About the Certificate

Applied behavior analysis (ABA) is a scientifically valid, systematic approach to behavior change that examines the variables that reliably influence socially important behaviors.

Where is the ABA used?

Behavior analysis is used wherever people are interested in behavior change: consumer marketing, rehabilitation clinics, schools, prisons and athletic coaching. The new course sequence at Salve Regina is relevant for all these areas; and students who have recently completed these courses are in graduate schools studying Family Therapy, Industrial/Organizational Psychology, and Child Development. Behavior analysis is the only empirically validated therapy method for people with autism, and professional opportunities for BCaBAs in that area are very encouraging.

What can you do with a BCaBA?

The Behavior Analyst Certification Board specifies that a BCaBA with appropriate training can design, implement and interpret the results of behavioral interventions for clients. Working with the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (i.e. someone with a master’s degree and advanced training in behavior analysis) a BCaBA can teach paraprofessionals to carry out interventions.

The SRU course sequence preparing students to become Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts is approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB).

Required Courses

- PSY210: Applied Behavior Analysis I 3 credits
- PSY320: Learning and Behavior 3 credits
- PSY410: Applied Behavior Analysis II 3 credits
- PSY420: Applied Behavior Analysis Practicum 3 – 6 credits

(May be waived with 1000 hours supervised by a nationally certified Behavior Analyst)

Students wishing to work in the field as a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst must have earned a bachelor’s degree in a related field, must complete the required course work (PSY210, PSY320, PSY410), complete an intensive practicum experience (500 hours as part of PSY420 OR 1,000 hours supervised by a nationally certified Behavior Analyst), and successfully complete the national certification exam.