



More Info

## Directed Research Opportunities

Partnering with faculty to conduct research offers a valuable opportunity to learn new techniques and apply methods learned in the classroom. Project results are often published or presented at professional conferences.

Starting as early as their first year, students can enroll in directed research: PSYC 197/297/397/497. If you are interested, contact faculty directly.



### Libby Nutt Williams

Counseling Psychology Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** factor analysis, process/outcome research, mixed methods

#### Critical research questions

- What factors relate to improved outcome for psychotherapy clients?
- To what extent do social identities influence career decisions and leadership style?



### James Mantell

Vocal Perception Action Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** experimental design and analyses, computational programming

#### Critical research questions

- How do sensory and cognitive systems interact to create perception?
- How are data literacy skills influenced by psychology and data science training?



### Nayantara Kurpad

Memory and Learning Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** experiment and survey design, lab and online (Qualtrics) study implementation, data coding and analysis

#### Critical research questions

- What are the factors that influence students' learning, metacognition, and performance?
- What are the differences in metacognitive awareness among younger and older adults?



### Gili Freedman

Rejection, Interventions and Gender Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** experimental design and analyses, Qualtrics, correlational and game research

#### Critical research questions

- How do people engage in social rejection and what are the consequences of those actions?
- How do gender biases affect interpersonal processes and academic success?



### Torry Dennis

Neurobiology of Addiction

**Lab-specific skills:** histology, *in vivo* techniques

#### Critical research questions

- What are the influences of both sex and sex hormones on drug reward, aversion, and motivation?
- How can we develop treatments to reduce drug relapse?



### Ayşe Ikizler '07

Multicultural Psychology Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** Qualitative and quantitative research

#### Critical research questions

- In what ways do marginalized individuals use adaptive coping strategies?
- How can we use counseling research to foster social change?



## Aileen Bailey

Neurobiology of Behavior Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** *in vivo* techniques, experimental designs and analyses

### Critical research questions

- Are there fast-acting anti-depressant compounds and how do they work in the brain?
- What is the impact of extensive data investigation on critical thinking skills?



## Jennifer Tickle

Social Psychology Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** experiment and survey design, content analysis, Meta Quest 2

### Critical research questions

- How does media exposure affect attitudes and behaviors?
- How do virtual settings and new technology affect feelings, cognition and social behavior?



## Anandi Ehman

Clinical Psychology Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** experimental and correlational research analyses, survey design and implementation in Qualtrics, SPSS & MPlus use

### Critical research questions

- What factors contribute to/facilitate engagement in aggressive behavior?
- What factors impact victims' psychosocial wellbeing and help-seeking behavior following experience of aggression and violence?



## Jessica Leffers

Developmental Cognition Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** correlational & experimental design, survey design, Qualtrics, SPSS, Jasp

### Critical research questions

- How do kids think and reason about social categories like race and religion?
- What factors influence children's concepts of social categories?
- Do multiracial children think differently about race?



## Kristina Howansky

Motivation, Attention and Person Perception Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** eye-tracking, facial morphing, Qualtrics

### Critical research questions

- What factors predict differences in the way people visually perceive and attend to members of stigmatized populations?
- How do health relevant behaviors influence the way people visually perceive their bodies, others, and their environment?



## Scott Mirabile

Developmental Psychology Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** survey design, correlational research

### Critical research questions

- How do parents' and teachers' socialization actions affect children's emotional competence?
- Do teachers use generalized response styles when dealing with children's emotions or are they sensitive to children's individual differences and needs?

## St. Mary's Projects

The St. Mary's Project is a year-long, 8-credit, independently executed course of study intended as a capstone experience for a student's time at SMCM. Working in close conjunction with a professor, you have the opportunity to explore, in depth, a research question.



## Victória Müller Ewald

Neurophysiology Lab

**Lab-specific skills:** Monitoring and modulating electrical signals in the brain via EEG and tDCS. Neuropsychiatric assessments.

### Critical research questions

- How does brain stimulation via tDCS affect performance on test of cognition and attention?
- Can we predict behavior by examining someone's brainwave patterns?