Co-Instructors: K. Dove, H. Wilkinson

Course Description: An introductory practicum course where students are taught via initial classroom training and video modeling, the basic concepts of applied behavior analysis (ABA) and discrete trial teaching (DTT) to work one-on-one with a preschool child with autism. Students will apply learned concepts in order to handle common behaviors and maintain mastered skills of their assigned child. All practicum hours are on campus and attendance is a significant part of grade. Any student, who has not met the requirements to advance to Advanced Autism Practicum, may repeat the course with instructor permission.

Prerequisite: PSY-100.

**In order to qualify to take the Intermediate Autism Practicum course, a student must obtain an average grade of 85 on her evaluations for the Introductory Autism Practicum course.**

Educational Outcomes:
At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to...
2. Develop an understanding of basic applied behavior analysis (ABA) principles, such as reinforcement, punishment, extinction and prompting.
3. Apply basic ABA principles such as reinforcement, punishment, extinction and prompting, in a one-on-one teaching setting.
4. Develop a basic understanding of discrete trial training (DTT) principles.
5. Apply DTT principles to a child with autism in order to maintain and generalize learned skills.
6. Work collaboratively and professionally within a teaching team.

CLASS SCHEDULE
You will be assigned specific times for sessions each week according to the availability you provide at the beginning of the semester. You will be required to do 7 hours a week of one-on-one hours and a one hour weekly team meeting or classroom training. Your weekly team meeting and classroom training times will be assigned based on the schedule you give to the autism program. Trainings may alter given 2 weeks’ notice. You CANNOT make changes to your schedule after drop/add ends. You will receive your assigned scheduled one-on-one times and your team meeting/classroom training times 2 days after drop/add ends. Prior to drop/add ending, you are required to attend an Overview session and do several online trainings. Options for the Overview session will be emailed to you once you register for the course.

Grading Scale:
100-90 = A
89-80 = B
79-70 = C
69-60 = D
59 -- = F

BLACKBOARD
You will be required to use Blackboard for this course. All documents needed for this course will be posted on Blackboard and you will be required to submit all assignments for grading on Blackboard.

Requirements:
Initial Trainings→
• Overview—you will be required to attend a 3.5 hour overview to train you on our teaching techniques. This overview is required to be completed before you can begin training on your client. You will receive an email detailing the overview times. Please make sure you sign up and attend this training.
• **Blackboard**—There will be 4 trainings and quizzes (all open note) that will need to be completed via Blackboard on your own time prior to start of your sessions with your client.

• **Training Sessions**—you will receive your training calendar 2 days after drop/add ends. Be sure you look at this carefully and attend all training sessions with your client. You will lose 5 points off your final grade for any missed training sessions and these points cannot be made up!

**Course Grade:**

10% - **Blackboard Training Quizzes**—There are 4 Trainings and 4 Quizzes that comprise this grade. You can use any notes you take during the Blackboard Trainings for these quizzes but may NOT use the help of any other person. These quizzes are NOT timed, but each must be completed in one sitting. ALL four quizzes must be completed on Blackboard by _____. You will lose 1 point for every day that all 4 quizzes are incomplete after due date.

15% - **ABA/DTT Overview Post Test:** This test will be on Blackboard and will cover concepts learned in your overview training and applied with your child. You can use the powerpoint slides and any notes YOU took yourself during the overview but may NOT use the help of any other person. This test is NOT timed but must be completed in one sitting. There will be 20 questions each worth 5 points. This test must be completed by _____. You will lose 5 points for every day this is submitted late.

15% - **Basic ABA Applications:** In this assignment you will be presented with various scenario questions related to ABA and DTT that apply to MAP. This assignment will be open after midterms have been completed and must be completed on Blackboard by _____. You will lose 5 points for every day this is submitted late. You will have 75 minutes to complete but you must complete it in one sitting. There will be 20 questions each worth 5 points. You can use any materials you have been given through our course but may NOT use the help of any other person.

60% - **Evaluations:** a supervisory staff member will evaluate all students 2 times a semester. Your midterm and your final evaluation will each be worth 30%. Evaluations will consist of the following areas:

- Discrete Trial (16 points)
- Reinforcement & Prompting (16 points)
- Generalization & Maintenance (16 points)
- Behaviors (12 points)
- Break/Downtime/Daily Routine (20 points)
- Professionalism (20 points)

*Any violation of professionalism or confidentiality at any time during the semester can result in reduction of your grade. Please refer to the professionalism and confidentiality guidelines on Blackboard training.*

*Do NOT use BB to calculate your grade in this course. You must calculate your grade by hand using distribution in syllabus and keep track of your absences to know how many points you will lose off your final grade. If you need assistance calculating your grade, please see a MAP staff member.*

**Attendance** - There will be 5 points deducted from your final grade for each scheduled one-on-one session, training session, team meeting or classroom training missed.

*Training session:* You cannot make up any points for missed training sessions. Training sessions are the first 2-3 weeks of classes when your consultant or senior staff is overlapping & training you on your client’s case (they will be listed on the calendar with you).

*One-on-one session:* If you schedule your make up within 2 weeks of your absence, you will get 3 of those points added back to your final grade once you complete the hours scheduled.

*it is your responsibility to get up with your supervisor on a makeup time!*

*If you makeup your time before you miss your session, or you get a teammate to switch sessions with you (the switch of hours must be equal), so your client does not lose hours, you will not lose any points. You must notify us of the switch beforehand!*
*If you have 2 sessions in one day these combined hours will be considered one session. If you cancel for the day, you will lose 5 points and can earn 3 points back for a makeup. If you cancel some of the hours in a given day, you will be required to make up those hours (NOT OVERLAPPED), and may be subject to Tardiness points being deducted.

Team Meetings and Classroom Trainings: Team meetings and Classroom Trainings each occur every other week throughout the semester. Classroom Trainings may or may not be on the same week as your Team Meeting.

If you know you will miss your meeting or classroom training, you can call the MAP cancellation phone 1 hour before the scheduled start time, to ask that it be videotaped. IF you watch this video from the missed team meeting or classroom training before your next scheduled session with the child, you will get 2 points added back to your final grade. If a meeting is scheduled, knowing that you cannot be in attendance, you must watch the video at a scheduled time each week. If you miss this scheduled video time, you will be penalized the same as teammates missing the team meeting.

*If you are late for a team meeting or classroom training, you will lose 1 point for every 15 minutes you are late
*If you miss a meeting or classroom training and a session on the same day, you will only lose points for the missed meeting/classroom training, but you will be required to makeup the missed session time. If you cancel the makeup for this missed session time, you will lose points for the absence as well.

**if you miss a session to represent Meredith (for a class, club, etc) you will not be penalized for this absence, as long as you contact your supervisor at least a week prior to the miss and at that time schedule a makeup session. You will still be required to makeup all hours missed. If you cancel this makeup session, you will be penalized as if you were canceling your original session (5 points deducted with one opportunity for another makeup session)

You will not be penalized for any sessions cancelled by a child’s parent, but may be asked to perform another task during your session time.

If you are going to miss a session, you must 1) Call the MAP cancellation phone. It is imperative that proper procedure (more information can be found on Blackboard) be followed when you can not be present during your scheduled time. It is crucial that you attend all your assigned training times, sessions, team meeting, and classroom trainings. The child and the parents are counting on you for the program to be implemented.

**Extra credit will be awarded for perfect attendance!**

Tardiness - There will be 5 points deducted from your final grade if you are late or leave early for 3 or more sessions throughout the semester.

Inclement Weather Policy:
- If Meredith College classes are canceled, then there will be no sessions.
- If Meredith College is delayed, sessions will start at the time Meredith opens.
- Information about Meredith class cancellations is available on the Meredith website www.meredith.edu and by calling the inclement weather phone number, 832-8878.
- The Director of MAP reserves the right to change this policy as needed.

Social Media Policy:
It is your responsibility to follow the Social Media Policy found on Blackboard and in the Course Requirements Powerpoint.

Confidential Documents:
Please remember that in addition to maintaining all confidentiality for clients (as you signed in the agreement at the start of the semester) you are also responsible for destroying all documents with client information (whether hard copy or electronic copy) at the end of each semester you take our course (this includes team meeting notes, calendars, and emails). Maintaining any of this information is a direct violation of HIPPA.
**Disability Statement:**
Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with documented disabilities. In order to receive accommodations, students must go through the Counseling Center/Disability Services office. Disability Services is located in 208 Carroll Hall and can be reached at 760-8427 or disabilityservices@meredith.edu. If you have a disability that requires any classroom accommodation, please see Kathryn Dove and/or your consultant as soon as possible. You may call or email us to set up a time to come by.

**Physical Requirements:**
In this course you may be required to do any of the physical activities listed below. It is IMPERATIVE that you speak to Kathryn Dove before Drop/Add ends if you will have difficulty performing any of these duties. At that time we can discuss if there is a client that would best suit your abilities and if accommodations are needed. Must have the ability to bend, twist, squat, kneel, climb, reach above shoulder, grip/grasp, extend/flex neck, use right hand, use left hand, ability to see, lift up to 60 lbs, stand, walk, sit on floor, and the ability to hear.
**Some of our children may have aggressive tendencies. Though each student will be trained in redirection and defensive techniques, there may be occasion where a student will be hit, kicked, bitten, or have an object thrown at them by a child. If this possibility makes you uncomfortable, please drop this course prior to training.**
**Some children will also be potty training which will be a part of their daily routine and an aspect of your course requirement. Any children not potty training will be in diapers and diapering will be an aspect of your course requirement.**

**Statement of Honor:** We, the Meredith Community, are committed to developing and affirming in each student a sense of personal honor and responsibility. Uncompromising honesty and forthrightness are essential elements of this commitment. The Honor System is a method by which individual honors are protected and maintained. Any dishonorable action will be regarded as a violation of this commitment, and corrective action will be taken.

If I am in violation of the Honor Code, to prevent jeopardizing the Honor System or weakening our system of self-government, I have an obligation to report myself to the proper authorities. If I am aware of a violation of the Honor System by another student, I shall call this matter to the attention of that student as a violation of responsibility to the community.

In choosing Meredith College, I am accepting the Honor System as a way of life. As a Meredith student, I am responsible for insuring that the Honor System is at all times carried out. **Any trainer who compromises a client’s confidentiality will be in violation of the Honor Code.**

**Withdrawal Policy:** There will be no withdrawals after _____. You may withdraw previous to this point with a W.