PSY 390 Research Opportunity – Spring 2020

Faculty member or graduate student
Marion K. Underwood, Ph.D., Professor of Psychological Sciences & Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences
Madeleine J. George, Ph.D., Post-Doctoral Research Associate
Allycen R. Kurup, B.S., Clinical Psychology Graduate Student

Description of research area
The BlackBerry Project and Facebook Project are part of a large, longitudinal study funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This study investigates the developmental origins of aggressive behavior: biological, family, personality, peer group, and school factors. This research also examines developmental outcomes associated with engaging in and being the victim of social and physical aggression. The overall aim of this research program is clarify to developmental precursors of adolescent psychopathology for both girls and boys, with the long-term goal of developing prevention efforts not only for social and physical aggression, but also for internalizing problems, personality disorders, and eating disorders.

Another goal of these studies is to explore how youth use electronic communication (texting, private messaging, and public messaging) in their peer relationships. Given the large amount of time youth spend engaged in online communication, it is important to study how these forms of communication relate to adjustment. Direct observation of adolescents’ text messages allows for the unobtrusive study of natural communication.

Description of undergraduate participation
Undergraduate research assistant tasks may include:
- Coding text message transcripts for content
- Organizing and cleaning data
- Preparing materials for data collection
- Other research tasks: online literature searches, piloting materials, etc.

Volunteering will require a commitment of 2 or more semesters, for a minimum of 6 hours per week.

Research setting
- Coders will attend weekly training meetings to learn the procedures and content of coding, and the location of the remaining hours of work is flexible
- RA’s assisting with other tasks will be working in our laboratory space in Peirce Hall

Number of assistants needed
We are recruiting up to 8 RA’s.

Contact information
Please complete the attached application form and email it to Madeleine George, Ph.D., georg107@purdue.edu. We will begin contacting applicants in November for interviews.
The Blackberry/Facebook Project
Research Assistant Application

Name: 
Major: 
Phone: 
GPA: 
e-mail: 
Languages Spoken: 

Year at Purdue (e.g., sophomore, junior, etc.):

High School attended (name and city):

How many semesters are you willing/able to work in the lab? ________________

How many credit hours would you be interested in registering to work in our lab?

[ ] 2 (6 hr/week)  [ ] 3 (9 hr/week)

Please answer the questions below:

1. Describe your future goals (graduate school, career, etc.):

2. What are you hoping to gain from your experience working with the Blackberry Project?

3. Do you have any other experience working in a lab?

4. What psychology courses have you completed?

Any additional comments:

Thank you for your interest in our lab! Please email the completed application to Madeleine George (georg107@purdue.edu).