

Undergraduate Research Opportunities in Developmental Psychology
Psychology 4911
Spring 2023

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Psychology 4911: Undergraduate Research in Psychology within Developmental

Students work closely with the faculty advisor and graduate students as members of a team of researchers studying the development across the lifespan. This course will give students hands-on training applying research methods to the study of infants, children, adolescences, adults, and/or aging populations. One of the goals of this course is to allow students to explore how research is conducted and learn research skills that will be applicable to further graduate, medical or professional training as well as a variety of professions.

Both in person and online training may be offered and students should work directly with their faculty advisor to outline goals and expectations for the semester.

Activities in this course often include:

- Participating in training and regular meetings.
- Searching the research literature and reading articles relevant to the research program.
- Designing experiments and studies
- Preparing experimental documentation (such as questionnaires and consent forms).
- Recruiting participants and running testing sessions.
- Organizing, processing, coding and analyzing data.
- Developing ideas for future research studies.
- Presenting research ideas or summaries of journal articles
- Working closely with laboratory staff, graduate students and post-docs to complete lab tasks.

To achieve these goals, students should meet weekly with the faculty advisor, graduate students, and/or other members of the research team to ensure that work on their projects continues to move forward. This course is taken on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis and may be taken for 0-3 credits. For this course, 1 credit equals 3 hours of laboratory work or online training. The number of credits taken each semester is negotiated with your faculty advisor.

Expectations for Undergraduate Research Assistants

Here is a list of expectations regarding your roles and responsibilities as undergraduate researchers. Repeated failures to meet these expectations will result in a lowered grade or a “fail” (if taking for pass/fail credit).

- 1) If you anticipate not being able to complete your assigned duties or hours due to a vacation, illness, or other conflict, you must notify the research staff, graduate students or your faculty advisor and to reschedule the missed time.
- 2) You are expected to arrive **on time** to every shift and meeting. If for some reason you are delayed, or cannot make a meeting or shift you must notify the lab immediately.
- 3) Student researchers should **check email** at least once daily, and respond to all research-related emails with 24-48 hours. If you cannot provide a complete response in this time frame, you should still respond to the sender, indicating when you will be able to provide a more complete response. Some labs may use Slack or Trello or other platforms for lab management. Make sure you are aware of the different ways of communication and keep up to date.
- 4) Lab researchers are required to **maintain an up-to-date training** specific for each lab. This includes any IRB training or study specific training, and all required UF training. If training records are not up-to-date please let your research supervisor know immediately.
- 5) While in the lab or interacting with participants or other researchers, students are expected to conduct themselves in a **respectful, courteous and responsible manner**. I expect that researchers are thorough and professional throughout all stages of the research process (i.e. recruiting participants, running testing sessions, entering and checking data, communicating with other lab members). Please complete all lab related tasks with care.

Lab Guidelines and Rules

In addition to working on individual projects, you are also now a part of a “mini-community” of researchers. As such you will communicate with you team about the goals and requirements for the research you are conducting and support each other as you work toward the research goals. To this end I have come up with a list of guidelines for students involved in laboratory research. Following these guidelines will help ensure a pleasant and productive lab experience for everyone.

COVID19: Please follow all UF Health and CDC guidelines while in the lab. Follow lab related guidelines for participant testing and do not come to the lab if you have symptoms or have tested positive for COVID19.

- 1) Please **refrain from gossiping** and keep all non-lab related conversations to a minimum when testing participants. I expect that you will respect one another and especially that you will respect the privacy of all participants. **Do not discuss anything related to participants’ personal information (i.e., what medications they are on, etc.) or data.** If you are concerned about a participant or the data of a participant discuss this only with your faculty advisor.
- 2) Please **do not bring friends into the lab** when participants are being tested (or preferably at all because of the small spaces we all share). Also, don’t tell anyone outside of the lab about passwords, the cost of equipment, where money is kept, or anything else about the way the lab runs.
- 3) **Don’t make personal long-distance phone calls** on the lab phones.
- 4) **While a participant is being tested please refrain from talking** or keep all talking to whisper.

- 5) Please **turn your cell phones to silent or off** when working in the lab and especially when testing participants or meeting with others about projects.
- 6) Please keep in mind that **lab resources are limited**. Try not to be wasteful. Please keep personal (non-lab related) use of resources, including computers, printers, etc. to a minimum.
- 6) **Only surf the internet for lab related topics/items**. Please **don't download anything** onto the lab computers unless you have been given permission or instructions to do so. **Do not keep personal files on the lab computers**. You may check email, but please don't download any suspicious attachments on the lab computers.
- 7) Please **clean up after yourself** every time you leave the lab for the day. This includes clearing the lab workstations of papers, books, etc. This also includes cleaning up completely after each participant. If you leave the lab and no one else is there, please turn all computers and lights off.
- 8) Make sure that you **lock all doors** when you leave the lab. Double check that everything is locked!
- 9) Please make sure your **work is backed-up and saved** in the appropriate location. If you are not sure where the appropriate location is, please ask your faculty advisor or research supervisor.

Each laboratory may have additional or different guidelines and additional requirements, including written products, presentations, or other research related projects or activities. Please ensure you are aware of the requirements of the lab you are working in and what will result in a "S" (Satisfactory).

Course Policies

Requirements for class attendance and make-up assignments, and other work in this course, are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. This class supports the needs of different learners; it is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs as early as possible in the semester. More information can be found at: <https://accessibility.ufl.edu/>, including the Electronic Information Technology Accessibility Policy and ADA Compliance.

Disability Resource Center: (DRCaccessUF@ufsa.ufl.edu | 352-392-8565) helps to provide an accessible learning environment for all by providing support services and facilitating accommodations, which may vary from course to course. Once registered with DRC, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor for this class.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see:

<http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment is not tolerated in this class, in the Department of Psychology, or at the University of Florida. Sexual harassment includes: the inappropriate introduction of sexual activities or comments in a situation where sex would otherwise be irrelevant. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and a violation of state and federal laws as well as of the policies and regulations of the university. All UF employees and students must adhere to UF’s sexual harassment policy which can be found here: <https://hr.ufl.edu/forms-policies/policies-managers/sexual-harassment/>. Please review this policy and contact a university official if you have any questions about the policy. As mandatory reporters, university employees (e.g., administrators, managers, supervisors, faculty, teaching assistants, staff) are required to report knowledge of sexual harassment to UF’s Title IX coordinator. If you disclose this information, please keep this in mind and seek advice prior to disclosing to a mandatory reporter. For more information about UF’s Title IX office see: <https://titleix.ufl.edu/>. You can also complete a Sexual Harassment Report online (Title IX) at: <https://titleix.ufl.edu/title-ix-reporting-form/>.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 352-392-1161.

Inclusive and Anti-Racist Learning Environment

Civility and respect for the opinions and backgrounds of others are very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed around you. However, courteous behavior and responses are expected at all times. When you disagree with someone, be sure that you make a distinction between criticizing an idea and criticizing the person. Expressions or actions that disparage a person's or race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, gender, gender identity / expression, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability, or marital, parental, or veteran status are contrary to the mission of this course and will not be tolerated.

Additional UF Policies and Resources

University Police: 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies) <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or the

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, so that a team member can reach. [Counseling and Wellness Center](#) (352-392-1575) provides counseling and support as well as crisis and wellness services including a [variety of workshops](#) throughout the semester (e.g., Yappy Hour, Relaxation and Resilience).

Academic Resources

[Multicultural and Diversity Affairs](#) (352-294-7850) celebrates and empowers diverse communities and advocates for an inclusive campus.

[Office of Student Veteran Services](#) (352-294-2948 | vacounselor@ufl.edu) assists student

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. [e-Learning Supported Services Policies](#) includes links to relevant policies including Acceptable Use, Privacy, and many more.

- [Student Computing Requirements](#), including minimum and recommended technology requirements and competencies.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

Student Complaints Campus:

https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf.

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.

ONE.UF is the home of all the student self-service applications, including access to: [Advising; Bursar](#) (352-392-0181); [Financial Aid](#) (352-392-1275); [Registrar](#) (352-392-1374).

*****This syllabus is subject to change by the Instructor.**