

REHB 577
Radical Behaviorism I
Syllabus, Fall 2014

Instructor: Joel E. Ringdahl, Ph.D.

Location: Lawson 121

Offices: 335A Rehn Hall; 195 EDC

Time: Thursdays 1:00-3:50

Phones: 453-8295 (Rehn); 453-2331 (EDC)

Office Hrs: M 1:00-3:00; W
8:00-10:00; 12:00-2:00

Email: joelringdahl@siu.edu

Course Description and Objectives:

This course will provide an introduction to the philosophy of behavioral science known as Radical Behaviorism. It's impact, or potential for impact, on society will be discussed. Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Understand the foundations of Radical Behaviorism.
- Be able to compare Radical Behaviorism to other schools of thought within Psychology and related disciplines.
- Understand the implications of Radical Behaviorism for verbal behavior and private events.
- Understand the role Radical Behaviorism plays in the science of human behavior.
- Be able to extrapolate the concepts underlying Radical Behaviorism to other disciplines and to the management of important societal challenges.

Texts:

Moore, J. (2008). *Conceptual Foundations of Radical Behaviorism*. Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY: Sloan.

Skinner, B. F. (1974). *About Behaviorism*. New York, NY: Random House.

Suggested Readings:

Richelle, M. N. (1993). *B. F. Skinner: A Reappraisal*. New York, NY: Psychology Press.

Rutherford, A. (2009). *Beyond the Box*. Toronto, Canada: University of Toronto Press.

Skinner, B. F. (1959). *Cumulative Record*. Acton, MA: Copley Publishing Group.

Toates, F. (2009). *Burrhus F. Skinner: The Shaping of Behaviour*. New York, NY: Palgrave MacMillan.

Emergency Procedures.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on the BERT's website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Public Safety's website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. **It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency.** The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

Class Sessions:

Class attendance is expected at all times. This class will be presented as both lecture and seminar. Class participation is expected. It is also expected that students will have completed the assigned readings on the date on which that topic will be discussed.

Cell phones must be turned off during class and any use of lap-top computers for activities other than taking notes will lead to immediate dismissal.

Evaluations:

1. Students will receive points for preparing discussion materials related to Moore's text. Each student will be assigned to 3 chapters, and will be responsible for presenting the information related to that chapter to the class. Each student will provide at least two comments or questions regarding the Moore chapters to the student preparing the materials.
2. Students will be responsible for preparing a 45 min presentation related to Radical Behaviorism and its implications, impact, or potential for impact related to (a) another field of science (social sciences included), or (b) management of a broad societal concern (e.g., treatment of prisoners, integration of individuals with disabilities, hunger, scarcity of resources, etc.).

Academic Dishonesty

Each student is responsible for making himself or herself aware of the policies and procedures in the Graduate Catalog (pp. 44-46) that pertain to Acts of Academic Dishonesty. These policies cover such acts as plagiarism, preparing work for another student, cheating by any method or means, falsifying or manufacturing

data, furnishing false information to a university official relative to academic matters, and soliciting, aiding, concealing, or attempting conduct in violation of this code. The student is also responsible for making himself or herself aware of the procedures applicable to cases of academic dishonesty as outlined in the Graduate Catalog (pp. 49-54), including jurisdiction at the department or college level, informal resolution, and formal disciplinary measures. A student must consult with the instructor if he or she has questions pertaining to academic dishonesty prior to the submission of an assignment or test.

If you wish to drop this course, you must do so after the date designated by the university. A grade of Incomplete will be given under the conditions specified in the university catalog.

The instructor is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of students with documented disabilities to contact the instructor during the first week of class to discuss appropriate accommodations to ensure equity in grading, classroom experiences, and outside assignments. Documentation is to be provided and accommodations are to be arranged with Disability Support Services.

CALENDAR (SUBJECT TO MINOR CHANGES)

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
8/19/2014	Introduction and Syllabus	Moore; Chapter 1
8/26/2014	Foundations of Radical Behaviorism	Moore; Chapters 2-4
9/2/2014	Foundations of Radical Behaviorism	Moore; Chapters 5-7
9/16/2014	Realization of Radical Behaviorist Program	Moore: Chapters 8-10
9/27/2014	Realization of Radical Behaviorist Program	Moore; Chapters 11-13
9/30/2014	Radical Behaviorism and Alternative Viewpoints	Moore; Chapters 14-16
10/7/2014	Radical Behaviorism and Alternative Viewpoints; Epistemology	Moore: Chapters 17-18; 19

10/14/2014	No Class: Fall Break	About Behaviorism
10/21/2014	No Class: Ringdahl out	About Behaviorism
10/28/2014	Discussion: About Behaviorism	About Behaviorism
11/4/2014	Discussion: About Behaviorism	About Behaviorism
11/11/2014	No Class: Veterans Day	
11/18/2014	Overflow	
11/25/2014	Class Presentations	
12/2/2014	Class Presentations	