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IMPT DATES

Spring Break
March 11—15

Easter Break
April 19

Classes End
April 26

Reading Days
May 1 & May 4

[Commencement](#)
Sunday, May 12
1:00 PM
Carmichael Arena

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Psychology & Neuroscience Undergraduate Newsletter

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Student Spotlight

Meet **Rasika Rao**, a Junior Psychology and Neuroscience double major. She is working on a research project in Dr. Mohanish Deshmukh's Neurobiology Lab as part of PSYC 395.

Tell us about your research. Brain cell death, also known as neuronal apoptosis, is a central part of diseases like Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, dementia and other neurodegenerative conditions. The scientific community is still learning about this pathway to identify cures for these illnesses. To this end, I have been studying the activity of an individual component within the neuronal apoptotic pathway called cJUN and creating experiments that induce the cell death pathway in neuronal cell cultures.

What do you like most? My experiment and other related research have the potential to help identify treatments for these diseases. I love that every experiment I execute might take us a few steps closer to giving hope to patients who currently suffer from such conditions. As an undergraduate, I am thrilled to be a part of a larger research community that is performing such cutting-edge research.

Has this experience changed your ideas about research? I was surprised by the precision of how research is conducted, requiring me to focus on one chemical at a time to test a specific and testable hypothesis. Conducting research has also stimulated me to be more creative and to think outside of the box to interpret unexpected results. All of these challenges make research and the subsequent findings even more rewarding and gratifying.





Summer Courses in PSYC & NSCI!

Get ahead on your major requirements!
Consider taking courses during the summer and
avoid the registration challenges
of the academic year!

Maymester

- PSYC 225** Sensation & Perception
- PSYC 245** Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 330** Intro to Cognitive Science
- PSYC 501** Theoretical, Empirical Perspectives on Personality

Summer Session I

- PSYC 101** General Psychology
- PSYC 175** Introduction to Neuroscience
- PSYC 210** Statistical Principles of Psychology Research
- PSYC 225** Sensation and Perception
- PSYC 230** Cognitive Psychology
- PSYC 242** Introduction to Clinical Psychology
- PSYC 245** Online: Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 250** Developmental Psychology

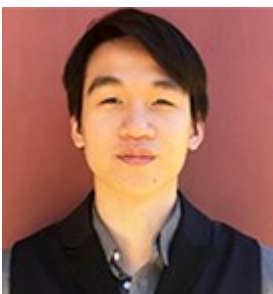
- PSYC 260** Online: Social Psychology
- PSYC 270** Laboratory Research in Psychology
- PSYC 320** Drugs and Human Behavior
- PSYC 566** Attitude Change
- EDUC 330** The Science of Learning

Summer Session II

- PSYC 101** General Psychology
- PSYC 175** Online: Introduction to Neuroscience
- PSYC 210** Statistical Principles of Psychology Research
- PSYC 220** Online: Biopsychology
- PSYC 222** Online: Learning
- PSYC 230** Cognitive Psychology
- PSYC 245** Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 250** Developmental Psychology
- PSYC 260** Social Psychology
- PSYC 270** Laboratory Research in Psychology
- PSYC 504** Health Psychology

[Read more about the courses online!](#)

Meet a Gil Intern



Meet **Dan Ta**, one of our Spring 2019 interns with the [Karen M. Gil Internship Program in Psychology and Neuroscience](#).

Dan is a junior majoring in Psychology with a minor in Chemistry. This semester, he is interning at the AHB Center for Behavioral Health and Wellness under clinical psychologist Dr. April Harris-Britt. This private practice employs clinicians of diverse backgrounds with a wide range of specialties and treats adults and children with differing levels and types of psychopathology. As an intern, he has observed clients of all ages and seen first-hand different types of therapies, including play therapy, cognitive-behavioral therapy, mindfulness training, and EMDR in practice. Dan adds, "I also have had the opportunity to learn about the field of forensic psychology through reviewing court documents and health records—and I've learned the importance of mental health and its implications for families relationships, and overall well-being."

Of his internship experience, Dan shares, "I am able to learn about all of the different aspects that factor into the well-being and health of the patient and AHB Center has shown me that mental illness is vital to overall health. As I continue the semester, I am looking forward to gaining new experiences and perspectives that will be invaluable for my pursuit of a career in healthcare."

Want to be a Gil Intern? We're accepting applications for our Fall 2019 cohort. The application deadline is March 27. Learn more about the [application process](#) online. Questions can be directed to [Chelsea Ewing](#).



Penn Lab Needs Volunteer RAs

The Penn Schizophrenia Lab in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience is looking for Black female Research Assistants. This position involves 6-8 hours of work per week and is a great way to gain research experience this Spring 2019!

The Penn Lab conducts research on African Americans with schizophrenia—a recent study showed that African Americans are 2.4x more likely to be diagnosed with schizophrenia than their White counterparts and they often experience worse outcomes after diagnosis.

Research Assistants will enter data, learn how to administer assessments, and participate in lab meetings. There will also be opportunities to pursue your own independent projects and present at conferences.

Please note the Penn Lab is happy to review applications from individuals who do not identify as Black women, but this will likely be for positions starting in the summer. The lab is seeking Black women for a specific study. The position is unpaid volunteer work but does have potential for course credit after your first semester.

If you are interested, please email Arun Nagendra at arun-dati@unc.edu with your CV and ask for an application to apply!

Jobs & Other Opportunities

Looking for a post-baccalaureate position in psychology? Check out an [online database of active positions](#)! You can also subscribe by email to be notified of new postings. This is a great resource for new graduates!



NCPIRG is hiring graduating seniors to start August 2019 as well as some immediate positions as campus organizers. This position works at over 35 colleges to tackle climate change, protect public health, feed the hungry, and more. [Apply by Sunday, February 24th](#).



Interested in traveling abroad and gaining useful work experience in teaching, education and activity leadership? With Gotoco, you can teach English or lead outdoor activities to help Chinese students learn English. You'll earn your TEFL certificate and explore China for free. [Learn more online](#).



An info session on Marshall Scholarships will be held Tues, 2/19 at 12:30 pm in Graham Memorial 039. The scholarship funds young Americans to study for graduate study in the United Kingdom. [RSVP online](#).



Camp Akeela is a traditional summer camp with locations in Vermont and Wisconsin for kids with Asperger's Syndrome or other non-verbal learning disorders. They're looking for camp counselors who want to gain hands-on experience working in a residential setting with children on the autism spectrum. [Learn more online](#).



Want to present your poster or research at UNC? Submit an abstract for the Celebration of Undergraduate Research! This year's Celebration will be held on Weds 4/24 from 2:30—5 PM at the Blue Zone in Kenan Stadium. The Celebration showcases and encourages meaningful undergraduate research. [Abstracts are due online by March 1](#).



SYNAPSE, an annual neuroscience conference, will be held on Saturday, April 13th at High Point University, North Carolina. Keynote speaker is Dr. Matthew Rasband and there will be an interactive workshop with Dr. Julia Buntaine. Feb 22 is the deadline for travel award apps; March 8 is the deadline for abstracts to present research. Registration is only \$35 for undergraduate students. [Learn more online!](#)

