

Research Assistant (18996) at American University

Date: Jun 8, 2023

Location: Washington, DC, US, 20016

Company: American University

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Summary/Objective

The Research Assistant will be responsible for research and administrative aspects of a grant-funded research project examining adolescent curiosity and visual processing. The Research Assistant will support the development of protocols and data collection using methods including eye-tracking, surveys, online studies, and citizen science approaches in collaboration with the Principal Investigator and other study personnel. The Research Assistant will coordinate and monitor study recruitment with participating students, families, and schools. Additionally, the Research Assistant will maintain the study database, including organization and documentation of files. Data analysis and dissemination of results through publications and presentations will be conducted by the Research Assistant in conjunction with the Principal Investigator and other study personnel. Continuation of this position is contingent upon external funding.

For more information about Dr. Peterson's lab, [click here](#)

For more information about the NSF project, [click here](#)

Essential Functions

1. **Data Collection:** The Research Assistant will collect data in adherence with study protocols, such as: informed consent, administering interventions, eye-tracking measurements, and surveys.
2. **Data Management and Processing:** The Research Assistant will conduct data entry, data pre-processing, transcript coding, and data management, in adherence with study protocols. The research assistant will maintain the study database, including organization and documentation of files, and will assist with preparing open-access versions of datasets. The research assistant will assist with preliminary data analysis, including writing analysis scripts and preparing tables/figures.
3. **Participant Recruitment and Support:** The Research Assistant will conduct outreach, recruitment, and communication with schools, families, and individuals who participate in the research, such as: designing and implementing outreach/recruitment materials, assessing

study eligibility, scheduling study visits, maintaining contact with participating schools and families, advertising and monitoring online studies through an online recruitment platform (e.g., Prolific.co).

4. **General Study Support:** The Research Assistant will assist with designing and implementing experimental procedures, such as: creating and validating stimuli, surveys, or paradigms; monitoring materials and supplies. The Research Assistant will develop and monitor IRB protocols for approval or modification. The Research Assistant will onboard and supervise undergraduate research assistants.

Work Environment

- This position includes travel to schools or research sites within the DMV area.
- Overnight travel is not required.

Position Type/Expected Hours of Work

- Full Time.
- Specialist B.
- Non-Exempt.
- Continuation of this position is contingent upon external funding.
- Review of applications will begin on June 20, 2023 and continue until the position is filled.

Salary Range

- Commensurate with experience.

Required Education and Experience

- Bachelor's degree in psychology, neuroscience, education, or related field.
- 1-3 years of relevant experience.
- Prior experience with human subjects research related to at least one of the following: data collection, study recruitment, programming/coding of experimental stimuli presentation, or data management/data analysis.

Preferred Education and Experience

- Relevant experience with neuroscience/psychology research tools (e.g., eye-tracking, Qualtrics, E-prime, Psychtoolbox, Excel), data analysis, data processing, manuscript preparation, and/or social media/website development is preferred.
- Experience with eye-tracking data collection or analysis is strongly preferred.
- Computational skills and programming experience in R, and/or Stata strongly preferred, but not strictly required.
- Experience working with adolescents/children or working in a school setting is preferred.
- Valid Driver's License is preferred but not required.
- The intention to make a 2-to-3-year commitment is preferred.

Benefits

AU offers a competitive benefits package including a 200% matching retirement plan, tuition benefits for full-time staff and their families, several leadership development certificates, and has been

recognized by the American Heart Association as a fit-friendly worksite. [Click here to learn about American University's unique benefit options.](#)

Other Details

- Hiring offers for this position are contingent on successful completion of a background check.
- Employees in staff positions at American University must deliver their services to the university from either the District of Columbia, Maryland, or Virginia, or perform work on-site at the university.
- Please note this job announcement is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

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Contact Us

For more information or assistance with the American University careers site, email theworkline@american.edu.

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