



UNC



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IMPT DATES

- Thanksgiving Break
November 27– 29
- Last Day of Class
December 4
- Reading Days
December 5
December 11
- Final Exams
December 7-8
December 10-11
December 13-14

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Psychology & Neuroscience Undergraduate Newsletter

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Student Spotlight

Meet **Jennifer Montoya**, a Senior Psychology major with a Neuroscience minor, who works in Dr. Jonathan Abramowitz's Anxiety and Stress Lab where she is learning about the clinical side of stress and anxiety research. Now she is branching into a new field of study: User Experience (UX) and plans to delve deeper into human-computer interactions.



What is the most valuable lesson you've learned? The most valuable thing I have learned from my research background is that you don't have to decide what you want to do right away. It's okay to be uncertain and explore, or to one day realize that you don't love a research topic as much as you thought you would. You have to do what's best for you, and pursue the paths that you're more interested in. My experiences have been varied and wonderful.

What do you like most? I enjoy research and more than that, I love when research provides direct results. Often times in psychology and neuroscience, you are only left with more questions, but in UX, your research allow for the creation of a real, usable product. Through UX, you are given a chance to change lives by proxy of that product. To me, UX research is very fulfilling.

Do you think people have any misconceptions about undergraduate research? As a freshman, I was really worried that I wouldn't be good enough to be accepted into labs. However, I quickly learned that faculty love when students are as enthusiastic about a topic as they are. It's really important to not be discouraged if you can't find a spot right away. Also, know that you're going to make mistakes. Everyone does, and it's totally okay! Admit to them, learn from them, move forward.



Meet a Gil Intern



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

Ava is a senior majoring in Psychology and Music. This Fall, Ava is interning at Innovation Research and Training (iRT), a behavioral sciences research company that uses applied research to create and disseminate products and services to improve health and quality of life. Ava is working closely with the Media Literacy Team to use media literacy skills to promote sexual and relationship health education. She shares, “iRT’s media literacy approach to sexual education provides information about protection, abstinence, as well as drug and alcohol use and consent, while also asking its students to consider what external influence tv shows, movies, and songs may on their attitudes toward sexual health.”

Ava is assisting with a web-based program called Media Aware High School and is testing programs and web portals to help correct errors. Currently, she’s drafting a new lesson for the program to look at how adolescents may be negatively affected by early exposure to explicit content. She says, “When I was first asked to draft this lesson, I felt out of my element and unqualified. But the Media Literacy Team is such a supportive network of people that I feel comfortable asking for direction and guidance. Because of the internship, I’ve learned how important open communication is in helping adolescents make informed and responsible decisions, and I’ve realized ‘The Talk’ doesn’t have to be awkward or uncomfortable and can be used to promote healthy relationships and behaviors.”

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

Summer School 2020

Get ahead on your major requirements by taking courses during the summer! Check out the [Summer School website](#) to see current offerings.

Maymester

NSCI 225 Sensation & Perception
PSYC 245 Psychopathology
PSYC 490 Gender and Pronouns
PSYC 501 Personality

Summer Session I

PSYC 101 Intro to Psychology
PSYC 101 *Online* Intro Psych
PSYC 210 Statistical Principles
NSCI 222 *Online* Learning
NSCI 225 Sensation & Perception
PSYC 230 *Online* Cognitive Psych
PSYC 245 *Online* Psychopathology
PSYC 250 Child Development
PSYC 260 *Online* Social Psych
PSYC 270 Lab Research in Psych
PSYC 564 Interprsnl Relationships

Summer Session II

PSYC 101 Intro to Psych
PSYC 210 Statistical Principles
PSYC 220 Biopsychology
PSYC 230 Cognitive Psychology
PSYC 245 Psychopathology
PSYC 250 Child Development
PSYC 270 Lab Research in Psych
PSYC 504 Health Psychology

Consider Peer Tutoring! Apply to be a peer tutor! Peer tutors must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and a strong command of content knowledge. Tutors must be available from 5—8 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday evenings. All tutors are enrolled in EDUC 387 Peer Tutoring, a three-credit hour EE course. Prospective peer tutors should submit an application through the [Learning Center website](#). Tutors are accepted on a rolling basis. Questions should be directed to Robin Horton at robin_horton@unc.edu.



Study Abroad!

Study abroad with your UNC PSYC & NSCI faculty! Four of our faculty are teaching their PSYC & NSCI classes in fabulous places—have a study abroad experience and get ahead on your major requirements!

Study abroad in **London** with Dr. Bardone-Cone & take PSYC 245! Info session: Tues 11/19 at 3:30 pm in Howell 205

Study abroad in **Stockholm** with Dr. Muscatell & take PSYC 260! Info session: Thurs 11/21 at 5:30 in Davie 302

Study abroad in **Sydney** with Dr. Penton & take NSCI 320! Info session: Weds 11/20 at 1:00 pm in Global Center 2010

Study abroad in **Spain** with Dr. Viji Sathy and take PSYC 210!

[Learn more on our website](#) (scroll to the bottom of the page)!

Senior Honors Program

Join our Senior Honors Program next year by applying by April 15 of your Junior year! Must have a min GPA of 3.3 and be in-process/complete PSYC/NSCI 395. [Learn more about Honors in Psychology and Neuroscience!](#)

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!



Dr. Abramowitz's lab is looking for volunteers to participate in a research study online 3 times over the next year. Participants must be African American and between 18 and 25 years old. You can earn \$45! Email uncstressandlife@gmail.com to participate.



Camp Akeela, a traditional summer camp with locations in VT and WI for kids who have been diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, is hiring for Summer 2020. This is a great opportunity to get hands-on experience working in a residential setting with children on the autism spectrum. [Learn more!](#)



Ivymount School is recruiting full-time instructors to start January 2020. Ivymount is a non-public special education school located in Rockville, MD and will provide staff with exceptional training and opportunities for professional growth. [Learn more and apply online.](#)



Seeking women who have recently given birth in the past year to participate in the PoWER Study to complete an online survey! Must be between 18-39 years old and you can win a \$30 Amazon gift card. [Complete the survey here!](#)



The Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) is holding an info session on Tuesday 11/19 at 5 pm in 3408 Student Union. You'll learn about the requirements and tips to submit a successful proposal.



Interested in completing an Independent Research in PSYC or NSCI (395)? The deadline to apply for PSYC or NSCI 395 is Monday 12/9. These courses give undergrads the opportunity to work with faculty on cutting-edge research. [Learn more about eligibility requirements and how to apply online.](#)



The Undergraduate Research Society is awarding \$100 scholarships to cover costs related to research presentations, including printing posters and travel. You must use the funds by 12/13. Due date to apply is 11/25! [Application is here!](#)

