Honours Human Behaviour – Autism & Behavioural Science Specialization (B.A.Sc.)

This program is offered jointly in partnership by Mohawk College of Applied Arts & Technology and the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour, McMaster University. Students pursue two qualifications simultaneously, and graduates receive the Ontario College Graduate Certificate in Autism & Behavioural Science from Mohawk and the McMaster Honours Bachelor of Applied Science degree.

Program Overview

The Autism & Behavioural Sciences (ABS) Specialist Program focuses on human behaviour with an emphasis on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and the behaviour intervention application of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA). ABA is used to teach individuals with autism to develop new skills, such as language or social play, through repeated practice, intensive teaching (Intensive Behavioural Intervention or IBI), and positive reinforcement. Students will complete two field placements in community settings. Completion of this program can lead to career opportunities such as Behaviour or ABA Therapists in community treatment agencies, hospital/clinical settings, private agencies or independent contractors, family homes, school boards.

ADMISSION

Enrolment in this program is limited and possession of the published minimum requirements does not guarantee admission. Selection is based on academic achievement but requires, as a minimum, completion of any Level I program with a Grade Point Average of at least 5.0 including:

6 units PSYCH 1X03 (or 1F03), 1XX3
0-3 units BIOLOGY 1P03 (or Grade 12 Biology U (SBI4U))
0-3 units from MATH 1F03, 1K03, STATS 1L03 (or one of Grade 12 Advanced Functions (MHF4U), Calculus & Vectors (MCV4U), Data Management (MDM4U))
0-3 units LINGUIST 1A03 (If not taken in Level I must be completed by end of Level II).

Program Notes:

1. Students are required to attend during the Spring/Summer sessions between Level II & III and Level III & IV.
2. The timing of the Spring/Summer courses may not adhere to the Sessional Dates as published in the McMaster calendar.
3. Field Placements often require that students have access to a vehicle.
4. Expenses incurred during the field placements are not reimbursed, but at the expense of the student.

HUMAN BEHAVIOUR COURSE LIST

PNB 3Q03 A/B, S; PSYCH 2B03, 2C03, 2E03, 2NF3, 3A03, 3AB3, 3AC3, 3AG3, 3BA3, 3C03, 3CB3, 3CC3, 3CD3, 3F03, 3FA3, 3HH3, 3II3, 3JJ3, 3MO3, 3MT3, 3T03, 3UU3, 3YY3

REQUIREMENTS

150 units total ([Levels I to IV) of which no more than 48 units may be Level I) which includes two Field Placements in Spring/Summer between Level II and III and Level III and IV.

LEVEL I

30 units (See Admission)
LEVEL II:
FALL/WINTER: 30 UNITS
- 3 units PSYCH 2AA3 (Child Development)
- 3 units PSYCH 2AP3 (Abnormal Psychology: Fundamentals and Major Disorders)
- 3 units PSYCH 2GG3 (Learning, Measuring & Shaping Behaviour)
- 3 units PSYCH 2H03 (Human Learning & Cognition)
- 6 units HUMBEHV 2A06 A/B (Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD))
- 6 units HUMBEHV 2B06 A/B (Introduction to Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) I)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 2C03 (Specialized Instructional Strategies (SIS) I)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 2NV3 (Non-Violent Crisis Intervention)
- 1 course HUMBEHV 2HB0 (Human Behaviour Professional Development)

SPRING/SUMMER: 15 UNITS
- 6 units HUMBEHV 2FP6 A/B (Field Placement I)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 2FS3 A/B (Field Placement I Seminar)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 3F03 (Ethics & Professionalism)
- 0-3 units LINGUIST 1A03 (Introduction to Linguistics 1) *if not completed in Level 1*
- 0-3 units Electives

LEVEL III:
FALL/WINTER: 30 UNITS
- 3 units PSYCH 3B03 (Special Populations)
- 3 units PSYCH 3C03 (Child Language Acquisition)
- 3 units from PSYCH 3HB3 (Stats & Methods for Hons Hum Behv) or STATS 2B03 (Stats Methods for Science)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 3D03 (Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) II)
- 6 units HUMBEHV 3E06 A/B (Behavioural Skill Building)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 3G03 (Specialized Instructional Strategies (SIS) II)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 3H03 (Working with Families & Teams)
- 6 units Electives

SPRING/SUMMER: 15 UNITS
- 9 units HUMBEHV 3FP9 A/B (Field Placement II)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 3FS3 A/B (Field Placement II Seminar)
- 3 units Electives

LEVEL IV: 30 UNITS
- 12 units from Human Behaviour Course List
- 3 units HUMBEHV 4I03 (Parent & Staff Training)
- 3 units HUMBEHV 4J03 (Transition Planning & Implementation)
- 6 units HUMBEHV 4K06 A/B (Treating Challenging Behaviour)
- 6 units Electives

Field Placement Notes:
1. Applying for Placements – prior to the start date of a placement, students are required to submit a completed Field Placement Request Form to the Program Coordinator.
2. Placements will be with agencies that have contracted in advance with Mohawk College. The College cannot accommodate any student requests for special consideration.
3. Students are responsible for arranging their own travel to and from assigned placements.
4. Eligibility for Placements – all students must meet academic, social, and health requirements before they can attend a site for field placement.
   a. Social/Professional Requirements – all students within the program are expected to consistently demonstrate Social/Professional behaviours that are typical of those expected by employers. If, in the opinion of program faculty, a student has failed to demonstrate appropriate behaviours, the university may refuse to offer a placement.
   b. Health Requirements – in the interest of the student and the placement, students are required to submit documentation (e.g., Health Record Form) that they have had a satisfactory physical examination including many routine vaccinations. All students must submit this documentation prior to placement or the student will not start the placement. Students should refer to their field placement coordinator to determine health requirements specific to their college and placement agency.
   c. Police Reference Check – all students are required to have a Police Reference Check prior to the commencement of their field placement. The cost of this check is the responsibility of the student.