

**Undergraduate & Post-Bacc Research Assistant Application**

**Who are we?**  
  
The Mende-Siedlecki Lab is housed in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the University of Delaware. Research in the lab focuses on the dynamic neural and psychological mechanisms supporting social perception and social cognition.

Current projects in the lab include research into the neural dynamics supporting impression updating, environmental factors influencing updating, and perceptual contributions to racial biases in pain recognition. The lab employs a variety of methodological approaches towards studying these topics, including behavioral, neuroimaging, psychophysical, and computational modeling techniques.

Please see our website for more details on current projects and people in the lab!   
**http://www.mendesiedleckilab.com/**

**Research Assistant Qualifications:**

More than anything we are looking for highly motivated research assistants with an interest in developing hands on experience conducting research. Our lab uses a variety of methods from behavioral to brain imaging techniques and motivated RAs have potential opportunities to help us at every stage of research.

We do not require any previous experience in research but it is certainly a welcome asset! Please note any academic (courses, etc.) or research experience in psychological/brain sciences, programming, or graphic design that may be an applicable.

**Credit & Requirements**

On average, students work at least 6-9 hours per week in the lab, though many RAs certainly put in time beyond that. It is the case that time and effort are integral to successful science and RAs willing to commit such effort will certainly reap the rewards of awesome science!

Students currently enrolled at UD may work in the lab in exchange for course credit. Typically, 3 hours of lab work a week, per 1 credit are required. Students may choose to enroll in up to 3 credits (9 hours). These hours may fluctuate depending on the status of various projects in the lab. Students enrolled in the lab for course credit will receive a grade for their work. Undergraduate seniors enrolled in psychology or neuroscience who are highly motivated have the opportunity to work directly with Dr. Mende-Siedlecki and graduate students in the lab to develop and work on an independent project that may become their senior thesis. If this is of interest to you, please make note in your application.

Post-Bacc students who are not currently enrolled at UD or any other institution are also encouraged to apply as volunteers! We will ask that you do commit to a certain number of hours per week that works for you and your schedule so that we may count on you for various projects that you will be involved in. RAs are an integral part of our lab and both your time and effort are invaluable!

Please complete the following application (see next page) and send it to mendesiedlecki.lab@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing from you, and perhaps working with you!

**Mende-Siedlecki Lab Application**

**Name:**

**Email Address:**

**Year at UD (or educational background, e.g. current institutions or degrees attained)**

**Major (or intended major):**

**Current (or final) GPA:**

Please indicate why you are interested in this RA position and what you can bring to the lab:

What topics, questions, or empirical/ theoretical readings in psychology have you found particularly interesting? What aspects interested you specifically and why?

After looking over our lab website, what research topics excite you most? What kind of projects or techniques would you most like to be involved in? Why?

Which, if any, psychological and brain sciences courses have you taken (including research methods, statistics, and programming courses)? Do you think any would be relevant to becoming a research assistant (if yes, why)?

Please describe any previous research experience you might have (include type of project, lab that you worked in and duties)

We do not expect you necessarily to have any special experience before coming to work in the lab (and that is partly why you are coming to work in the lab with us!). However, it’s helpful for us to gauge your experience with a variety of applications, methods, and languages we use:

If you already have experience with some of the following applications or languages, how much?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Not at all | Slightly | Moderately | Very Much |
| Excel |  |  |  |  |
| E-Prime |  |  |  |  |
| Photoshop (or equivalent) |  |  |  |  |
| SPSS |  |  |  |  |
| SAS, R |  |  |  |  |
| BrainVoyager, SPM, or other fMRI software |  |  |  |  |
| Flash or Java |  |  |  |  |
| Python, Matlab, C++ |  |  |  |  |
| HTML |  |  |  |  |

Do you have experience with any other relevant applications or languages?

Do you have any experience with running fMRI or ERP subjects?

Approximately how many hours per week would you be able to work in the lab? Would you be able to commit one or more semesters to the lab (for credit or as a volunteer)?

If you know your Monday – Friday availability yet, what hours could you work in the lab?

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

What type of position would you like in the lab?

\_\_\_\_Graded Credit \_\_\_\_Volunteer