Meet Luke Nguyen, a Junior Psychology major with Neuroscience and Cognitive Science minors, who spent the summer working with Drs. Keely Muscatell and Monica Gaudier-Diaz to research the effect of cultural, familial, and socioeconomic factors on Asian American by examining the attitudes of White Americans. He also currently works in Dr. Mitch Prinstein’s Peer Relation Lab.

What encouraged you to get involved in research? Ever since I was in high school, I always noticed differences between my parents and the parenting styles of my non-Asian peers. This led me to wonder if there is genuinely an effect that this racial difference in parenting styles had on development. When I got the chance to conduct research with the Summer Excel Research Program, I knew it was my chance to test this idea that I’ve had for a long time.

What’s the most valuable lesson you’ve learned? Research is never conducted alone. Despite being the lead investigator on my project, I would have been lost without the guidance of my faculty mentors who filled in the gaps in my knowledge of APA research outside of class.

How has the pandemic affected your ability to do research? The data collection, data analysis, and communication could all be done online, our research project was able to be completed without much issue. However, it should be noted that our research included self-report questionnaires regarding mental health help-seeking and the current pandemic could have affected participant responses as the quality of mental health has gone down during quarantine. My research experience was certainly different, but rewarding and enriching despite the online shift.
Meet a Gil Intern

Meet Paulina Chumakov, one of our Fall 2020 interns with the Karen M. Gil Internship Program in Psychology and Neuroscience.

Paulina is a junior majoring in Neuroscience and Chemistry, with a minor in Biology. This Fall, Paulina is interning at the Carolina Center for ABA and Autism Treatment (CCABA), an organization that hopes to improve the lives of children with autism in North Carolina using applied behavior analysis (ABA). To intern at CCABA, Paulina had to first become a registered behavioral technician. Paulina shared, “My internship began by completing a 40-hour online module-based training that taught me the history of ABA, behavioral theory, professionalism, various techniques used during treatment, recording methods, and many more valuable skills.”

Through video examples, prompts, and scenarios, Paulina has learned how to react to various situations and behaviors as well as to teach autistic children in natural versus clinical environments. She says, “This training has so far been an incredible learning experience, as it has allowed me to see the amount of work, patience, and thought that goes into planning treatments. I am incredibly excited to implement my new knowledge into practice.” After acquiring her certification, Paulina will be able to observe behavioral analysts at CCABA and work with her own client under supervision for the rest of the semester. She shares, “I think that this will be an invaluable experience as I pursue a medical degree and I am grateful for the amount of new knowledge I have gained about autism spectrum disorder.”

Want to be a Gil Intern? 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! Learn more about the application process online. Questions can be directed to Chelsea Ewing.

$2,000 Reznick Grants

The Department of Psychology and Neuroscience invites its majors to apply for the Reznick Diversity and Psychological Grant! Two students will each receive a $2,000 grant for the Spring 2021 semester to conduct research. The $2,000 can be used to offset the need for part-time work, cover the costs of carrying out research, or to attend a conference.

You must be a member of an underrepresented population OR interested in conducting research related to underrepresented populations, a PSYC or NSCI major, and fully enrolled this semester and next. One award will be given to a student already involved in research and another who is interested in getting involved in research. Deadline to apply is October 30, 2020. Learn more on our website!
**Research Study Opportunity**

The Social Neuroscience and Health Laboratory at UNC Chapel Hill is recruiting participants for a research studying examining physiological responses to academic stress.

The study will take 2.5 hours of participation, including 3 online tasks, 2 study sessions, and a follow-up email.

By completing the study, you will receive $30.

If interested, please complete the screening questionnaire online!

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**Study Abroad Week**

The Study Abroad Office at UNC invites you to register for the inaugural Study Abroad Week October 19—23. Join us virtually to learn about the exciting variety of global opportunities available to Tar Heels!

Throughout the week, the SA Office will offer sessions on programs in various world regions, research and internships for credit, and funding. Hear from past participants during the student panels!

Learn more online!

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**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!

Sign up for Neuroscience Trivia Night on 11/12 at 7 pm. There is no cost to sign up and no need to organize a team! Winning teams will receive Amazon gift cards.

The North Carolina Psychology Foundation is holding their annual Undergraduate Psychology Conference virtually this year on November 7 at 10 am. The entire program will consist of a panel of graduate students discussing how they got into graduate school, what it is like to be a student, and what to do after graduate school. Students may register online.

Applications for APPLES Alternative Spring Breaks is now open, and it takes place in the spring semester through both classroom interaction and an immersive experience for eight days during spring break in March. Apply by October 21.

Eliada Homes is seeking recent college graduates for their 13-month paid internships in Asheville, NC. This is an opportunity to gain valuable experience in the mental health field in a residential facility. Learn more online.

The Military Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Program at Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, MD is hiring full-time research coordinators to start this Spring/Summer. Learn more and apply online.

The Executive Branch of UNC’s Student Government is now accepting applications for various external appointment positions. In these positions, students are able to get involved and be instrumental in the decision making process in the Carolina Community. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and the application can be found online.