



UNC



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Psychology & Neuroscience Undergraduate Newsletter

Volume 8 | Issue 1

September 2019

Student Spotlight

IMPT DATES

University Day
October 12

Fall Break
October 17–18

Thanksgiving Break
November 27– 29

Last Day of Class
December 4

Meet **Maleeha Agha**, a Junior Biology and Neuroscience double-major with a Chemistry minor, who works in Dr. Yen-Yu Shih’s lab. The Shih Lab investigates how deep brain stimulation can be used as a treatment for Parkinson’s Disease.

What do you like the most? I really enjoy the diverse range of opportunities available at my lab! I get a lot of exposure to skills in computer science and biomedical engineering. It’s fascinating to see the broad range of knowledge that goes into a single project. Our team is made up of MRI physicists, computer scientists, and veterinarians. I would highly encourage students to get to know team members and learn more about other fields, you’ll never know what’ll spark your interest!

What is the most difficult part of your research experience? Some of the most simple, quintessential procedures can be incredibly difficult! Some skills are not learned but rather experienced through several instances of trial and error. It can be really discouraging to fail at simple tasks, but know that every good scientist has gone through the same thing, nothing is exactly perfect on the first try!

Do you think people have any misconceptions about the research you do? A lot of people have misconceptions about what animal research entails, but animal welfare is taken seriously by researchers! Animal research labs include teams with skilled veterinarians, who abide by the regulations very strictly. Through this research, we are able to help improve the quality of life for thousands, if not millions of people, today and for generations to come.



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Meet a Gil Intern

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

Carley is a senior majoring in Psychology and Political Science, with a minor in English. This Fall, Carley is interning at the Department of Public Safety—Prisons Division with Charles Mautz, Clinical Psychology Programs Manager. Carley shares, “I have only been working at DPS for two weeks, and I have already learned so much about the prison system in general, as well as the programs that North Carolina offers for offenders within its prison system.”



One of the tasks she’s completing as part of her internship is a literature review of the psychological research about NC prisons as well as many essential articles about clinical programming in prisons. She says, “I am getting an in-depth view of the prison system, primarily the ways it fails the mentally ill prison population. I feel very fortunate to work with Charles and the rest of the Clinical Psychology program in the department to resolve these faults of the criminal justice system.”

Want to be a Gil Intern? Applications for Spring 2020 internships are due by October 14, 2019.

The Gil Internship gives you the opportunity to earn course credit and receive a monthly stipend—plus, you’ll gain valuable experience in the field of psychology and neuroscience! We’re looking for 10-12 Gil interns for the Spring. Gil Interns can intern at so many cool places all around the Triangle, just like Carley with the North Carolina Prison System!

Learn more about the [application process](#) online. Questions can be directed to [Chelsea Ewing](#).

Recommendations for Majors!

Attention majors—the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience strongly recommends that students take PSYC 210 (Statistical Principles of Psychological Research) and PSYC 270 (Laboratory Research in Psychology) sometime before or during sophomore year.

If you are unable to take PSYC 210 and PSYC 270 by sophomore year, however, simply prioritize taking these courses during your junior year! With regards to registering, be aware that if you attempt to switch recitations into another recitation that is full, ConnectCarolina will drop you from the course entirely. Thus, be careful to choose a recitation which works for your schedule when you first register.

It’s also a good idea to consider summer school for these (and other) core major courses—as it is much easier to find an open seat during the summer! You can see which courses will be offered by checking out the [Summer School website](#) during the Spring semester prior. Please note there is some limited tuition and financial aid during the summer ([learn more here](#)).



UVA Diversifying Psychology Day

The University of Virginia will host Diversifying Clinical and School Psychology Day (DCSPD)!

This opportunity is designed for talented undergraduates and recent college graduates who have a strong commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equity in all forms, and want to learn more about graduate training in clinical and school psychology.

UVA's DCSPD is scheduled for November 8, 2019 in Charlottesville, Virginia. Accommodations, travel, and meals will be free to invited students!

[Learn more about the program and how to apply.](#) Applications are due by Monday, September 30. Questions may be directed to Jason Downer at jdowner@virginia.edu.

Fall Into Your Major!

Join us on September 18th, 1—3 pm in the Great Hall of the Student Union, for "Fall Into Your Major"!

UNC Academic Advising and New Student & Family Programs invite you to explore major and resources at this event!

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!



UNC's Masters of Public Administration Program is hosting an open house so interested students can learn more about the degree, curriculum, degree outcomes, and the application process. [Register to attend the open house](#) to learn more, on October 9th from 6—8 pm at the School of Government.



Considering getting your graduate degree? UNC's Pre-Grad Advising Program will answer all your questions regarding graduate admissions. Join us on Tuesday, September 24 in 239 Hanes Hall. From 3—4 pm, they'll answer questions regarding research masters and doctoral degrees. From 4-5 pm, they'll answer questions about professional masters programs.



The [University of Michigan's Program in Survey Methodology](#) will be on-campus on Tuesday, September 17 at 1:00 pm in Davis Library, room 3010. You can hear directly

from the program director about this graduate program, which combines aspects of psychology, sociology, statistics, and information and data science to provide training on topics relevant to the understanding of human populations.



UNC's CIRCLE Lab is looking for undergraduate volunteers for a study investigating the impact of early life experiences on brain development. Undergraduate RAs will assist in various parts of the research process and must be available for a minimum of 10 hours per week. To apply, please contact [Kinjal Patel](#) and include your resume and short statement describing your research interests and experiences.



The Undergraduate Research Journal of Psychology at UCLA is accepting submissions of undergraduate papers for its Spring 2020 issue! Papers must be original work completed by undergraduates, never before been published, and APA formatted. The deadline to submit papers is November 8, 2019. Multiple submissions are welcome. Submit your papers [here](#). Learn more about the submission criteria and types of articles accepted [here](#). Questions may be directed to psychjournal.ucla@gmail.com.

