Dr. Rhiana Wegner’s research at UMass Boston focuses broadly on romantic and sexual relationship communication and behavior (e.g., verbal and nonverbal communication, jealousy, romantic relationship initiation, and sexual decision-making), and more specifically on sexual and intimate partner violence.

Dr. Wegner is hiring for two projects (outlined below). She would prefer to hire one research coordinator who can work 40 hours, split between the two projects (will consider two 20-hour RCs based on the fit).

One-year fixed term position (summer included), with the possibility of a second year renewal.

Project 1. The first project for which we are hiring is an experimental alcohol administration study investigating the effects of drinking game behavior and acute intoxication on men’s sexual decision-making. Participants complete an in-lab simulated drinking game paradigm and hypothetical sexual scenario. The exact nature of the study design will be discussed in more detail in our preliminary meeting.

Project 2. The second project is a randomized control trial evaluation of our implementation of a sexual violence risk reduction program for first-year women.

Examples of Duties:

Project 1. The majority of the RC’s 20 hours will include overseeing participant recruitment efforts and supervising telephone screenings conducted by RAs, running experimental sessions, programming computer-based studies, managing IRB protocols, and overseeing data storage. The remaining 25% will include coordinating lab space scheduling, ensuring the laboratory space is maintained, and task assignment for RAs. The RC will need to be available for 8-hour long study times, beginning at 10am at the earliest.

Project 2. The RC will need to attend 4-weekly program sessions to support the implementation team: 5:30-9:30pm on November 13th & 20th, and December 4th & 11th. They will also need to be able to attend a 2-day weekend program: November 9th & 10th, from 9am to 5pm. In the future, these dates will be coordinated with the RC’s schedule in mind as well. The remainder of the RC’s time will be spent: advertising for the study via email and posting of flyers, hosting a table in the campus center, assisting in room scheduling and set-up, purchasing supplies, organizing program materials, managing the IRB protocol, answering and providing preliminary study information over the phone for interested individuals and disbursement of participant incentives.
Minimum Qualifications:
The individual hired will have:

- Completed an undergraduate degree in Psychology or a related field.
- At least two years of experience in experimental research skills.
- Previous experience in:
  - online survey administration and maintenance,
  - supervision of research assistants,
  - completion of IRB forms and adherence to human subjects’ protocols,
  - data set management and storage, and
  - participant screening and recruitment.
- The Research Coordinator (RC) must be an independent self-starter who can take initiative, see projects through to completion, and understand the unique priorities and demands of lab-based experimentation.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint.
- Experience managing and analyzing data in SPSS.
- Ability to work under deadlines with general guidance
- Excellent organizational skills and demonstrated ability to complete detailed work accurately.
- Effective oral and written communication skills.
- Ability to work with human study participants
- Feel comfortable taking public transportation around the city and/or be able to drive their own car, for the purposes of participant recruitment efforts.

Work Schedule:
If taking on both positions: 10am – 6pm M-F, with additional night and weekend dates required of Project 2 listed above. Start time negotiable if only taking on position for Project 2.

Supervision Received:
The PI will train and supervise the RC on all aspects of the study design, including alcohol administration, human subjects protections, data safety monitoring, survey programming and maintenance, as well as data storage. The RC will be a part of weekly team meetings for each project. The RC will have opportunities for developing poster presentations based on already collected data, and may have the opportunity to co-author manuscripts with the PI, depending on writing ability. The PI is willing to provide instruction in advanced statistical data analytic techniques and other professional development topics, in line with the RC’s career goals.

Pay: $45,000 non-benefitted, 40 hrs/wk, 10am-6pm, with occasional nights and weekends

Interested individuals should email a curriculum vita to Dr. Wegner at rhiana.wegner@umb.edu. Please also direct any questions about the positions to Dr. Wegner as well.