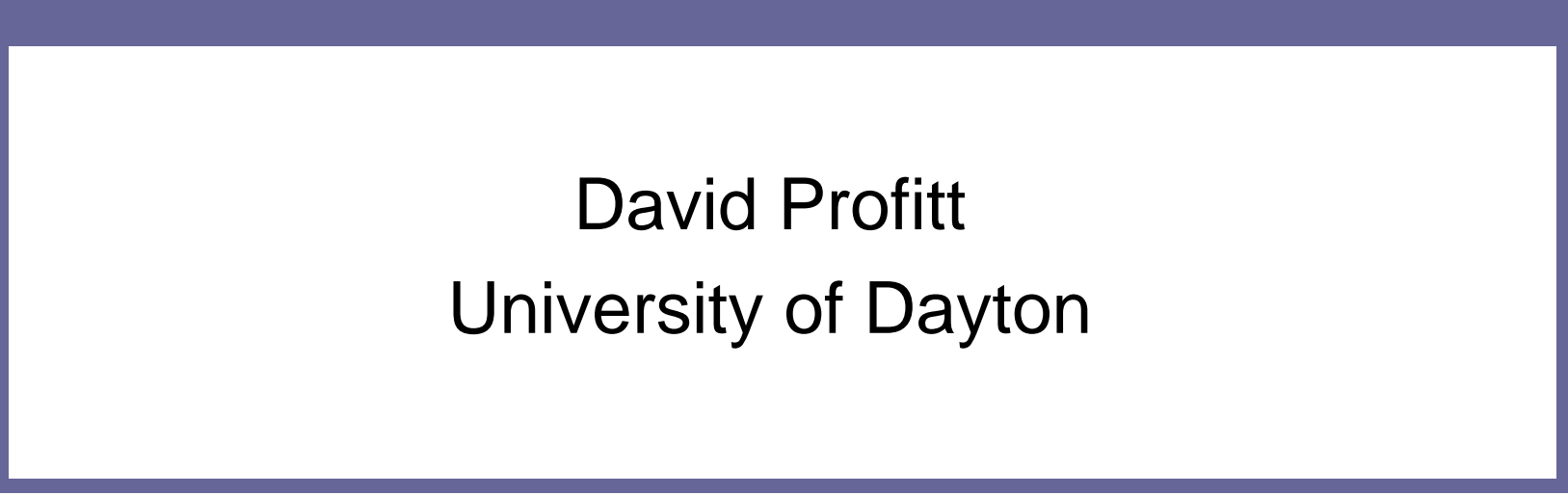




Overcorrection



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Overcorrection: Definition

- Overcorrection involves having a student do reparations in an excessive manner in response to undesired behavior.
- There are four types of overcorrection

Overcorrection: Four types

1. **Restitutional overcorrection:** A student is required to correct the effects of his/her misbehavior by restoring the environment to better than its original condition.
2. **Positive Practice overcorrection:** The student is required to practice an appropriate behavior an abundant number of times.

Overcorrection: Four types

- 3. Neutral practice overcorrection:** A student repeats an action that is neither restitutive nor related to the desired behavior. This often takes the form of contingent exercise.
- 4. Full cleanliness training:** A student struggling with hygiene issues is required to excessively clean himself or herself.

Overcorrection: Checklist for all

1. Give a verbal cue to notify the student of the misbehavior. Be specific about the behavior
 - “David, stop throwing trash on the floor!”
2. Immediately follow the verbal cue with an overcorrection activity.
3. Do not reward or positively support the student while he or she is involved in an overcorrection activity. The student’s other ongoing activities are suspended at this time.

Overcorrection: Checklist for all

4. Proceed with restitutorial activity. Be specific in instructions regarding what the student will have to do to make restitution. Use a neutral tone (rather than an angered or punishing tone).
5. Minimize attention, contact, and conversation from yourself and other students/staff.
6. Once overcorrection is finished, observe the student. Look for times appropriate for positive reinforcement. Should the negative behavior re-occur, re-administer the overcorrection procedure.

Overcorrection: Examples

■ Restitutive Overcorrection:

- For a student who writes something on a bathroom wall: Have the student not only clean that markings he made, but clean all the markings in the restroom (repaint, possibly), clean the toilets, sinks, and trash cans.
- For the student who hits another: Have the student apologize to the student who was hit in writing and orally, and by doing a favor for him/her *and* apologize to all the other students in the class (one-by-one) for creating an atmosphere of fright and intimidation.

Overcorrection: Examples

■ **Positive Practice Overcorrection:**

- For the student who speaks without raising his hand: Have the student go through the process of raising his hand, being acknowledged, and asking his question several times in a row.
- For the student who comes into the class and throws his coat on the floor: Have this student come into the room and hang up his coat 20 times in a row.

Overcorrection: Examples

■ **Neutral Practice Overcorrection:**

- Not considered overcorrection by some, as the “correction” is not directly related to the behavior.
- An example would be having a student who arrives to class late stay after class and run laps in the gym for 30 minutes.

Overcorrection: Examples

- **Full cleanliness training:**

- For the lower functioning student who soils himself: Have the student go through all the steps of cleaning himself or herself after the incident. This includes washing or showering, cleaning clothes, and putting on clean clothes.

Overcorrection: Considerations

- The larger student may become combative .
- Positive practice takes time away from the class.
- For some, the attention of overcorrection can act as a reinforcer.
- The instructor must remain neutral during overcorrection.
- If there is a fear that the bond between teacher and student will result from the overcorrection, giving the student a choice of another punishment may be warranted.
- Overcorrection should often be used as a last resort.