PS498

Unit 2 Seminar
Thursday, March 7th 2019

Purdue University Global Career Services Presentation

◦ Resumes and cover letter development

◦ Job search strategies

◦ Networking

◦ Preparing for an interview

◦ Targeting industry-specific job leads and information

◦ The presentation can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

PS 498 Career Services Presentation

◦ **Attendance will be taken**, so we ask that you **please sign in with your first and last name**.

Overview

◦ Review foundations of Applied Behavior Analysis

◦ Review three levels of scientific understanding

◦ Explore the dimensions of the science

◦ Unit to-do

Attitudes of Science
"Foundations of ABA"

- _____: All events have causes and occur lawfully as a result of other events.

- **Empiricism**

- **Experimentation**

- _____: Increased credibility of data results from duplication of the same study or similar studies.

- **Parsimony**

- _____: Willingness to abandon beliefs in light of new data.

Attitudes of Science
"Foundations of ABA"

- **Determinism:** All events have causes and occur lawfully as a result of other events.

- **Empiricism**

- **Experimentation**

- **Replication:** Increased credibility of data results from duplication of the same study or similar studies.

- **Parsimony**

- **Philosophic doubt:** Willingness to abandon beliefs in light of new data.

Levels of Scientific Understanding

○ **Description** – Collection of facts about observed events

○ **Prediction** – Relative probability that when one event occurs, another event will or will not occur

○ **Control** – Specific change in one event (dependent variable) can reliably be produced by specific manipulations of another event (independent variable)

Cooper, Heron, and Heward
Applied Behavior Analysis, Second Edition

Development of
Applied Behavior Analysis

◦ *"Some Current Dimensions of Applied Behavior Analysis"*

(Baer, Wolf, & Risley)

- ◦ Outlined dimensions of ABA in the first edition of JABA
- ◦ Most widely cited publication in ABA
- ◦ Written by the founding fathers of Applied Behavior Analysis
- ◦ Defined the criteria for judging adequacy of research & practice in ABA & outlined the scope of work for those in the science
- ◦ Remains standard description of the discipline

Defining Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

◦ Baer, Wolf, and Risley (1968) recommended the following seven defining dimensions for research or behavior change programs:
  ◦ Applied
  ◦ Behavioral
  ◦ Analytic
  ◦ Technological
  ◦ Conceptual
  ◦ Effective
  ◦ Generality

Defining Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Applied

- Investigates socially significant behaviors with immediate importance to the participant(s)
- Examples include behaviors such as:
  - Social
  - Language
  - Academic
  - Daily living
  - Self-care
  - Vocational
  - Recreation and/or leisure

Defining Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Behavioral

◦ Precise measurement of the actual behavior in need of improvement & documents that it was the participant's behavior that changed

  ◦ The behavior in need of improvement

  ◦ The behavior must be measurable

  ◦ Important to note whose behavior has changed

Defining Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Analytic

- ◦ Demonstrates experimental control over the occurrence and non-occurrence of the behavior (a functional relation is demonstrated)
- ◦ Functional & replicable relationships

Defining Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Technological

- Written description of all procedures in the study is sufficiently complete and detailed to enable others to replicate it
- All operative procedures are identified and described in detail & clarity
- Replicable technology

Defining Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Conceptually systematic

- Behavior change interventions are derived from basic principles of behavior

- Procedures are also described in terms of basic principles

- Assist in integrating discipline into a system instead of a "collection of tricks"

Defining Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Effective

- Improves behavior sufficiently to produce practical results for the participant(s)
- Improvements in behavior must reach clinical or social significance
- Extent to which changes in the target behavior(s) result in noticeable changes

Defining Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Generality

- Produces behavior changes that last over time
- Appear in other environments (other than the one in which intervention was implemented)
- Or spread to other behaviors (those not directly treated by the intervention)

Additional Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Offers society an approach toward solving problems that is:

- Accountable
- Public
- Doable
- Empowering
- Optimistic

Additional Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Accountable

◦ Created by the focus on

  ◦ Environmental variables that reliably influence behavior

  ◦ Reliance on direct & frequent measurement to detect changes in behavior

    ◦ Detect successes and failures

    ◦ Allow changes to be made

Cooper, Heron, and Heward
Applied Behavior Analysis, Second Edition

Additional Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Public
◦ Visible, explicit, & straightforward
◦ Of value across a very broad spectrum of fields

Doable
◦ Not complicated
◦ Variety of individuals are able to implement principles and interventions

Additional Characteristics of Applied Behavior Analysis

Empowering

◦ Provides practitioners with real tools that work

◦ Raises confidence

◦ Increases confidence for future challenges

Unit 2
TO DO

◦ Unit Reading > Baer, Wolf, Risley (1968)

◦ Discussion Board

◦ Learning Activity – Informative brochure

◦ Quiz (20 pts.)

Due Tuesday 3/12

References

Cooper, J., Heron, T. and Heward, W. (2007). *Applied behavior analysis*. 2nd ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.