# Behavior Problems in School Settings
## From Impairment to Intervention

### Course Syllabus
CAMS-UA.134.1.001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor:</th>
<th>CAMS Undergraduate Advisor:</th>
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| Timothy L. Verduin, Ph.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry  
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## Class Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No./Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings (complete by date listed)</th>
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| **Session 1** | Introduction and Historical Background.  
Why target Disruptive Classroom Behavior? | None. |
| **Session 2** | Disruptive Classroom Behaviors: The What, Who, and Why  
| **No Class** | President’s Day | N/A |
| **Session 4** | Key Players on the School-Family Team.  
| **Session 5** | GUEST LECTURE: Dr. Yamalis Diaz  
Facilitating Collaborative Relationships to Enhance Behavioral Consultation. | Akin-Little, Chapter 1; Pfiffner, Chapter 4; Sheridan & Kratochwill, 2010. |
<p>| <strong>Session 6</strong> | Assessing Classroom Behavior. | Akin-Little, Chapter 9; Bagner, Boggs, &amp; Eyberg, 2010; Knock &amp; Kurtz, 2005; |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM</td>
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</table>
| 8       | Selective Attention: Introduction and Theory.  
          | Positive Attending, Part I: Basic Skills. |
| 9       | Positive Attending, Part II: Use in Groups.  
          | Active Ignoring. |
| 10      | Conditional Limits & Clear Instructions.  
          | Classroom Rules and Limits. |
| 11      | Time Out from Positive Reinforcement.  
          | Response Cost and Other Punishments. |
| 12      | The Daily Report Card. |
| 13      | Token Economies. |
| 14      | FINAL PROJECT DUE  
          | Tapering, Tailoring, and Assessing Outcomes.  
          | Final Exam Review. |
| 15      | FINAL EXAM |

Scheduled for our usual classroom.

**Readings**

- Akin-Little, Chapter 12; Bell, Boggs, & Eyberg, 2003; McNeil et al., 1991®; Sutherland (NYT).
- Akin-Little, Chapter 10; Hester, Hendrickson, & Gable, 2009; McIntosh, Rizza, & Bliss, 2000; Tiano & McNeil, 2006.
- Akin-Little, Chapter 8; DuPaul, 1991; Pfiffner, Chapter 3; Roberts et al., 1978®.
- Akin-Little, Chapter 16; Fabiano et al., 2004®; Kazdin, 1972.
- Akin-Little, Chapter 14; Jurbergs, Paleic, & Kelley, 2007®; Kurtz, 2002; Pfiffner, Chapter 5.
- Pfiffner, Chapter 7; Verduin, Abikoff, & Kurtz, 2008.
You are expected to have completed assigned readings by the class for which they are listed. Some readings will be discussed briefly, some at length, and some hardly at all. Even if a reading is not discussed, the content may still appear in an exam.

The ® behind some of the readings indicates an original research article. These articles are likely to be discussed in class re: methods, findings, and implications.

**Grading**

- **30% Midterm**
- **30% Final**
- **25% Class Project**
- **15% Participation (Attendance, Punctuality, Discussion of Readings, Skills Drills, etc.)**
- **100% Awesome**

Note: I will give the Final greater weight if you improve over your Midterm grade.

**Class Policies**

1. **Attendance.** I am proud of this course but aware that there are more important things in your life. Your health and family are two of them. If you must miss a class for illness or personal concerns, please email me as soon as possible. I reserve the right to ask for documentation.

   Attendance is very important and counts toward the Class Participation portion of your grade. Remember that these are double classes, so each absence means twice the missed material. Missing more than 2 classes will definitely affect your final grade, unless there are exceptional circumstances that you have discussed with me in a timely way.

2. **Lateness.** Class starts at 9:30am sharp. But if you’re running late, even really late, please come anyway. Regular tardiness will affect your grade, but not as much as absences.

   I reserve the right to give ludicrously easy pop quizzes at the very beginning of class. If you’re present, they will boost your grade. If you’re not, tough luck.

3. **Eating and Drinking.** Go ahead, but don’t talk with your mouth full.

4. **Recording lectures.** Please ask first. There will be role-plays and class participation, so everyone in the classroom must consent.

5. **Cell Phones.** No. This includes talking, texting, email, apps, whatever. Please note that if I see you use a Cell Phone or other internet device during an exam, you get a ZERO.

6. **Laptops.** For taking notes: Cool. For anything else: Uncool.
7. **Late work.** The grade you get will diminish one third of a letter grade from its assessed value each day it is late (A to A-, B- to C+, etc.). You must submit your project electronically to NYU Classes by 9:30AM on the due date. Any later and it’s one day late.

8. **Makeup exams.** I do not offer makeup exams, because grades are due right after the exam. So if you know you’re going to miss an exam ahead of time, talk to me and we will see if you can take it early. I really only do this when you have a legitimate, unavoidable reason.

   If you have an emergency and miss an exam, you must both a) notify me by the start of class via email or voicemail, and b) provide proper documentation before I will agree to discuss a solution. Otherwise you will get a zero.

9. **Extra Credit.** I will give an occasional pop quiz for extra credit. You will only have a shot at these if you are present when they start. I do not arrange for individual extra credit.

10. **Office Hours.** My office is at the NYU Child Study Center at One Park Avenue (between 32nd and 33rd Streets). Hours are by appointment, best made directly with my assistant at 646-754-4902. Please let me know if you intend to make an appointment.

   If you need to talk to me outside of class, we will need to talk right after class, right before class, during break, or at the Child Study Center. Please arrange this with me ahead of time.

11. **Plagiarism, Cheating, Etc.** I follow the NYU Statement on Academic Integrity, which can be found at http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/policies/academic_integrity. Breaking it can seriously mess with your life.

**Bibliography**

*Books (REQUIRED):*


*Articles & Chapters (Required only if posted on NYU Classes):*


The schedule and policies in this syllabus are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.