

Research Assistant Application
Motivation, Attention, and Perception (MAP) Laboratory
Department of Psychology
University of South Florida – St. Petersburg

Psychology Area: Experimental/Cognitive
Faculty Sponsor: Jen O'Brien, Ph.D.
Contact Email: jenobrien@usf.edu

Description:

Members of the MAP lab conduct experiments investigating human visual perception and attention. We are interested in how expectations, motivations, and individual differences can influence sensory input and selective attention. We also investigate the role of cognitive training in enhancing sensory and cognitive processing. We measure behavior (using response time and accuracy) and brain activity (using EEG) to uncover the psychological and neural basis of attention. Undergraduate and graduate students in my lab can receive training in a variety of methods, including the use of a computer-based experimental psychology laboratory, and the design, implementation, and analysis of ERP studies of the human visual system.

We are looking for bright, talented, and motivated undergraduates to join our research team. We encourage research assistants to become involved in the research process, including the exploration of your own interests. As part of your lab experience, you will attend a weekly lab meeting where we will discuss current studies and protocols, review research articles relevant to projects currently being conducted in the lab, and review tasks for the week.

Requirements:

Students are eligible to become a research assistant (RA) if they have successfully passed PSY 3213 Research Methods with a B or better. RAs are required to commit to 5 hours of lab work a week plus 1 hour for attendance at a weekly lab meeting for a minimum of two semesters. Students may volunteer as an RA or sign up for directed study credits (not required). A minimum GPA of 3.0 is also required.

Research Assistant Duties:

Primary RA responsibilities will include: human subjects testing, lab organization, literature searches, data entry, addition to a variety of other tasks including the potential for involvement in data analysis.

Want to apply?

Please fill out the application below and send to Dr. O'Brien at jenobrien@usf.edu or drop off your application in Dr. O'Brien's mailbox outside her office.

Do you have any research experience? If yes, please describe:

Briefly explain why you are interested in obtaining research experience in the MAP lab:

What would you like to get out of your research assistant experience?

What are your career goals? What would you like to do long-term?

What sets you apart from other students who apply to work in our lab?