Undergraduate Research Opportunity in Clinical Psychology
Fall 2018

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

Description of research area
The Personality and Relationship Processes Laboratory (PARP lab) is led by Dr. Katherine Thomas, an Assistant Professor in Purdue University’s clinical psychology program. Research in the PARP lab focuses on psychological disorders and interpersonal processes. More specifically, we examine the structure of pathological personality traits, assess the measurement of psychopathology, and measure moment-to-moment changes in people’s behavior toward others (e.g., toward their romantic partners, friends, therapists, etc…). For example, we examine the association of unhealthy personality traits with (a) people’s warmth toward their romantic partners and (b) people’s dominance toward their romantic partners. For more information see: https://parplab.weebly.com/

Lily Assaad, a doctoral student in the PARP lab, is currently examining published associations between psychopathological disorders and romantic relationships. She is searching for 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) under Lily’s supervision.
- Students are required to have laptops on which they can work both on campus and off campus.
- Students are required to work a minimum of six hours per week in this lab.
- Research meetings, for which attendance is required, will likely be on Thursdays between 2:30 and 6:30pm.
- Cumulative GPAs that are ≥ 3.60 are generally the most competitive.
- 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.

Number of assistants needed
Lily is looking to add up to eight 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: 
Year of Study: 
Major: 
Cumulative GPA: 
Cumulative Psychology GPA: 
SAT or ACT 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? 

What interested you about the research we do in this lab? 

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

☐ Six  ☐ Seven  ☐ Eight  ☐ Nine  

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