



# Department of Psychology Colloquium

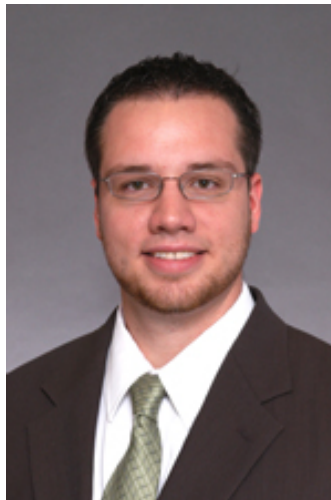
## Applications of Skinner's Analysis of Verbal Behavior to Older Adults

**Jonathan Baker, Ph.D., BCBA-D**

Associate Professor

Principal Investigator, Project 12-ways

Coordinator, Graduate Certificate in Gerontology



4:00 p.m., Friday, November 15, 2013  
Room 1718 Wood Hall

The presence and impact of age-related language deficits have been acknowledged both the field within the field of behavior analysis (e.g., Gross, Fuqua, & Merritt, 2013; Skinner, 1957; Sundberg 1991) as well as the broader field of gerontology (Cohen-Mansfield & Werner, 1997), though relatively little research has focused on remediation of those deficits. This dearth of intervention research is partly related to the notion that age-related language deficits are the result of biological processes. However, there is growing support that environmental variables can and do play a role in language deficits among older adults. This talk will review data from a series of studies aimed at the assessment and treatment of age-related language deficits among older adults, as well as discuss directions and implications of future research.