



Līdzfinansē
Eiropas Savienība

Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis Course

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What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

It's a Science based on 5 basic principles of behaviors that were discovered mainly by Skinner and it colleagues (the Behavior of Organism 1938):

- Reinforcement
- Motivation
- Extinction
- Punishment
- Stimulus Control

Basic Characteristic of Science

- Systematic approach for seeking & organizing knowledge about the natural world
- Purpose
 - To achieve a thorough **understanding of the phenomena under study**
 - in ABA – socially important behaviors

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

Based on those principle Skinner laid out the learning process called: **Operant Conditioning**

The main process used in ABA to modify behaviors

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

It's a scientific approach:

- for discovering environmental variables that reliably influence socially significant behavior
- for developing a technology of behavior change that takes practical advantage of those discoveries

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

ABA is the application of those 5 basic principle to human behavior.

Over the last 70-80 years professionals have been applying those principles to modify behaviors of **social significance**

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

ABA has many forms and can be used in many ways and setting.

An ABA intervention can be complex with many variables or very simple and straight forward.

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

Examples of ABA intervention:

- Increase toddler's compliance during medical treatments
- increase language and social skills in children with autism
- reduce problem behavior in children and adult with intellectual disabilities
- reducing smoking, alcohol consumption, overeating, nail biting
- Increase studying behavior in students in regular school
- improving writing and reading skills in school with students in regular school
-and many more applications!

Applied Behavior Analysis

JOURNAL OF APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

1968, 1, 91-97

NUMBER 1 (SPRING, 1968)

SOME CURRENT DIMENSIONS OF APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS¹

DONALD M. BAER, MONTROSE M. WOLF, AND TODD R. RISLEY

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

- **1968 Formal beginning of contemporary applied behavior analysis**
 - Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (JABA) began publication
 - “Some Current Dimensions of Applied Behavior Analysis” (Baer, Wolf, & Risley)

Development of Applied Behavior Analysis

- **Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (JABA)**
 - First journal in U.S. To deal with applied problems & gave researchers using methodology from the experimental analysis of behavior an outlet for publishing their findings
 - Flagship journal of ABA

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

Why is ABA so popular as intervention with children with autism?

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

In 1987 Lovaas wrote his famous study

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1987, Vol. 55, No. 1, 3-9

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Behavioral Treatment and Normal Educational and Intellectual Functioning in Young Autistic Children

O. Ivar Lovaas
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Autism is a serious psychological disorder with onset in early childhood. Autistic children show minimal emotional attachment, absent or abnormal speech, retarded IQ, ritualistic behaviors, aggression, and self-injury. The prognosis is very poor, and medical therapies have not proven effective. This article reports the results of behavior modification treatment for two groups of similarly constituted, young autistic children. Follow-up data from an intensive, long-term experimental treatment group ($n = 19$) showed that 47% achieved normal intellectual and educational functioning, with normal-range IQ scores and successful first grade performance in public schools. Another 40% were mildly retarded and assigned to special classes for the language delayed, and only 10% were profoundly retarded and assigned to classes for the autistic/retarded. In contrast, only 2% of the control-group children ($n = 40$) achieved normal educational and intellectual functioning; 45% were mildly retarded and placed in language-delayed classes, and 53% were severely retarded and placed in autistic/retarded classes.

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

Lovaas study, still a controversial study, but showed that the application of the 5 basic principles could produce good outcomes in many children with autism.

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

Following the Lovaas study the field of ABA grew, many different studies and replications were published.

Today behavioral intervention is the treatment of choice for children with developmental disabilities

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

Usually a behavioral intervention for children with developmental disabilities can take many different forms but it still based on the 5 basic principles of behavior discovered by Skinner

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

As today there different model of behavioral intervention for children with developmental disabilities:

- UCLA Model (Lovaas)

Mostly based on Discrete Trial

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pN6ydLE4EQ&t=21s>

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

As today there different model of behavioral intervention for children with developmental disabilities:

- PRT (Pivotal Response Training) Model
Mostly based on Naturalistic Approach

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9w5nTegfToQ>

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

As today there different model of behavioral intervention for children with developmental disabilities:

- Verbal Behavior Model

Mostly based on teaching communication skills (not only through language)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vo1TwayGyXs>

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

A behavioral Intervention can take many different forms but common elements are:

- all behavioral intervention are base on the 5 basic principles of behavior
- all behavioral intervention are based on evidence based practice.

What is **Applied Behavior Analysis** ?

Usually a Behavioral Intervention is promoted by:

- **Behavioral Analyst:** supervise the program, conducts assessments, interpret data and results, develops and decide procedures, trains teachers, therapists and parents.
- Responsible of the intervention

Future Applied Behavior Analyst!

