### Course Title: Behavioral Assessment

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<th>Term/Semester/Year:</th>
<th>Spring, 2010</th>
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<th>Course Catalog Number:</th>
<th>PSYC 6131.81</th>
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<th>Instructor:</th>
<th>Cynthia L. Radnitz, Ph.D.</th>
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**Course Description:**

Students will learn about the principles underlying behavioral assessment and the predominant methods of assessment employed by behavioral practitioners. Emphasis will be placed on how to integrate information gleaned using behavioral methods in order to arrive at a behavioral case formulation, which can be used to guide treatment planning. Specifically, an example of a session transcript will be reviewed with special attention paid to how the case is formulated. Later in the semester, students will be given cases and will work in groups to arrive at a behavioral case formulation with an assessment plan. The ability of students to utilize assessment methods in the context of a case formulation will be evaluated based on the quality of their group presentations and their ability to formulate a case given to them at the final examination.

**Prerequisites (If any):**

**Goals and Objectives:**

The overall goal of this course is for students to gain an in-depth understanding of behavioral assessment. Specifically, you will learn about the principles underlying behavioral assessment and how it compares to more traditional assessment forms; behavioral case formulation; methods of behavioral assessment; and how behavioral assessment is linked to treatment. You will learn to conduct a behavioral assessment as part of your group project, which should prepare you to competently conduct behavioral assessments on your clients.

**Course Topics:**

- Theoretical Underpinnings of Behavioral Assessment
- Behavioral Assessment and Case Formulation
- The Interview
- Naturalistic and Analogue Observations
- Self-monitoring, Self-report and Cognitive Assessment
- Psychophysiological Assessment
- Unobtrusive Measures and Social Validation
- The relationship between Behavioral Assessment and Treatment

**Text:**