discussion of behavior analytic principles and the philosophy of behaviorism
- Students will gain experience with several aspects of behavioral consultation and service delivery, which may include
  - Functional assessment methods and interpretation of assessment results
  - Selecting and implementing appropriate behavioral interventions
  - Evaluating treatment outcomes
  - Appropriately displaying and interpreting behavioral data
  - Conducting on-going assessment and evaluation

**Internship Site Requirements**
All students are expected to obtain access to an appropriate site at which they may carry out their internship duties. Sites may include clinical settings (day or residential), classrooms, or other clinical sites including settings appropriate for the provision of OBM service delivery. Sites must be approved by the instructor and must include access to human clients for whom behavior analytic services are appropriate.

Students will submit a completed *Site Approval Worksheet*, which will be used by the instructor to determine whether the site is appropriate. If the site is not approved, the student must select an alternate site. In addition to instructor approval, an appropriate agent/administrator at the site must also approve of the use of the site for internship.

Any hours accrued at an unapproved site will not be counted towards either course credit or BACB experience hours.
**Hours Requirement**
Students are expected to complete 10 hours per week, including appropriate independent work and supervision time. To earn full course credit, interns are expected to complete a total of 150 hours during the semester. Students are **NOT** required to seek experience hours towards BACB certification during this course. Student electing not to pursue BACB hours are still responsible for completing any assignments provided by the instructor and must still complete 150 total hours during the semester.

To count towards experience hours for the BACB certification, students must:
- Complete a minimum of 10 hours, and a maximum of 30 hours.
- Be supervised for a total of 10% of hours in a given week.
- Be supervised on two (2) separate occasions in a given week.
- Accrue no more than 50% of supervised time in group meetings.
- Accrue no more than 50% of independent work time through direct implementation of therapeutic behavior change procedures.
- Be directly observed performing behavior analytic work at least once per week, either via recorded and shared video, or live via remote teleconferencing software.

If any of these requirements are not met in a given week, students will not be able to accrue the full 10 hours of experience.

Students seeking BACB certification may not pursue more than one type of supervised experience at a time. That is, if students are seeking BACB hours towards certification through this internship, they may not also accrue hours with another BCBA at the same time.

**Appropriate Clients and Activities**
All sites, clients, and activities must be approved by the instructor to count towards course credit or BACB experience hours. Only activities related to the duties of a professional behavior analyst will be counted.

An excerpt from the BACB:
Appropriate clients “may be any persons for whom behavior-analytic services are appropriate. However, the supervisee may not be related to the client or the client’s primary caretaker or be the client’s primary caretaker. Supervisees must work with multiple clients during the experience period. (Also, see the following relevant sections of the Guidelines for Responsible Conduct for Behavior Analysts: 1.06, 1.07, 2.0, 3.01, 3.03, 3.04, 3.05, 4.0, and 9.07.)”

**Required Documentation**

Agency Approval Form
Students must obtain approval from an appropriate agent at their site to engage in internship activities. No hours may be completed prior to the receipt of this approval form.
Permission to Conduct Video Supervision
Students must obtain permission to either a) record video of behavior analytic service delivery that can be shared with the instructor, or b) teleconference with the instructor during work hours for the purpose of live, remote supervision.

Any sharing of video files or information about clients must be done in accordance with relevant law and regulation regarding client privacy and protection. Teleconferencing must be done using a secure software client (VSee) and file sharing must be done using a secure service (OneDrive for Business through SIU).

HSC Training
Students must successfully complete training required by the Human Subjects Committee at SIU. The training can be found at http://www.ospa.siu.edu/compliance/human-subjects/forms-and-training.html

Student may complete either the CITI training or the NIH training (only one is required). The certificate of completion should be shared with the instructor.

BACB Supervisee Training
Students seeking BACB experience hours must provide proof of completion of the supervision training module provided by the BACB. Student may access the training module through their BACB Gateway account (create one if you do not yet have one).

Weekly Activity Logs
Students will keep a record of their hours using the provided activity log. At the end of each week, students will have a site supervisor sign the log indicating that the hours listed on the log are accurate.

Experience Tracker Spreadsheet
Students will be provided with an Excel spreadsheet to use in recording and tracking their activities. Students will update the spreadsheet weekly, including all required fields.

Supervision Contract
Students seeking BACB experience hours must complete and sign a supervision contract with the instructor. Supervision cannot begin until the contract is signed by both the student and the instructor. Students should send a scanned copy of the contract immediately, but also send the original, signed contract by mail to:

Jason M. Hirst
Rehabilitation Institute, Mail Code 4609
1025 Lincoln Drive
Carbondale, IL 62901

Supervision Process
Students will engage in appropriate, behavior analytic work each week, complete assignments provided by the instructor, read assigned materials, and meet with the instructor twice weekly for supervision. At least 15 minutes of video or live, remote supervision must be completed per week. If a student does not have a video to share or
cannot schedule a mutually agreeable time to teleconference during work in a given week, it is at the instructor's discretion whether to continue to provide supervision for that week, and the student may not be able to count any hours.

The instructor will complete a Weekly Supervision Form at the end of each week to record the number of experience hours earned provided all of the following requirements have been met that week:

• A signed Weekly Activity Log is completed
• The student attends all supervision meetings scheduled, or makes reasonable attempts to reschedule in the event that a conflict arises
• The student has provided at least 15 total minutes of video during the week
• The student has completed any assignments given by the instructor

Failure to complete any of the above weekly requirements may result in a loss of potential experience hours. Repeated failures will result in the instructor declining to sign an experience verification form for the experience earned in addition to the student receiving a failing grade in the course.

**Assignments & Final Project**

During the semester, the instructor will provide each student with assignments to complete that are relevant to their site and practice. In addition, each student will complete a capstone project that will require the student to use knowledge and skills acquired through the internship. The capstone project may include a case study, a research project, or other written product. The instructor will provide further information regarding this project during the semester.

**Grading**

Grades will be assigned as either Pass or Fail. A passing grade requires that a minimum of 80% of available points are earned during the semester. Per BACB rules, any student receiving a failing grade will not be permitted to count any experience hours earned during the semester towards certification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Activity Logs (15 @ 10 pts)</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excel Tracker Updates (15 @ 10 pts)</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervision Meeting Attendance (15 @ 20 pts)</td>
<td>300 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initial Required Documentation</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>850 pts</strong></td>
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***The instructor reserves the right to make alterations to this syllabus—with due notice to students—to make corrections, improve the course, or account for unforeseen circumstances***