

PSYC 496 Laboratory Research CONTRACT

Laboratory experience allows students to develop as psychology majors, outside the classroom, as they gain skills including but not limited to the following areas:

- *Psychology Lab Skills*: Data collection and analysis, research methodology and design, ethical practices with participants, participant protocol.
- *Career Independence*: hands-on training, lab experience, attention to detail, motivation towards research goals, application of classroom/lab skills.
- *Mentor/Mentee relationship*: invaluable research experience, enriched learning experience, connections with other research students, a lasting relationship helpful for letters of recommendation and career advice.
- *Critical Thinking and Technical skills*: writing critically about and communicating psychological knowledge to a variety of audiences.

You should consider your performance in the lab as an extension of your best work in the classroom. Your performance in the classroom has made your abilities stand out. Your mentor's expectation is founded on your classroom performance. It is the expectation that your performance in research will mirror that of the classroom and this research experience will further strengthen your abilities. At all times this relationship should be based on ethical treatment and mutual respect.

As a research Mentor, we will work to provide you the following:

- 1.) Support and direction in the research process
- 2.) Assistance in learning basic concepts needed to conduct research (design, analysis, methods, basic theory)
- 3.) Planned time set aside for questions and instruction
- 4.) A Substantive understanding of the work you are assigned.

As a research assistant, you will work to provide your Mentor the following:

- 1.) Engaged and motivated attitude
- 2.) Commitment to the research process including the ability to follow key instructions, attend to detail, and perform assigned tasks accurately
- 3.) Desire to ask questions/present ideas whenever possible
- 4.) Attend scheduled lab time and when this is not possible, notify your Mentor as soon as possible

As we begin a mentor/mentee relationship we are committed to the above guidelines. If either your Mentor or you feel any of these guidelines are not met, a meeting will be called with the department chair and a decision to repair the working relationship will be made. You should expect rewarding work from your psychology laboratory experience. We hope you find the experience intellectually engaging, professionally useful, and fun.

Student Signature

Faculty Signature