PSY 390 Research Opportunity – Spring 2022
Students may also enroll via their departmental independent study mechanism, with advisor approval.

Laboratory Information
Neurodevelopmental Family Lab
https://nddfamilylab.weebly.com

Principal Investigator: Dr. Bridgette Kelleher
Associate Professor, Clinical Psychology and Neuroscience and Behavior Director, Purdue Autism Research Center
https://www.purdue.edu/hhs/psy/directory/faculty/kelleher_bridgette.html

Primary Contact
Wei Siong Neo (preferred name: “Wei Siong”)  
Graduate Student, Clinical Psychology

Description of Neurodevelopmental Family Lab
Dr. Kelleher’s lab conducts research on the early development of children with neurodevelopmental disorders to identify early markers of risk and resilience in clinical populations. Kelleher lab methods include clinical assessments, behavioral observations, psychophysiological measures (e.g., heart activity and brain waves), wearable sensors, and ecological momentary assessments. Information about Dr. Kelleher’s broader research interests are available at https://nddfamilylab.weebly.com.

Description of Research Team
Students recruited into this position will be primarily involved in processing/analyzing behavioral and psychophysiological data collected in Dr. Kelleher’s Parent-Administered Neurodevelopmental Assessment (PANDABox) and Infant Development Study (IDS) projects. PANDABox is a novel telehealth-based assessment where research staff collaborate with caregivers to remotely assess and monitor behaviors and biological metrics during the early development of children with rare genetic conditions (e.g., Angelman, Down, and Fragile X syndromes). IDS is a longitudinal study aimed at understanding how infants and their families grow and change during early childhood. This position will provide opportunities to learn about typical and atypical development as well as direct experience in core research skills. These projects are especially relevant for students who are interested in pursuing research/clinical careers that focus on pediatric populations, gaining exposure to multi-method approaches that inform our understanding of early child development, and/or exploring telehealth technologies and how they may enhance access to underserved communities.

Our lab family includes a large, diverse team of staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students. We typically involve over 15 undergraduate students in research activities each semester across a variety of project teams.
Description of Undergraduate Participation
Undergraduate participation may involve a combination of the following:
1. Data management
2. Behavioral observation coding
3. Physiological data processing
4. Professional development activities
5. Independent or team-based research projects and presentations

All students involved in the Kelleher lab complete a combination of lab-focused research tasks (~60% of time), professional development (~15%), and a research poster that is typically completed in teams (~25%; if students do not elect to do a poster, this time is spent on research tasks). Students who join the lab in the spring frequently wait to join a poster team until the following fall.

Research Setting
For this position, all research tasks will be completed in person in Dr. Kelleher’s lab, which is located at Lyles-Porter Hall. The option to complete some tasks remotely will be based on the amount of research credits registered.

2 credits = 6 hours (up to 1 hour might be completed remotely)
3 credits = 9 hours (up to 2 hours might be completed remotely)

Number of Assistants Needed
3+

To Apply
- Complete our lab application at https://nddfamilylab.weebly.com/future-team-members.html. Here, you can also view sample syllabi from past PSY 390 courses.
- Email your application to Wei Siong Neo at wneo@purdue.edu.
- Indicate you are interested in the Behavioral/Psychophysiological Data Team within your email and application.
- Wei Siong will provide additional information about virtual interviews.

Additional Comments
Due to the advanced training involved with joining the lab, a 2-semester commitment is required. Preference will be given to students who plan to remain in the lab for 3+ semesters. Freshmen and sophomores are encouraged to apply.

Our lab is an inclusive space for students with a variety of research/academic backgrounds, including students with limited prior exposure to the research process. We provide substantial mentorship to support students in developing skills over time. Mentorship includes both peer-to-peer supports, engagement with graduate students and staff, and group and individual meetings with Dr. Kelleher.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to our lab’s mission and values. We are committed to providing a welcoming, inclusive, and valuing environment to all students, faculty, staff, and guests, consistent with Purdue’s Nondiscrimination Policy Statement. All are welcome at our lab table, regardless of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran. Moreover, we fully believe that
working in an environment that includes and centers diverse perspectives benefits us all as scientists, practitioners, and humans.