



**College of Education and Human Development  
Division of Special Education and disAbility Research**

Fall 2021

EDSE 502 666: Classroom Management and Applied Behavior Analysis

CRN: 86330, 3 – Credits

<b>Instructor:</b> Dr. Joy Engstrom	<b>Meeting Dates:</b> 9/16/2021 – 11/18/2021
<b>Phone:</b> 804 937 3680 (cell) 571 252 1232 (office)	<b>Meeting Day(s):</b> Thursday
<b>E-Mail:</b> <a href="mailto:jengstr2@gmu.edu">jengstr2@gmu.edu</a> or <a href="mailto:Joy.Engstrom@lcps.org">Joy.Engstrom@lcps.org</a> (preferred)	<b>Meeting Time(s):</b> 4:30 pm – 8:30 pm
<b>Office Hours:</b> By appointment	<b>Meeting Location:</b> Off Campus/ Riverside HS
<b>Office Location:</b> LCPS administration building, 4 <sup>th</sup> floor	<b>Other Phone:</b> NA

**Note:** This syllabus may change according to class needs. Teacher Candidates/Students will be advised of any changes immediately through George Mason e-mail and/or through Blackboard.

**Prerequisite(s):**

None

**Co-requisite(s):**

None

**Course Description**

Focuses on identifying, recording, evaluating, and changing social and academic behaviors of special and diverse populations. Explores theories of classroom management and various approaches to management including use of technological advances. Emphasizes developing classroom and individual behavior management plans. Note: Field experience required.

**Advising Contact Information**

Please make sure that you are being advised on a regular basis as to your status and progress in your program. Students in Special Education and Assistive Technology programs can contact the Special Education Advising Office at 703-993-3670 or [speced@gmu.edu](mailto:speced@gmu.edu) for assistance. All

other students should refer to their assigned program advisor or the Mason Care Network (703-993-2470).

### **Advising Tip**

Did you know that Mason email is the primary method of communication used by university offices including those arranging internships, reviewing records for graduation, etc.? Check your Mason email regularly: <http://masonlive2.gmu.edu/>.

### **Course Delivery Method**

Learning activities include the following:

1. Class lecture and discussion
2. Application activities
3. Small group activities and assignments
4. Video and other media supports
5. Research and presentation activities
6. Electronic supplements and activities via Blackboard

### **Learner Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, teacher candidates/students will be able to:

1. Define behavior change terminology and principles of applied behavior analysis.
2. Given characteristics and behaviors of students with disabilities, identify ways to acquire indirect and direct assessments to identify corresponding antecedents and consequences of the behavior/s as well as the behavior's function (i.e., Functional Behavior Assessment).
3. Based on information from a Functional Behavior Assessment, design a comprehensive behavior change program, and describe how school teams collaborate for the functional behavior assessment and behavior change program.
4. Design behavior management techniques for making positive changes in students' academic, social, and/or affective behavior, including ethical use of a continuum of techniques, starting with proactive, preventative, and least intrusive techniques.
5. Describe how to determine reinforcers and use varied schedules of reinforcement responsive to the needs of individual students.
6. Write accurate behavioral objectives for a wide range of behaviors that include all components: learner, conditions, observable behavior, and degree/criteria statements.
7. Describe data collection procedures that match observable behaviors and how to use data to make decisions about the effectiveness of interventions.
8. Describe how to develop and use single subject research designs.
9. Explain when and how to use maintenance and generalization techniques.
10. Design learning environments that support and enhance instruction.
11. Describe how to create a safe, positive, supportive environment which values diversity.
12. Demonstrate knowledge of modifying the learning environment (e.g., schedule, physical arrangement, routines) to prevent and manage inappropriate behaviors.
13. Describe strategies for promoting self-management.
14. Describe components of the SchoolWide Positive Behavior Intervention Support (SW-PBIS) model.
15. Given a school's discipline model, identify what distinguishes that model from the SW-PBIS model, and provide recommendations to align the school's model with SW-PBIS.

16. Describe parsimonious and comprehensive classroom management methods.
17. Describe how to identify and teach social skills needed for educational and other environments.
18. Describe ethical considerations when selecting behavior management methods, including a rationale for selecting positive reinforcement procedures over other procedures, conditions under which punishment-based procedures would be appropriate, and teacher attitudes and behaviors which can positively or negatively influence student behavior.
19. Identify and describe the crisis cycle and methods for crisis prevention.
20. Identify crisis intervention training programs (i.e., leads to certification as crisis management specialist).

### **Professional Standards**

(Council for Exceptional Children [CEC] and the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium [InTASC]). Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards: CEC Standard 1: Learner development and individual learning differences (InTASC 1,2); CEC Standard 2: Learning environments (InTASC 3); CEC Standard 4: Assessment (InTASC 6); CEC Standard 5: Instructional planning and strategies (InTASC 7,8); CEC Standard 6: Professional learning and ethical practice (InTASC 9) & CEC Standard 7: Collaboration (InTASC 10).

### **Evidence-Based Practices**

This course will incorporate the evidence-based practices (EBPs) relevant to developing safe, effective learning environments, positive behavioral interventions and supports, and functional behavioral assessments/behavioral plans. Evidence for the selected research-based practices is informed by meta-analysis, literature reviews/synthesis, the technical assistance networks which provide web-based resources, and the national organizations whose mission is to support students with disabilities. We address both promising and emerging practices in the field of special education. This course will provide opportunities for teacher/candidates/students to take an active, decision-making role to thoughtfully select, modify, apply, and evaluate EBPs in order to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

### **Required Texts**

Alberto, P.A., & Troutman, A.C. (2017). *Applied behavior analysis for teachers* (9th ed.) Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.

Scheuermann, B.K., & Hall, J.A. (2016). *Positive behavioral supports for the classroom* (3rd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.

### **Recommended Texts**

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

## **Course Performance Evaluation**

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, VIA, hard copy).

## **VIA Performance-Based Assessment Submission Requirement**

It is critical for the special education program to collect data on how our students are meeting accreditation standards. Every teacher candidate/student registered for an EDSE course with a required Performance-based Assessment (PBA) is required to upload the PBA to VIA (regardless of whether a course is an elective, a one-time course or part of an undergraduate minor). A PBA is a specific assignment, presentation, or project that best demonstrates one or more CEC, InTASC or other standard connected to the course. A PBA is evaluated in two ways. The first is for a grade, based on the instructor's grading rubric. The second is for program accreditation purposes. Your instructor will provide directions as to how to upload the PBA to VIA.

For EDSE 502, the required PBA is Functional Behavior Assessment and Behavior Intervention Plan. Please check to verify your ability to upload items to VIA before the PBA due date.

## ***Assignments and/or Examinations***

### **Performance-based Assessment (VIA submission required)**

FBA/BIP Project: For this project, you will select a student with mild-moderate exceptional learning needs who also demonstrates problem behavior(s). You will complete a functional behavioral assessment (FBA) and then use the FBA to develop a behavior intervention plan (BIP), which are briefly described below. Detailed directions for these assignments and grading rubrics will be provided in class and on Blackboard. Please read these directions/rubrics carefully before beginning the assignment. Both assignments will be submitted to the course Blackboard site for instructor scoring. Directions will also be provided for uploading the assignments to the Required Performance-Based Assessment Blackboard category.

**A. Functional Behavioral Assessment (24 points):** To identify the function of problem behavior(s) of a particular student, you will gather information about this student and his/her behavior. You will use indirect assessment to target routines and problem behavior(s) and will conduct direct assessments of the identified behavior. Using the information gathered, you will hypothesize the function of the student's behavior and make a recommendation for the focus of a BIP.

**B. Behavior Intervention Plan (24 points):** Based on the information you gathered in the FBA and the hypothesis you made about the function of the problem behavior(s), you will develop a BIP. You will identify a desired replacement behavior and behavioral objective, conduct an assessment of the student's reinforcers and activity preferences, identify parsimonious interventions, develop a comprehensive intervention plan, and create a plan to evaluate the impact of the intervention (i.e., data collection system and single subject research design).

### **College Wide Common Assessment (VIA submission required) NONE**

### ***Field Experience Requirement***

A field experience is a part of this course. A field experience includes a variety of early and ongoing field-based opportunities in which candidates may observe, assist, and/or tutor. Field experiences may occur in off-campus settings, such as schools (CAEP, 2016). Below are REQUIRED PROCEDURES FOR ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THIS COURSE.

1. Complete the online EDSE Field Experience form. This online form will be sent to your GMU email from EDSEfld@gmu.edu on the first day of the semester. Click on the link and complete the form as soon as possible. ALL students should complete the form, regardless of whether you need assistance in locating a field experience placement or not. This information is required by the state. Please direct any questions about the form to Dr. Kristen O'Brien at EDSEfld@gmu.edu.

If you are arranging your own field experience because you are a full-time contracted school system employee and will complete the field experience at your worksite, you will be asked to specify the school at which you will be completing the field experience.

If you request a field experience placement to be arranged, you will receive information via your GMU email account about your assigned internship placement from the Clinical Practice Specialist in the College's Educator Preparation Office (EPO). Check your GMU email regularly for important information regarding your field experience. Follow all instructions for the necessary Human Resource (HR) paperwork required to access the assigned field experience placement.

2. View the EDSE Field Experience Introduction presentation. On the first week of classes and prior to representing George Mason in off-campus settings, your instructor will show a video presentation or provide a link to the presentation, which includes important information about the registration process for EDSE field experiences and tips for a successful field experience. After the presentation, sign the document provided by your instructor to indicate that you have watched the presentation and are aware of the EDSE field experience professionalism expectations.

3. Document your field experience hours. Your instructor will provide you with access to field experience documentation forms to use. There are two different field experience documentation forms – one for those completing field experience at their worksite and one for those completing field experiences in other classroom settings (e.g., GMU arranged a placement for you). Use the form that is most appropriate for your field experience placement. Your instructor will provide more directions on how to use and submit the documentation form.

4. Complete the field experience end-of-semester survey. Towards the end of the semester, you will receive an email from EDSEfld@gmu.edu with a link to an online survey. This brief survey asks you to report about important features of your field experience placement.

5. Students must be able to perform the essential functions of the practicum site assigned with or without an accommodation. Contact Disability Services (ods@gmu.edu) for questions related to accommodations.

## ***Other Assignments***

### **Comparison of School Discipline/Behavior Plans (10 points)**

For this assignment, you will obtain the discipline plan from a school. Consider the “plan” as the document provided to parents, students, and teachers at the beginning of the school year. Within this document, the school’s rules, approach to reinforcing and enforcing rules, consequences for infractions, and other relevant information is described. Most schools have these documents readily available for parents and students on the school web site. Avoid accessing the school system’s handbook because you will be comparing a school’s procedures to the School Wide Positive Behavior Intervention Supports, so a school plan is needed.

Your task is to compare and contrast your selected school’s plan to the Positive Intervention and Support (PBIS) model and report your findings. More information about this assignment (including a grading rubric) can be found on Blackboard and should be reviewed prior to beginning the assignment.

### **Classroom Management Plan (20 points)**

The purpose of this project is to develop a comprehensive classroom management plan that involves preventative planning and instructional management strategies to support the academic and behavioral needs of a diverse classroom. Components of the classroom management plan include a self-assessment, environmental engineering, assessment of active student engagement, continuum of consequences, and behavior management philosophy. You will report on your own classroom management features or observe a general education co-taught setting (must be classroom where students with disabilities are educated) if you are not currently teaching in a school setting. More information about this assignment (including a grading rubric) can be found on Blackboard and should be reviewed prior to beginning the assignment.

### **Skill Presentation [Teach us HOW to do something!] (5 points)**

Throughout the semester, you will be learning evidence-based practices and techniques (e.g., data collection) that are new for you, or that you know about (knowledge) but you have not yet practiced (skill). Select one knowledge topic (a partial list is on the next page), and sign up to “show us the skill” for that topic during a class session. Because one purpose is to see you teaching a topic, do not plan to use youtube clips! The only reason a youtube clip might be selected is if you were teaching data collection techniques, and data were being collected from behaviors on the youtube!

Select the date and topic wisely so you are sufficiently challenging yourself. More information on the Skill Presentation will be provided during class; rubrics will be on the Bb.

Possible topics and evidence-based practices (EBPs) techniques:

- a. Positive reinforcement distinguished from negative reinforcement
- b. Differential reinforcement techniques
- c. Schedules of reinforcement
- d. Data collection techniques
- e. Single subject research designs
- f. How to evaluate the impact of interventions on the targeted behavior
- g. Behavioral objectives
- h. Crisis interventions
- i. Social skills instruction

## Assignment Summary

Classroom Attendance	5 points
Comparison of School Discipline/Behavior Plans	10 points
Classroom Management Plan	20 points
Skill Presentation	5 points
Functional Behavior Assessment	30 points
Behavior Intervention Plan	30 points
Total Points:	100 points

## Course Policies and Expectations

### *Attendance/Participation*

Students are expected to attend **all** classes, arrive on time, remain in class for the duration of each session, demonstrate professional behavior in the classroom, and complete all assignments with professional quality and on time. When absence from class is unavoidable, it is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to obtain notes, handouts, and lecture details from another student (it is recommended that you have *two colleagues* in the course for this). Please be sure to notify the classmate(s) in sufficient time for them to be of assistance for you.

Please notify the Instructor about absences in advance or within 24 hours after an absence. Be aware **any points earned for participation in class activities, during a time of absence, will not be earned and cannot be made up.**

If you need to miss, for any reason, more than two class sessions, contact the Instructor immediately (within 48 hours) with notification of when your course withdrawal will be completed. If you realize after the first class session that this course's requirements are not a match for you for this semester, process your withdrawal immediately (within 48 hours) and notify the Instructor at the same time.

### *Late Work*

To successfully complete this course, students need to adhere to all due dates for readings and assignments. Full earned credit for assignments turned in on time. Anticipate point deductions for late work. For every 24-hour period that an assignment is late, a 5% point deduction will occur.

### **Grading**

Letter Grade	Percentage of Points
A+	95-100%
A	90-94.9%
B+	85-89.9%
B	80-84.9%
C	70-79.9%
F	< 70%

**\*Note:** The George Mason University Honor Code will be strictly enforced. See [Academic Integrity Site](https://oai.gmu.edu/) (<https://oai.gmu.edu/>) and [Honor Code and System](https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>). Students are responsible for reading and understanding the Code. “To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.” Work submitted must be your own new, original work for this course or with proper citations.

### Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. See [Policies and Procedures](https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/) (<https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/>). Professional dispositions are an essential function of a special educator’s job, indicating that these dispositions are critical to develop and assess in special education licensure programs. In the College of Education and Human Development, dispositions are formally and separately evaluated in at least three points in each student’s program – a self-evaluation at the start of their program, a self-evaluation at the mid-point of their program, and a university supervisor’s evaluation during internship. In special education graduate licensure programs, the initial self-evaluation is completed in a designated course (EDSE 501), the mid-point self-evaluation is completed in designated courses (EDSE 627, EDSE 661, and EDSE 616), and the internship evaluation is completed by instructors in EDSE 783, EDSE 784, and EDSE 785. In addition to these three designated evaluation times, instructors may complete instructor-rated disposition assessments other times throughout the program. When dispositions are assessed, it is important that for areas where a positive disposition is rated as “not proficient,” the student takes steps to grow as an educator. See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/epo/candidate-dispositions>.

### Class Schedule

**\*Note:** Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

Session	Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments Due
1	9/16 (online)	Introduction to behavior management Theoretical models to Explain Challenging Behavior Roots of Applied Behavior Analysis Responsible use of Applied Behavior Analysis Course Overview Skill Presentations	A&T: Ch 1, 2 <b>OR</b> S&H: Ch 1, 2	
2	9/23	Universal-Level Supports and Interventions Rules and Procedures Preventing Challenging Behaviors	S&H: Ch 3, 4, 5, 6	



		Comparison of School Discipline/Behavior Plans		
3	9/30	Crisis Intervention (article) Social Skills Instruction (article)  Behavioral Objectives Data Collection Techniques	2 articles to be posted on Bb  S&H: Ch 7 A&T: Ch 3, 4	<b>Comparison of SW-PBIS and School Plan due</b>
4	10/7	Conducting a Functional Behavior Assessment	S&H, Ch 8 A&T, Ch 7, 10	
5	10/14	Conducting a Functional Behavior Assessment Cont.		<b>Classroom management Plan due</b>
6	10/21	Developing the responsive Behavior Intervention Plan  Antecedent and Consequence based strategies	A&T Ch. 8, 9,10 (content from previous sessions also applicable)	
7	10/28	Graphing Data Single-Subject Designs	A&T: Ch. 5, 6	<b>FBA Due</b>
8	11/4 (online)	Ensuring a cohesive BIP...		
9	11/11	Maintenance and Generalization  Self-Management	A&T Ch. 11, 12	<b>BIP Due</b>
10	11/18	Wrap up  Skill Presentations		<b>Skill Presentations Due</b>

### Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: See [Core Values](http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/) (<http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>).

### GMU Policies and Resources for Students

#### *Policies*

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code. See [Honor Code and System](https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing. See [Responsible Use of Computing](http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/) (<http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All

communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.

- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor. See [Disability Services \(https://ds.gmu.edu/\)](https://ds.gmu.edu/).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

### ***Campus Resources***

- Support for submission of assignments to either Tk20 or VIA should be directed to <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/assessments/>
- Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to [Blackboard Instructional Technology Support for Students \(https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/\)](https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/).

### ***Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:***

- As a faculty member, I am designated as a “non-confidential employee” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing the [Title IX Coordinator \(titleix@gmu.edu\)](mailto:titleix@gmu.edu).
- **For information on student support resources on campus, see [Student Support Resources on Campus \(https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus\)](https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus).**
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website [College of Education and Human Development \(http://cehd.gmu.edu/\)](http://cehd.gmu.edu/).