

Curriculum Vitae
Rasha R. Baruni, MS, BCBA
Revised April 2022

Personal Information

Department of Child and Family Studies
University of South Florida, MHC 2113A
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33612
rbaruni@usf.edu

Education

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 2019 – present | University of South Florida; Tampa, Florida, USA
PhD Candidate, Applied Behavior Analysis
Dissertation title: Evaluation of interactive computerized training to teach practitioners to implement safety skills training
Advisor: Dr. Raymond G. Miltenberger, PhD, BCBA-D |
| 2010 – 2012 | St. Cloud State University; St. Cloud, Minnesota, USA
MS, Applied Behavior Analysis
Thesis title: Increasing variability in toy play for children with developmental disabilities
Advisor: Dr. John T. Rapp, PhD, BCBA-D |
| 2003 – 2007 | York University; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
BA, Honours, Psychology |
| 2001 – 2003 | Seneca College; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Diploma in General Arts and Science |

Certifications

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|----------------|---|
| 2016 – 2019 | Certified basic CALM® (Crisis, Aggression, Limitation, and Management) trainer |
| 2014 – present | Behavior Analyst Certification Board®, Inc. (BACB®)
Certification Number: 1-14-15478 |

Teaching Experience

(C=classroom, O=online; U=undergraduate, G=graduate, H=hybrid)

Instructor

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|-------------|---|
| Summer 2022 | ABA in Developmental Disabilities (O,G) |
| Spring 2022 | Directed Research I (O,G) |

Fall 2021	Supervision in ABA (O, G)
Spring 2021	Behavioral Assessment and Intervention Planning (H, U)
Fall 2020	Fundamentals of ABA (O, U)
Summer 2020	Fundamentals of ABA (O, U)
Spring 2020	Fundamentals of ABA (C, U)

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2019	Fundamentals of ABA (C, U)
Fall 2019	ABA Basic Principles (C, G)

Other Instructional Activities

Summer 2021	Revised the Directed Research I course for the online MA program
Spring 2021 – present	Mentored two master’s students in developing their thesis projects
Fall 2020 – Fall 2021	Provided group supervision for MS students’ fieldwork hours
2015 – 2017	Invited lecturer, Bachelor of Education Program at Emirates College for Advanced Education (ECAE) Abu Dhabi, UAE BACB Verified Course Sequence Topics: self-management; treatment for problem behavior maintained by automatic reinforcement; functional communication training; and measurement of behavior

Publications

Cook, J. L., **Baruni, R. R.**, & Lanovaz, M. J. (in press). Noncompliance and applied behavior analysis. In J. Matson (Ed.). *Handbook of ABA for children with autism: Clinical guide to assessment and treatment*. Springer Nature.

Miltenberger, R. G., **Baruni, R. R.**, & Cook, J. L. (in press). Foundational principles of applied behavior analysis. In J. Matson & P. Sturmey (Eds.). *Handbook of autism and pervasive developmental disorders*. Springer.

Baruni, R. R., & Miltenberger, R. G. (2022). Teaching safety skills to children: A discussion of critical features and practice recommendations. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40617-021-00667-4>

Miltenberger, R. G., Novotny, M. A., Maxfield, T. C., & **Baruni, R.R.** (2022) Evaluation

of video self-modeling to teach children with ID firearm safety skills. *Behavioral Interventions*. Advance online publication. <http://doi.org/10.1002/bin.1868>

Baruni, R. R., Rapp, J. T., Lipe, S. L., & Novotny, M. A. (2014). Using lag schedules to increase toy play variability for children with intellectual disabilities. *Behavioral Interventions*, 29(1), 21-35. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bin.1377>

Manuscripts Submitted

Baruni, R. R., Murray, C. M., Kelly, M. P., Sheridan, D. J., & Seaver, J. P. Using lag schedules to increase toy play variability for children with autism in the United Arab Emirates. (*Submitted to International Journal of Play*).

Novotny, M. N., Miltenberger, R.G., **Baruni, R. R.**, Maxfield, T. C., & Larson, V. Evaluating a web-based program for training parents to teach safety skills to their children. (*Submitted to Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*).

Seaver, J. P., Kelly, M. P., **Baruni, R. R.**, & Murray, C. M. Manipulation of reinforcement schedules and prompts to produce manding in a multi-operant environment. (*Submitted to Behavioral Interventions*).

Manuscripts in Preparation

Baruni, R. R., & Miltenberger, R. G. A survey on safety skills training.

Morosokh, E., Miltenberger, R. G., **Baruni, R. R.**, & Cook, J. L. Behavioral skills training to increase fidelity of staff room searchers at a juvenile residential facility.

Research in Progress

Baruni, R. R., Miltenberger, R. G., Cook, J. L. Evaluation of an interactive computerized training program to teach practitioners to implement safety skills training.

Cook, J. L., Miltenberger, R. J., **Baruni, R. R.**, Edgemon, A. K., Concepcion, A. Passive cooperation: A review of procedures to teach tolerance of unavoidable aversive events in daily life for individuals with autism or related disabilities.

Coppola, A., Miltenberger, R. G., & **Baruni, R. R.** Teaching poison safety skills to children with autism using small-scale simulation training.

Santa Cruz, H. C., Miltenberger, R. G., & **Baruni, R. R.** Evaluating remote behavioral skills training to train online gaming safety.

Grants

Research Grant (Co-Investigator): 26, 109 AED (\$7,100)
Increasing response variability in children with autism using lag and random-interval scheduled of reinforcement, ECAE, Abu Dhabi, UAE. (2017)

Invited Talks

Baruni, R. R. (November 2020). Behavioral skills training and safety skills. Invited guest lecture presented to students in the Applications of Behavior Analysis graduate course at the ECAE, United Arab Emirates.

Professional Presentations

Baruni, R. R., & Miltenberger, R. G. (2021, September 29-October 2). Recent developments in research on teaching safety skills. In R. R. Baruni (Chair), *Critical issues in teaching safety skills to children* [Symposium]. Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 41st Annual Convention, United States.

Cook, J. L., Miltenberger, R. J., **Baruni, R. R.**, Edgemon, A. K., Concepcion, A. (2021, September 29-October 2). When the going gets tough: Teaching individuals to tolerate important but aversive situations. In J. L. Cook (Chair), *Passive cooperation: A review of the literature*. [Symposium]. Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 41st Annual Convention, United States.

Morosokh, E., Miltenberger, R. G., **Baruni, R. R.**, & Cook, J. L. (2021, September 29-October 2). Applications of interventions within juvenile justice facilities. In R. R. Baruni (Chair), *Behavioral skills training to increase fidelity of staff room searches at a juvenile residential facility* [Symposium]. Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 41st Annual Convention, United States.

Novotny, M. A., Miltenberger, R. G., **Baruni, R. B.**, Maxfield, T. C., & Larson, V. (2021, September 29-October 2). Advances in interventions for teaching safety skills. In A. Briggs (Chair), *Evaluation a web-based program for training parents to teach safety skills to their children* [Symposium]. Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 41st Annual Convention, United States.

Cook, J. L., Miltenberger, R. G., **Baruni, R. R.**, Edgemon, A., & Concepcion, A. (2021, May 28-31). Tolerating tough stuff: How to teach getting through important, but aversive, Situations. In J.L. Cook (Chair), *Passive cooperation: A review of the literature on tolerating aversive events* [Symposium]. Association for Behavior Analysis Interventional 47th Annual Convention, United States.

Morosokh, E., Miltenberger, R. G., **Baruni, R. R.**, & Cook, J. L. (2021, May 28-31). Context matters: Implementing interventions within juvenile justice facilities. In R. R. Baruni (Chair), *Behavioral skills training to increase fidelity of staff room searches at a juvenile residential facility* [Symposium]. Association for Behavior Analysis International 47th Annual Convention, United States.

Novotny, M. A., Miltenberger, R. G., **Baruni, R. B.**, Maxfield, T. C., & Larson, V. (2021, May 28-31). Advances in Interventions for Teaching Safety Skills. In A. Briggs (Chair), *Evaluation a web-based program for training parents to teach safety skills to their children* [Symposium]. Association for Behavior Analysis International 47th Annual Convention, United States.

- Miltenberger, R. G., Novotny, M. A., Maxfield, T. C., & **Baruni, R. R.** (2020, May 23-25). Recent research on teaching safety skills to children with developmental disabilities. In M.A. Novotny (Chair). *Evaluation of video self-modeling to teach children with ID firearm safety skills*. Association for Behavior Analysis International 46th Annual Convention, United States.
- Baruni, R. R.**, Sheridan, D. J., Murray, C. M., Kelly, M. P., & Seaver, J. P. (2019, May 25-27). Bringing the lag out of the lab: Applied lag schedule research. In C.M. Murray (Chair). [Symposium]. *Using lag schedules to increase toy play variability in children with autism in the United Arab Emirates*. Association for Behavior Analysis International 46th Annual Convention, United States.
- Seaver, J. P., Kelly, M. P., **Baruni, R. R.**, & Murray, C. M. (2019, May 25-27). Further evaluations of teaching verbal operants to children with autism. In M. Passage (Chair). [Symposium]. *Manipulation of reinforcement schedules and prompts to produce manding in a multioperant environment*. Association for Behavior Analysis International 46th Annual Convention, United States.
- Moynihan, C. B., Murray, C. M., **Baruni, R. R.**, Sheridan, D. J., & Kelly, M. P. (2018, December). *A review of lag schedules of reinforcement to increase variation in play skills for children with autism spectrum disorder*. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience* (Conference Abstract: 3rd International Conference on Educational Neuroscience). doi: 10.3389/conf.fnhum.2018.225.00 029.
- Baruni, R. R.**, & Kelly, M. P. (2018, October). *Applied behavior analysis and autism spectrum disorder: Myths, evidence, and effects*. Paper presented at the Abu Dhabi International Mental Health Conference, United Arab Emirates.
- Seaver, J. P., Kelly, M. P., **Baruni, R. R.**, & Murray, C. M. (2018, June). *Manipulation of reinforcement schedules and prompts to produce manding in a multi-operant environment*. Paper presented at the Annual ECAE Research Forum, United Arab Emirates.
- Kelly, M. P., **Baruni, R. R.**, Murray, C. M., Sheridan, D. J., & Seaver, J. P. (2018, June). *Using lag schedules to increase toy play variability for children with autism in the United Arab Emirates*. Paper presented at the Annual ECAE Research Forum, United Arab Emirates.
- Baruni, R. R.**, Seaver, J. P., Coley, C. F., & Tramentozzi, S. J. (2018, May 26-28). *A functional analysis of manding*. Poster presented at the 44th Annual Convention of the ABAI, United States.
- Baruni, R. R.**, Sheridan, D. J., Murray, C. M., Kelly, M. P., & Seaver, J. P. (2018, May 26-28). *Using lag schedules to increase toy play variability in children with autism in the United Arab Emirates*. Poster presented at the 44th Annual Convention of the ABAI, United States.
- Murray, C. M., Kelly, M. P., **Baruni, R. R.**, Sheridan, D. J., & Seaver, J. P. (2018, April).

Using lag schedules to increase toy play variability for children with autism in the United Arab Emirates. Paper presented at the 12th Annual conference of the Division of Behaviour Analysis, Ireland.

Moynihan, C. B., Murray, C. M., **Baruni, R. R.**, Sheridan, D. J., & Kelly, M. P. (2018, April). *A review of lag schedules of reinforcement to increase variation in play skills for children with autism spectrum disorder.* Poster presented at the 12th Annual conference of the Division of Behaviour Analysis, Ireland.

Baruni, R. R., & Sheridan, D. J. (2018, April) “*Thanks for asking but can you please wait a minute?*” *Functional communication training and beyond.* Workshop presented at the 4th Annual Autism Education Conference, New York University, United Arab Emirates.

Moynihan, C. B., Murray, C. M., **Baruni, R. R.**, Sheridan, D. J., & Kelly, M. P. (2018, March). *A review of lag schedules of reinforcement to increase variation in play skills for children with autism spectrum disorder.* Poster presented at the 3rd International Conference on Educational Neuroscience, United Arab Emirates.

Kelly, M. P., Yateem, S., **Baruni, R. R.**, Bhuptani, N., & Bailey, L. (2017, May 27-29). *United Arab Emirates applied behavior analysis.* Poster presented at the 43rd Annual Convention for the ABAI, United States.

Yateem, S., **Baruni, R. R.**, Kelly, M. P., Bhuptani, N., & Bailey, L. (2016, May 29-31). *United Arab Emirates applied behavior analysis.* Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Convention for the ABAI, United States.

Baruni, R. R., Von Rosen, J., Moulton, C., & Hudson, E. (2016, May 29-31). *Trial-based functional analysis of tantrums in a school setting.* Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Convention for the ABAI, United States.

Baruni, R. R., Leif, E., O'Donnell, M., & Berkman, S. (2014, November). *Trial-based functional analysis of flopping in a school setting.* Poster presented at the International Conference for Autism, Turkey,

Baruni, R. R., Rapp, J. T., Lipe, S., & Novotny, M. (2013, May 26-28). *Increasing variability in toy play for children with intellectual disabilities.* Poster presented at the 39th Annual Convention for the ABAI, United States.

Baruni, R. R., Neil, C., & Rapp, J. T. (2012, May 27-29). *A comparison of contingent and noncontingent reinforcement for increasing passive compliance in hygiene-related tasks.* Poster presented at the 38th Annual Convention for the ABAI, United States.

Baruni, R. R., Rapp, J. T., Schlueter, S., & Novotny, M. (2012, April). *Increasing variability in toy play for children with developmental disabilities.* Symposium at the MNABA Data Blitz, United States.

Clinical Experience

2016 – 2019

Program Specialist

The New England Center for Children – Abu Dhabi (NECC-AD)
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Supervised 2-3 lead therapists and a caseload of 14-21 students diagnosed with autism. Responsibilities included but not limited to education and behavioral programming using the science of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), staff and parent training, conducting research, BCBA supervision, and various administrative tasks.

2013 – 2015

Lead Therapist
NECC-AD
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Provided direct care and support for children diagnosed with autism aged 5-8 years of age and provided supervision to 6 staff members. Oversaw academic and behavioral programming for 7 students, staff training and development, parent training, team-wide systems, and school-wide trainings.

2012 – 2013

Level 2 Therapist
NECC-AD
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Provided direct behavioral and educational support for students with autism 5-7 years of age.

2011 – 2012

Consultant, Behavior Analysis Project
St. Cloud State University
Minnesota, USA

Consulted for two mainstream schools for students with developmental disabilities with an age range of 6-16 years. Provided training to school staff and parents on behavior change systems. Supervised and provided mentorship for undergraduate and graduate students.

2010 – 2011

Education Unit Head
Dubai Autism Center
Dubai, UAE

Supervised special educators in 11 classrooms consisting of 45 students with autism aged 4-18 years old. Responsible for liaising between the multidisciplinary team and directors from other departments. Provided parent education. Collaborated with other organizations to disseminate information about ABA and developmental disabilities. Worked closely with psychologists within the assessment and diagnostic team.

- 2008 – 2010 Senior Behavior Therapist
Dubai Autism Center
Dubai, UAE
- Provided training for special educators about behavioral and educational programming for children with autism. Developed classroom schedules and implemented tracking systems for the completion of individualized education plans and progress reports.
- 2007 – 2008 Instructor Therapist
Aspiring Minds
Toronto, Canada
Provided in-home ABA-based therapy to children with autism and other developmental disabilities with an age range of 2-7 years.
- 2006 – 2007 Instructor Therapist
Finding The Way Learning Centre
Toronto, Canada
- Provided ABA-based therapy, in-home and center based, to children with autism and other developmental disabilities aged 2-11 years.

Training

- April 2018 Workshop presenter, ECAE
Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Title: Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) at home: A workshop for parents of children with autism
6-hour workshop organized by Autism Support Network and ECAE
- 2016 – 2019 Trainer, NECC-AD
Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Trainer for the Professional Development Department
Topics: ABA Parts 1 & 2; Autism Curriculum Encyclopedia; Reading curriculum sheets days 1 & 2; Match-to-sample teaching
- 2016 – 2018 Lab leader, NECC-AD
Abu Dhabi, UAE
Research concentration: Lag schedules of reinforcement
- January 2016 Workshop presenter, ECAE
Abu Dhabi, UAE

BACB Approved Continuing Education event
Topic: Different ABA approaches for teaching learners with autism

Professional and Community Service

- 2021 Workshop Title: “Addressing Matters of Representation because Representation Matters: Promoting Diversity in Applied Behavior Analysis by Preparing a Diverse Student Body.”
Module: “Representation Matters”
Panelist
Virtual
- 2021 Instructor search committee, USF
Committee member
Tampa, USA
- 2021 14th Annual Community Application of Behavior Analysis
Poster Expo (USF masters’ students)
Poster judge
Tampa, USA
- 2015 – 2017 Co-Secretary, UAE-ABA Chapter. Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) affiliated chapter
Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2006 – 2007 Sexual Assault Support Line Facilitator, York University
Toronto, Canada

Memberships

- 2019 – present Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA)
- 2017 – present Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA)
- 2014 – 2017 UAE-ABA, International Affiliated Chapter of the ABAI
- 2010 – present Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI)

References

References available upon request.