

NSF REU Site: Training in Basic and Applied Psychological Science

Baruch College

NSF AWARD# [1852373](#)

Overview of Program

Baruch College, City University of New York is currently recruiting students for participation in a training program funded by the National Science Foundation entitled NSF REU Site: Training in Basic and Applied Psychological Science (NSF AWARD# [1852373](#)). The REU site at Baruch College will offer advanced research training for one academic year to 12 undergraduate students who attend colleges and universities in the New York metropolitan area. The program will target students who belong to historically disadvantaged groups. REU students will begin work in the program in late August 2020 and complete their training in May 2021. Students will be paid \$2100 per 14-week semester to work at least 10 hours per week in one of the ongoing psychology research labs at Baruch College.

This program provides concentrated research experience in which each student plans and executes an independent project and works with a faculty mentor and their research teams on existing research projects. Students will develop knowledge and skills in all phases of psychological research, including hypothesis development, research design, data analysis, and scientific writing. Faculty will guide REU students through the process of formulating a research hypothesis, designing and implementing the project, and analyzing and summarizing the findings. Students will present their research at the Baruch REU conference and potentially at regional or national conferences in psychology. REU students will complete a graduate school preparation workshop held several times a month on Mondays from 4:00pm to 5:00pm at Baruch College in which students will learn about the graduate school admission process, how to build their credentials through research and practicum experiences, how to solicit letters of recommendation, and how apply for fellowships. This course will assist students in planning advanced education in the areas that best match their interests.

Research Teams

The four research teams are described briefly on an attached page. Each team will consist of one faculty member, undergraduate and graduate lab members and three REU students. Students will work with the same research team throughout their training. Students will be asked to indicate the teams with which they would most prefer to work. Although every effort will be made to accommodate students' preferences, high demand for certain research areas may necessitate assigning students to their second or third choices.

Eligibility Requirements

Students must have at least a sophomore standing, have at least a B average in their undergraduate courses, and must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. All students who meet these initial requirements are encouraged to apply, although preference will be given to those who are majoring in psychology and those who belong to a historically disadvantaged group (e.g., Asian, Hispanic, African American, disabled, first generation college student). Each student must be able to commit to at least 10 hours each week to work at the Baruch College campus. Efforts will be made to accommodate students' class and other work schedules. Student must have completed a course in research methods and statistics or must be willing to take such courses during the REU year.

Application Process

Please complete the application form found below. Attach a short narrative (2 pages or less) explaining your long-term career goals and how participation in the REU program will help to facilitate these goals. Send the application form, narrative and one (unofficial or official) copy of your undergraduate transcript to: Dr. Charles Scherbaum at Charles.Scherbaum@baruch.cuny.edu

All applications must be submitted by June 10, 2020 5PM.

Application: Research Experience for Undergraduates

Contact information

Name _____ College _____

Home Address

Telephone number: _____ Email address: _____

Education

What is your anticipated graduation date? _____ What is your major? _____

What is your GPA? _____

How many psychology courses have you completed? _____

Title of psychology course	Grade	Semester/year completed
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_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
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Have you completed a course in statistics? Yes___ No___

If no, are you willing to complete a statistics course during the REU year? Yes___ No___

How interested are you in engaging in research? Not at all___ Somewhat___ Quite a Lot___ Extremely___

Have you completed a course in research methods? Yes___ No___

If no, are you willing to complete a research methods course during the REU year? Yes___ No___

Are you interested in pursuing a graduate degree in **psychology**? Yes___ No___

Please rank order your preferences for research labs ("1" indicates first choice, "2" indicates second choice).

_____ Personnel Selection and Employee Assessment Lab

_____ Social Psychology

_____ Adult Developmental Psychology Lab

_____ Sleep Lab and Environmental Psychology

Demographics

Age _____

Sex (circle one) Female Male

With which racial/ethnic group do you most identify?

_____ American Indian or Eskimo

_____ Black (not Hispanic)

_____ Asian

_____ White (not Hispanic)

_____ Hispanic/Latino

_____ Other (please describe)

Are you a first-generation college student? Yes____ No____

Are you a U.S. citizen or permanent resident? Yes____ No____

What is your family income? _____

Are you able to complete a full academic year as an REU student? Yes____ No____

Are you able to spend 10-12 hours a week at Baruch College? Yes____ No____

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- Attach a short narrative (2 pages or less) explaining your long-term career goals and how participation in the REU program will help to facilitate these goals.
 - Include one (unofficial or official) copy of your undergraduate transcript with the application.
 - Please submit this application to:

Dr. Charles Scherbaum at Charles.Scherbaum@baruch.cuny.edu

All applications must be submitted by June 10, 2020, 5PM.

REU Faculty Research Laboratories at Baruch College

1) Adult Developmental Psychology Lab

This lab is concerned with the application of social cognitive theory to understanding individuals' behaviors. This line of research examines the psychological processes underlying the well being of individuals. One of the most important of these processes is the effect of "context" on the accomplishment of personally valued behaviors. This research examines the impact of contextual factors on adults' belief in their capabilities for performance, or self-efficacy beliefs, as well as the relationships among context, self-efficacy beliefs, and actual performance on everyday problem solving tasks.

2) Sleep Lab and Environmental Psychology Lab

Lab members engage in research in one of two areas of investigation. One area involves the impact of sleep deprivation and fatigue on decision-making strategies, cognitive performance and effortful behavior. Current research explores the impact of fatigue on effort. Research in the 2016-2017 academic year will focus on natural resources and climate change and engagement in environmentally protective behaviors, and on sleep deprivation's impact on sociability and on the use of heuristics.

3) Industrial/Organizational Psychology and Measurement Lab

This lab is concerned with issues of diversity in organizations including personnel selection, standardized testing, and the assessment of psychological constructs. We study race-based differences on intelligence and cognitive ability, the assessment of individual's attitudes and intelligence, and dishonest responding on self-report measures. Other current projects examine attitudes toward female managers and other stigmatized groups, impact of stereotype threat on test performance, and modern intelligence tests.

4) Social Psychology Lab

This lab is concerned with stereotyping and prejudice in intergroup contexts. This line of research investigates mental processes and representations that affect social judgment and behavior, with a special focus on the implicit or unconscious ways in which social category information influences our judgment and behavior. In addition, the current research projects concern examining (a) psychological variables that influence jury bias in civil cases and (b) the impact of culture on personality and social behavior.