



# HOW TO JOIN A LAB



Psychology concentrators love working in labs and gaining hands-on research experience with Department faculty and affiliated researchers. We encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities!

## WHERE DO I START?

- **Lab Websites.** Every faculty member has a webpage on the Psych Department website, and most labs have their own websites – you can start here: [bit.ly/psychfac](http://bit.ly/psychfac)
- **Departmental Research Listings.** Every semester, the Psychology Undergraduate Office posts a spreadsheet of labs looking for student research assistants – check it out here: [bit.ly/psychlablistings](http://bit.ly/psychlablistings)
- **Meet with Dr. Garth Coombs, the Thesis Instructor and Undergraduate Research Experience Advisor!** He can discuss finding and reaching out to a lab with you! E-mail him at [garthcoombs@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:garthcoombs@fas.harvard.edu)!
- **Talk to Your Professors.** If you love a class, look up your professor's lab or go to office hours to learn more about their research!

## CAN I GET COURSE CREDIT FOR RESEARCH?

**Sometimes!** Most faculty offer a lab course in which you can enroll to earn credit for conducting research. Plus, some affiliated researchers will permit you to take PSY 910R under their supervision to earn credit if they don't have a lab course. For more information, see the **lab course page** of the Undergraduate Office website: [bit.ly/labcourses](http://bit.ly/labcourses)

## HOW DO I REACH OUT?

It can seem intimidating to reach out to faculty, but they are excited to work with you! Plus, your Psychology advising team is here to help you make those connections and pursue the research that interests you.

- **Consult the lab's website to figure out who to contact!** Most labs have a Lab Manager who is usually the preferred point of contact.
- **Send an e-mail!** Introduce yourself, express interest in the lab's research, and be clear (and polite) about what you're looking for (research for credit, volunteer work, etc).
- **Ask Dr. Coombs or your Concentration Advisor for advice!** Dr. Coombs can help you draft an email to reach out to the lab.

And as always, ask the  
Psychology Undergraduate Office any questions at  
[psychology@wjh.harvard.edu](mailto:psychology@wjh.harvard.edu)!