



THIS ISSUE

- Meet a Gil Intern: Page 2
- Summer School: Page 2
- Study Abroad: Page 3
- Jobs & Opps: Page 3

IMPT DATES

- Classes Start
January 8
- Last Day for
Late Registration
January 14
- MLK Jr. Day
No Classes
January 20
- Spring Break
March 9—13

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Psychology & Neuroscience Undergraduate Newsletter

Volume 8 | Issue 4

December 2019

Student Spotlight

Meet **Emma Pfeiler**, a sophomore Neuroscience major, who works in UNC School of Medicine’s Neuro Image Research and Analysis Laboratories (NIRAL).

Tell us about your research. I work in the NIRAL’s imaging laboratory, assisting in the analysis of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) data of two-week-old infants from the Brain and Early Experience (BEE) Study. I performed brain masking, which is the initial step of structural medical imaging data. Ultimately, NIRAL reports the volumetric and morphometric results for each MRI they receive. Those results are often analyzed to learn more about schizophrenia, autism, and other neuropsychiatric diseases.



What do you like most? I really enjoy working hands-on with the data. It was really rewarding to be able to see the visible change in my completed MRIs compared to the pre-processed data. Most of all, I loved the feeling I got when I finished a mask, knowing that I had just contributed and completed an important step in the research process.

Has this experience changed your ideas about research? Before working in NIRAL, I think I (like many other people) was ignorant of the data-processing steps that go into producing usable data for researchers to study and manipulate. Often, researchers work to obtain data or analyze data for significance and trends, but forget the many steps that translate obtained data into something that is comprehensible. I will definitely be more cognizant of the data processing step in my future research endeavors!



Meet a Gil Intern



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

Allie is a senior majoring in Psychology and Sociology. This Fall, Allie interned at the UNC Mother Infant Research Studies and their mission is to learn about the relationships between lactation, hormones, mother-baby relationships, and brain development. Allie is working on the Baby Brain Development Study to analyze how cocaine use during pregnancy affects infant brain development and behavior. She says, “I help to ensure that study visits run smoothly by collecting cardiac data via Actiheart monitors and to prepare babies for mother-child interactions and saliva samples.”

When she’s not assisting with visits, Allie is working on various projects, including assembling resource packets for mothers to aid with food insecurity, employment, and childcare.

She shares, “My experience working with UNC Mother Infant Research Studies through the Karen M. Gil Internship has solidified my interest in working with this population to improve health outcomes. I have gained rich and diverse experiences ranging from interactions with study participants to communication with local organizations to familiarization with study protocols often used in this field of research. I am continually learning about gender-specific substance abuse disorders, the effect it has on infants, and effective treatment options for mothers.”

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!



UNC JOURney, a Journal for Undergraduate Research, is looking for students to write research publications for a project overseen by faculty at UNC. The 4th edition will be published in Spring/Summer 2020. Submit yours by February 21. [Learn more online.](#)



Camp Pinnacle in Flat Rock, NC is hiring male counselors for Summer 2020. This is a paid, 11 week opportunity for counselors who are passionate about young people and the outdoors. [Learn more here.](#)



The 2020 Diversifying Clinical Psychology Network event will take place January 17 and 18 in Austin, TX. Registration is free. Presenting a research poster at the event is highly encouraged. [Learn more.](#)



The Schisler Lab at UNC is looking for student volunteers to administer behavioral tests on animals, da-

ta entry/organization, and light mouse colony management. Students must be available 10-20 hours per week. Learn more and apply by emailing [Becky Sanchez](#).



The Framingham Heart Study in MA is hiring Summer Interns for 2020 for their Traumatic Brain Injury study. This is a full-time, paid summer internship. For more information or to send in your resume and cover letter, email [Rebecca Burton](#).



A lab in the UNC Department of Psychology and Neuroscience is recruiting research assistants for a yearlong project examining socioeconomic status in social relationships. Must be available 10 hours per week for a year (Spring 2020—Fall 2020). Deadline to apply is 12/29. [Apply online.](#)



The CIRCLE Lab at UNC is seeking new undergraduate volunteers to start Spring 2020. Volunteers must have evening and weekend availability to assist with study sessions as needed, previous experience with children preferred. If interested, contact [Kinjal Patel](#) and include your resume and a statement describing your research experiences.

