

Learning & Performance Lab Research Assistant Application



Thank you for your interest in becoming a Research Assistant in the Learning & Performance Lab, directed by Dr. Marci DeCaro, at the University of Louisville. The majority of our research applies understanding about cognition to learning and educational settings. We are interested in better understanding how students (typically undergraduates) learn, and how we can use our understanding of cognition and motivation to design better educational environments. We also collaborate with Dr. Daniel DeCaro's lab to apply our understanding of learning and problem solving to the problem of social dilemmas (e.g., how people self-govern with limited natural resources). This work is conducted in both lab and undergraduate classroom settings.

We are looking for conscientious, dependable, organized, and motivated students to assist with these research studies. Duties include running experiments (following a research script), entering data into the computer, coding problem-solving strategies, attending lab meetings, and various other activities. Research assistants normally work 8-9 hours/week, for 3 hours of course credit (PSYC 491; Research Psychology). A minimum commitment of 2 semesters is preferred, and a minimum GPA of 3.0 is required.

Serving as a research assistant is a hands-on opportunity to work on psychological research. Among other benefits, it is a good way to find out what research is like and whether you enjoy doing research in cognition and learning, lets you work more closely with grad students and faculty, and can provide valuable experience for grad school or job applications. Please fill out the following application, and return it as soon as possible to Dr. DeCaro via email at marci.decaro@louisville.edu. Please also feel free to email Dr. DeCaro with any questions you may have.

Name: _____ Email: _____
Date: _____ Major: _____
Overall GPA: _____ Minor: _____
Psychology GPA: _____
Year in college (e.g, freshman, etc.): _____

Psychology courses completed or currently enrolled (names, not numbers please), and grades in each:

Previous research experience (not required):

How many credits are you interested in taking? You should plan to work 3 hours a week for every 1 credit hour for which you enroll. You can work a maximum of 3 credit hours (8-9 hours/week) and must also attend monthly lab meetings.

What is your projected graduation date?

How many semesters can you commit to this position?

Will you be a registered student during the summer (not required)? YES / NO

Will you be available to work in the lab during the summer (not required)? YES / NO

Work Experience

Please list jobs you have had during the past five years.

Employer / Dates of Employment / Job Title / Description

What are your plans after graduation?

What kind of research are you most interested in?

Why do you want to work in this lab?

How did you find out about this lab?

Please list the name and email address of one professor you have had (preferably in psychology) that can comment on your performance. Also note the context in which they know you.

Semester: