Faculty member or graduate student
Lily Assaad, M.S., Graduate Student, Clinical Psychology

Description of research area
Research in the Samuel Assessment Methods for Personality and Psychopathology Laboratory (SAMPPL) focuses on the measurement and definition of personality and personality disorders. More specifically, our research studies how certain personality traits (organized around the Five-Factor Model or Big Five) can become maladaptive when they are too extreme. For example, on a personality trait called conscientiousness, a person in the normal range would be organized, on-time, diligent, hard-working, and careful. However, when this is taken to the extreme they can become perfectionistic, overly focused on neatness, and put work ahead of friends and family. We are conducting studies looking at the stability of these personality traits across time as well as how different sources (i.e., a friend, teacher, or therapist) agree with each other when it comes to describing someone’s personality. For more information see: http://samppl.psych.purdue.edu

Lily Assaad, a doctoral student in the SAMPPL lab, is currently examining published associations between psychopathological disorders and romantic relationships. She is searching for four-to-eight RAs who are interested in assisting with this specific research project.

Description of undergraduate participation
Broadly, students will be responsible for entering, cleaning, and assisting in the analysis of data retrieved from published studies. Specifically, students will work with Lily to learn how to read psychological research studies, evaluate their quality, and quickly interpret and document their results. Through assisting Lily with research, students will be introduced to advanced statistical concepts within a fun and nonthreatening environment. Students who work with Lily will learn to conduct aspects of research that are usually reserved for graduate students. As such, students will be seen more as collaborators than as “workers.” This experience will look impressive on the curriculum vitae (CV) of any undergraduate who is interested in pursuing a graduate level degree.

Research Setting and Requirements
- A majority of the research will be conducted in libraries (e.g., the WALC) and coffee shops (e.g., Greyhouse or the Starbucks on campus) under Lily’s supervision.
- Students are required to have laptops on which they can work.
- Students are required to work a minimum of six hours per week in this lab.
- Due to the advanced nature of this experience, students with a cumulative GPA that is < 3.80 will not be considered.
- Students with 2 or more semesters before graduation are preferred.
- Prior experience with statistics is not required because students will learn how to interpret statistics from Lily. However, experience with statistics will be perceived favorably.
- Students can either volunteer or complete this research of PSY390 credit.

Number of assistants needed
Lily is looking to add up to four research assistants to her research team.

Contact information
Lily Assaad’s email: lilyassaad@gmail.com

Additional comments
Please complete the application form and return it to Lily Assaad for consideration.
Name:                           Cumulative GPA:
Year of Study:                  Cumulative Psychology GPA:
Major:                           SAT or ACT or GRE scores:

Clinical Psychology Courses Completed:

Statistics Courses Completed:

Other courses outside Psychology that might be relevant:

Have you worked in a Psychology Lab before? If so, describe the experience:

Why do you want to do a 390 in psychology?

How many hours of work would you like to do per week in the lab?

☐ Ten  ☐ Thirteen  ☐ Sixteen or More
☐ Eleven ☐ Fourteen
☐ Twelve  ☐ Fifteen

Are there any other things we should know about you that are relevant to this position?