BOARD CERTIFIED BEHAVIOR ANALYST (BCBA) TRAINING
Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
and Master’s of Science (M.S.) Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis Options

Revised 1/9/2020

Program begins once per year each fall semester
Applications are due by March 1st

Overview
Central to either the Graduate Certificate or the Master’s of Science (M.S.) degree in Applied Behavior Analysis option is our course sequence that trains practitioners extensively in Applied Behavior Analysis with a focus on treating Autism. Michigan legislation mandates insurance companies to cover therapeutic services for autistic persons by BCBA credentialed treatment providers. To earn a BCBA credential, a master’s degree in psychology, education/special education, or Applied Behavior Analysis is required, plus a specific sequence of classes and practicum. At WSU, our ABA sequence involves 22 credit hours of courses and 10 credits of practicum across five semesters as described below (total=32 credits). Our course sequence has received full approval by the Behavior Analytic Certification Board (BACB). This BCBA certification course sequence can either be part of our M.S. in ABA program or a post-master’s set of courses that will meet the requirements for students to sit for the BCBA exam. Students who successfully complete the courses are eligible to sit for the BCBA examination, which, upon passing, would lead to the BCBA credential.

*Our coursework is currently approved for Task List 5.*

Students enter the program as a cohort. The cohort model includes a combination of supported and independent learning through classroom based and practiced-based hands-on learning. Cohort-mates work collaboratively throughout their training. Thus, all classes in the BCBA course sequence are live, classroom-based courses. Online and hybrid classes are not available for the courses in this sequence. Although some students find the online and hybrid courses convenient, the interactive learning environment and the hands-on learning activities offered in the BCBA course sequence classes at Wayne State University will help students take their learning experiences into the workplace for a more seamless crossover between classroom and field placement activities. This instills a sense of professional community not only during the program, but as students move into the field as practitioners. Our program emphasizes the importance of intensive learning while in the program as well as the need for collaborative lifelong learning.
Our cohorts begin each fall and primarily run during the day. The ABA classes are typically taught at the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. Also see the “Course Schedule” section farther below for additional detail. The additional classes that are part of the M.S. degree are typically on main campus downtown.

Applicants must choose whether they are going to select the course sequence as either a) a series of 32 credits earning a Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis (must have prior master’s degree in psychology, education/special education, or applied behavior analysis required) plus one of the practicum options, either of which also requires an 10 credits of practicum, or b) part of a Master’s of Education (M.S.) degree in Applied Behavior Analysis, which involves the same 32 credit sequence, plus an additional 8 credits of coursework (Bachelor’s degree required) and one of the practicum options, either of which also requires an additional 10 credits of practicum. Both options lead to the BCBA credential, providing the BCBA exam is passed after completing the ABA/BCBA course sequence. Regardless of whether route “a” or “b” is chosen, the ABA/BCBA five-semester sequence is taken at the same time by all students admitted at the same time as a cohort. Cohorts must take their classes in sequence together as outlined by the program—it is a block scheduled program with no variations permitted. The M.S. route described above is also block scheduled with a cohort for a total of 40 credits.

Note to those entering with a master’s degree: The BACB has limited only those degrees from psychology, education, and applied behavior analysis as eligible for the course sequence. Unfortunately, social work is currently not eligible, although the board has indicated that the MSW will soon be eligible. Please check with the BACB for that at www.bacb.com. Anyone is still eligible to enroll in our full M.S. program described below, but the course sequence option without the M.S. program is no longer available outside of those approved degrees. This is a BACB decision—not a WSU decision.

Summary
Regardless of route, everyone takes the five-semester BCBA sequence of courses and field experience courses (22 credits of course work plus 10 credits of field experience credits = 32 credits)—these count toward either the M.S. or the Graduate Certificate. If you need the Master’s degree, you take an additional 8 credits of the courses listed farther below, for a total of 40 credits.

Required Program Courses
The BCBA course sequence consists of the following required courses:

TRADITIONAL COURSES

EDP 5450 Child Psychology (3 credits)
Basic concepts, research findings and problems regarding child, pre-adolescent and early adolescent developmental needs as they apply to school and home environments; includes study of exceptional children and those with cultural differences.
Corequisite: N/A
Prerequisite: N/A

EDP 7610 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology (3 Credits)
Study of theories of psychopathology in children and adolescents and the application to these
theories to practice. Differential diagnosis using currently acceptable classification systems.
Corequisite: N/A
Prerequisite: N/A

**EER 7610 Evaluation and Measurement (2 Credit)**
Principles and practices of evaluation and measurement with special focus on behavioral goals.
Informal and formal evaluation strategies.
Corequisite: N/A
Prerequisites: N/A

**EDP 7101 Foundations of Applied Behavior Analysis (4 Credits)**
Principles and concepts of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), historical perspective of ABA,
fundamental vocabulary, philosophy, and methodology of the science of behavior management.
Corequisite: N/A
Prerequisites: N/A

**EDP 7102 Assessment Techniques in Applied Behavior Analysis (4 Credits)**
Overview of assessment techniques used in behavioral intervention planning, functional
assessments, functional assessment interview, descriptive and functional analysis, data collection
and interpretation, preference assessment, and interpretation of evaluation tools.
Corequisite: N/A
Prerequisites: EDP 7101

**EDP 7103 Applied Behavior Analysis Treatment Planning (4 Credits)**
Techniques used in behavioral intervention planning, data collection, interpretation of
assessments, development of goals and objectives, overview and application of treatment
interventions, management, supervision, and team planning.
Corequisite: N/A
Prerequisites: EDP 7102

**EDP 7111 Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis (4 Credits)**
Overview of research method techniques, theoretical foundations of empirical research,
principles of the scientific method, experimental designs, analysis of research designs, research
protocol, and formation of research hypothesis. Primary focus on single-case designs.
Corequisite: N/A
Prerequisites: EDP 7103

**EDP 7104 Research Methods in Applied Behavior Analysis (3 Credits)**
Overview of research method techniques, theoretical foundations of empirical research,
principles of the scientific method, experimental designs, analysis of research designs, research
protocol, and formation of research hypothesis. Primary focus on single-case designs.
Corequisite: N/A
Prerequisites: EDP 7101

**EDP 7105 Ethical Practice in Applied Behavior Analysis (3 Credits)**
Responsibility, values, ethics, and practice principles of the field of behavior analysis.
Corequisite:
Prerequisites: EDP 7111

FIELD EXPERIENCES COURSES

EDP 7106 Field Experience in Applied Behavior Analysis 1 (2 Credits)
Students will spend supervised time in the field practicing skills learned in the BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) course sequence. Students will work directly with multiple clients using a variety of Applied Behavior Analysis techniques. Specific focus on supervised one-on-one behavioral intervention work with children.
Corequisite: EDP 7101
Prerequisites: N/A

EDP 7107 Field Experience in Applied Behavior Analysis 2 (2 Credits)
Students will spend supervised time in the field practicing skills learned in the BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) course sequence. Students will work directly with multiple clients using a variety of Applied Behavior Analysis techniques. Specific focus on working in team consultative context to deliver comprehensive behavioral services.
Corequisite: EDP 7102
Prerequisites: EDP 7106

EDP 7108 Field Experience in Applied Behavior Analysis 3 (2 Credits)
Students will spend supervised time in the field practicing skills learned in the BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) course sequence. Students will work directly with multiple clients using a variety of Applied Behavior Analysis techniques. Specific focus on working in team consultative context to deliver comprehensive behavioral services.
Corequisite: EDP 7103
Prerequisites: EDP 7107

EDP 7109 Field Experience in Applied Behavior Analysis 4 (2 Credits)
Students will spend supervised time in the field practicing skills learned in the BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) course sequence. Students will work directly with multiple clients using a variety of Applied Behavior Analysis techniques. Specific focus on working in team consultative context to deliver comprehensive behavioral services.
Corequisite: EDP 7111
Prerequisites: EDP 7108

EDP 7110 Field Experience in Applied Behavior Analysis 5 (2 Credits)
Students will spend supervised time in the field practicing skills learned in the BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) course sequence. Students will work directly with multiple clients and staff using a variety of Applied Behavior Analysis techniques. The highest level of independent behavioral intervention work including managing all necessary assessment, treatment, case management, and intervention training and supervision of parents and technicians is expected in this semester.
Corequisite: EDP 7105
Prerequisites: EDP 7109

Course Schedule
For all cohorts, the five semesters of courses and field experience in the sequence occur in a succession of five sequential semesters. Cohorts begin in the Fall semester (in August) and will take the five semesters in sequence in the Fall, Winter, Spring/Summer, Fall, Winter. Students must be aware that they have to commit to this going into the program. There will be no flexibility.

The BCBA course sequence courses are offered during the daytime, with classes typically running sometime between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. We do our best to consolidate the courses to one day when possible so that students can work and complete practicum experiences on the other days. The additional courses if students need the M.S. are primarily in the evening, with some online. Students have to be prepared to commit to the plan, despite that there may be some fluctuations in exact course times and days of the week.

This next table reflects the course sequence for incoming cohorts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course (credits)</th>
<th>Pre/Co-req</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - Fall</td>
<td>EDP 7101 Foundations in ABA (4)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 credits</td>
<td>EDP 7106 Field Exp. 1 (2)</td>
<td>Co-req 7101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDP 5450 Child Psy (3)*</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - Winter</td>
<td>EDP 7102 Bx Asmt in ABA (4)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 credits</td>
<td>EDP 7107 Field Exp. 2 (2)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7106, Co-req 7102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDP 7104 Research Methods in ABA (3)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - Sp/Su</td>
<td>EDP 7103 Tx Planning in ABA (4)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>EDP 7108 Field Exp. 3 (2)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7107, Co-req 7103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - Fall</td>
<td>EDP 7111 Advanced ABA Tx Planning (4)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 credits</td>
<td>EDP 7109 Field Exp. 4 (2)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7108, Co-req 7111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDP 7610 Child/Adol Psychopath (3)*</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - Winter</td>
<td>EDP 7105 Ethics in Applied Behavior (3)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 credits</td>
<td>EER 7610 Evaluation &amp; Measurement (2)*</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDP 7110 Field Exp. 5 (2)</td>
<td>Pre-req 7109, Co-req 7105</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 40 credits total; * = Taken only if choosing the M.S. in ABA option, not for GC.

The certificate only option for students entering out program with a Master’s Degree will not need to take EDP 5450, EDP 7610, or EER 7610.

**Field/practicum Experience**

All cohorts from 2020 forward will be under the new field experience requirements. *For students entering in cohort 2020, new field experience requirements will be in place and the intensive practicum model of supervision will no longer be an option for students.*

See the October 2017 newsletter published online by the BACB for details on the changes for supervision requirements for students accruing field experience hours. See table below for details. [https://www.bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/BACB_Newsletter_101317.pdf](https://www.bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/BACB_Newsletter_101317.pdf)
BCBA Field Experience Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Experience Requirement</th>
<th>Supervised Fieldwork</th>
<th>Concentrated Supervised Fieldwork</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fieldwork Hours Required to Qualify</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fieldwork Hours Per Week</td>
<td>10-30 hrs.</td>
<td>15-30 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisory Period</td>
<td>1 calendar month</td>
<td>1 calendar month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Fieldwork Hours Spent in Supervision (calculated per monthly supervisory period)</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Supervisory Contacts per Period (contacts must be at least 15 minutes)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Activities</td>
<td>At least 60% of supervised fieldwork hours must be spent engaged in unrestricted activities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual/Small-Group Supervision</td>
<td>Supervision may be conducted in small groups for no more than 50% of the total supervised hours in each supervisory period.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grades Required During Program**

Students are required to maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher across these and all program classes/field experiences, with no more than one grade of C+ or lower. Students who earn a second C will not be permitted to continue in the program. Grades of B- and lower, or patterns of grades only in the B range, are of concern and intervention may be warranted. Grades reflect content mastery and affect how well students perform on the national exam.

**Program Leadership & Staff Support**

Refer all of your questions about the program to Dr. Krista Clancy, Program Director. Mrs. Lei Juan Stewart-Walker, Program Secretary, can assist you with admissions and general university questions.

Krista Clancy, Ph.D., LLP, BCBA
BCBA and BCaBA Program Director
331 College of Education
5425 Gullen Mall
Wayne State University
Detroit, MI 48202
(313) 577-1614
kclancy@wayne.edu

Ms. Lei-Juan Stewart-Walker
Program Secretary
341 College of Education
5425 Gullen Mall
Wayne State University
Detroit, MI 48202
(313) 577-1613
ab2628@wayne.edu

**Prerequisites**

Applicants are expected to meet the minimum undergraduate 2.75 GPA requirement outlined by the WSU Graduate School.

**Admission Deadlines**

New cohorts begin each fall pending enrollment. Applications are due by March 1st. It is important for you to follow application directions carefully. Please check the box on the online application for the fall term only.
Admission Procedures

Admission to either option requires a University Graduate Admissions Application (submitted online to Graduate Admissions—either an “Applied Behavior Analysis – M.S.” application or an “Applied Behavior Analysis – Graduate Certificate” application), a program area application, statement of purpose, official transcripts, and three letters of recommendation (each item is described in detail below). This information is used comprehensively to evaluate a student’s potential candidacy for the program. A limited number of qualified applicants are invited for an interview with the faculty. Applicants should contact Academic Services (313-577-1601) if they need to check on the status of their application. A background check is also required after you have been accepted but before we can finalize your admission to the program.

Following are materials required for your application. Please follow this carefully, or your application review will be delayed.

Applications are due by March 1st

1) Graduate Application. Go to [http://gradapply.wayne.edu](http://gradapply.wayne.edu) to create a graduate application. Apply online only. When asked for the major, select “Applied Behavior Analysis-M.S.” (for those students without a Master’s Degree who will be entering our M.Ed. Program) or “Applied Behavior Analysis – Graduate Certificate” for those students who already have an eligible Master’s Degree and will be just taking the coursework and internship(s). You are encouraged to contact Academic Services at (313) 577-1601 to ensure you have applied correctly and to have any concerns addressed. Once inside the application portal, please remember to read everything from the top to bottom of the page. There are instructions and several links you will need to complete your application. Your WSU email address can be activated using the link at the bottom of your online application. Please activate, immediately begin using, and regularly check this email for updates.

Graduate students in good standing with Wayne State University who want to change their majors should apply online as these two pages indicate. However, if you are a WSU student who is adding a second program, please contact LaSondra Dawn, Program Specialist (and Liaison between the College of Education and Graduate Admissions) in Academic Services, at (313) 577-1011 for further instructions.

2) Official Transcripts. Official transcripts must be sent directly from all previously attended universities to Graduate Admissions. Have official transcripts sent directly from all previous universities to Wayne State University Office of Graduate Admissions at 5057 Woodward, Suite 6000, Detroit, MI 48202 (phone: (313) 577-4723). Electronic transcripts will be accepted if they are delivered securely from the registrar of the issuing institution directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions - gradadmissions@wayne.edu. You must also upload copies (unofficial is fine for review purposes) of all your transcripts with your online application.

3) Recommendations. Three letters of recommendation are required. We recommend that at least one or two of the letters be from faculty members. Your letters must be uploaded to
your online application. You will need to submit the name and email address of the people providing your letters of recommendation on your online application.

4) **Program Application.** The Program Application is different from the Graduate Admission Application. The Program Application can be downloaded from [http://coe.wayne.edu/tbf/educational-psychology/board-certified-behavior-analyst-bcba.php](http://coe.wayne.edu/tbf/educational-psychology/board-certified-behavior-analyst-bcba.php). You can also download it from the link on your application. The completed application must be uploaded to your online application.

5) **Statement of Purpose.** The Statement of Purpose is a critical part of your application. Instructions are provided within the online application. It must be uploaded to your online application.

6) **Background Check.** Once you are recommended for admission to the program, information will be sent to you concerning how to complete the criminal background check. The cost for this is $55.

**Interviews**

The first-round interview will be scheduled shortly after the application deadline. After the interview, students who need a site visit will be sent to tour the University Pediatrician’s Autism Center. This first-round interview will determine if you are a good fit for the program. If approved after the interview, your application materials will be reviewed again by faculty for potentially a second interview, and, an admission decision will be made. You will be notified by email of the outcome.
ADMISSION MATERIALS CHECKLIST

Each of the following items are required to be uploaded to your university application. There is a place in the online application for each item, and instructions specific to each are included in the application itself.

☐ $50 Application Fee for non-WSU applicants (fee is waived for WSU graduates)
☐ Official or Unofficial Transcripts
☐ Program Area Application
☐ Statement of Purpose
☐ Letters of Recommendation (3)

Questions? If you have questions about any aspects of the application process, as well as to check in to see if your application materials have been received, or general university questions, please contact:

Academic Services
489 Education Building
Detroit, MI 48202
(313) 577-1601