COURSE TITLE: Behavior Modification

COURSE NUMBER: PSY 306

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys and examines the theory and technique of operant and classical conditioning in behavior modification. The main emphasis is on understanding the basic principles of behavior modification.

As Psychology professionals, we recognize that reactions to trauma come in many forms. The content of this course, and discussions about trauma from different perspectives, may bring about unexpected and unsettling reactions. Responses to trauma are often strategies that survivors have developed to keep themselves safe, and therefore really reflect strength and resiliency. Recognizing how trauma impacts anyone is an important part of skill building for creating trauma-informed services and systems. Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor at any time during the course if you would like to discuss, privately, your reactions to the content we are reviewing and/or the discussions we are having.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:
Demonstrate an understanding of behavior modification.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Identify key individuals
A-2 Identify key terms and concepts.

GOAL B:
Demonstrate an understanding of basic technique in conditioning.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Demonstrate understanding of reinforcement, schedules of reinforcement, shaping the Premack Principles, etc.
B-2 Apply these principles in real life case studies.
GOAL C:
Demonstrate an understanding of the use of conditioning in every day settings in business, home and school.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

C-1 Identify principles of conditioning
C-2 Apply principles of conditioning to real life settings.

GOAL D:
Demonstrate an awareness of the ethical limitations of the use of behavioral techniques with human subjects or animals.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will

D-1 Identify ethical limitations.
D-2 State consequences of ethical violations.
D-3 Identify case histories of ethical violations.

GOAL E:
Use appropriate written and oral communication skills.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

E-1 Communicate information orally in a logical and grammatical manner.
E-2 Present written information using standard APA style.