

**Everything You Want To Know
About Behavior Analysis
By Kionne August Class of 2006**

I. Behavior Analysis:

If you have ever trained a beloved pet or even sat in the food court at Lenox Mall just to watch other people, you could be the perfect candidate for a future in behavior analysis. Behavior Analysts believe understanding an individual is as simple as understanding behaviors, rates of behaviors, and the environment that affects them. It is important to note that not everyone loves a behaviorist, so you will want to know as much about the perspective as possible so that you can clearly explain to others the behavioral perspective.

Interested?

- Take: PSY 306 Learning and Conditioning
- Read: http://www.behavior.org/behavior/what_is_beh_an.cfm
- Read more: <http://chiron.valdosta.edu/whuitt/col/behsys/behsys.html>

II. Undergraduate Internships:

Most psychology majors will confess, it is difficult to gain experience in undergrad in any psychology field. Well, lucky for you, future behavior analysts are in high demand in Atlanta, especially eager to learn, work for cheap, undergraduate students. Particularly for those interested in gaining experience with developmental work, such as shaping behaviors for special education and socialization, Atlanta offers a plethora of work opportunities.

Here are a few institutions in the Atlanta area that are always ready to hire –

- Marcus Institute - https://www.marcus.org/kki_2nd_inside.jsp?pid=1
- Summit Learning Center - <http://www.summitlearningcenter.org/>
- Play For Tomorrow - <http://www.playfortomorrow.org/>
- Odyssey Counseling - <http://www.odysseycounseling.org/interns.htm>

III. Know More:

The more you become interested in behavior analysis, the more you can educate yourself on the possibilities with a degree in this field. There are a number of links on-line that will keep you up to date on the latest research important to behaviorists. Every graduate school application will ask you what research you plan to pursue while taking classes. You need to know where behavior analysts have been to know where you should go.

- Association for Behavior Analysis - <http://www.abainternational.org/>
- Behavior Analysts On-line - <http://www.behavior-analyst-online.org/>
- Association for Advancement of Behavior Therapy - <http://www.aabt.org/>

IV. Graduate Programs:

So you are interested in a furthering your knowledge of behavior analysis... Great! Finding the right graduate school for Behavior Analysis can be difficult. Some of the best programs are hiding under specialized departments, such as special education, community development, and therapy/clinical programs. This can be somewhat helpful in that the programs that attach the behavior analysis to a particular area will often provide internship and practicum experience within these specialized areas with supervision by the professionals in the field. Here are a few sites to get you started:

- Graduate Programs for Behavior Analysis- Masters and PhD
http://dmoz.org/Science/Social_Sciences/Psychology/Behavior_Analysis/Academic_Programs/
- More Graduate Programs for Behavior Analysis- Masters and PhD
http://programs.gradschools.com/usa/applied_behavior_analysis.html

V. High Interest Areas:

The versatility of a board certified analyst is truly dumbfounding. The skills acquired in graduate school, whether specialized or no, can open many doors. Board certified behavior analysts are needed in the school system, in state government, in corporate businesses, in clinical offices, and much, much more!

- Behaviorists for Social Responsibility - <http://www.bfsr.org/>
- Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies - <http://www.behavior.org/>
- Continuous Learning Group - <http://www.clg.com/>
- Teaching Children with Autism - <http://www.polyxo.com/aba/>

VI. Stay Up To Date:

Journals, online or print, are the best way to stay up to date. Especially when preparing for graduate school or thinking about research, it allows proves helpful to consult the latest news in the scientific community.

- Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis -
<http://seab.envmed.rochester.edu/jaba/index.html>

- Journal of Experimental Analysis - <http://seab.envmed.rochester.edu/jeab/index.html>

VII. Practice, Practice, Practice:

Once you are hooked on behavior analysis, you will want to work on your behavior-shaping skills. For this, we turn to Sniffy's brother, Snuffy!

- Play With "Snuffy": <http://epsych.msstate.edu/adaptive/Fuzz/index.html>
- Observe Monkeys: <http://epsych.msstate.edu/adaptive/learningByObservation/index.html>

VIII. Know More:

This website really helped me see the possibilities of behavior analysis. Enjoy!

- Psychology Resources – Behavior Analysis and Learning - <http://psych.athabascau.ca/html/aupr/ba.shtml>

IX. Your Turn:

Please continue to add to this file for students, like you, interested in behavior analysis. Add to the sections or add more sections, but please leave your mark on this file for future students to benefit. Also, please leave your contact information below for students, faculty, and career services to contact you about career updates.

Thank you!

X. Contacts:

Kionne August '06 - thekionne11@hotmail.com – created on 12/18/05