

PSYCH SCOOP 5/6/08

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BE A PARTICIPANT IN A WOMEN'S HEALTH STUDY

Are you interested in moving forward women's health research? Would you like to get paid to exercise? Or paid to not exercise? The Women In Steady Exercise Research (WISER) study at the University of Minnesota, is a four- year study examining the effect exercise has on oxidative stress and estrogen levels in women. This is important because exercise may reduce the risk for breast cancer throughout these physiological changes. The study will involve 400 women aged 18-30, who will participate in the study for six-months. Participants will be randomized into a control or exercise group for 4 months. A FREE fitness center membership will be provided throughout the study for exercise participants. All participants will receive \$300 upon completion of the study. To find out if you qualify, go to www.wiserwomen.umn.edu and click on "Becoming a WISER Woman." Eligibility requirements: non-smoker, sedentary, not currently pregnant, breastfeeding or planning to become pregnant between now and the next 6 months, you are a moderate alcohol drinker (7 or fewer drinks/week), and you have not used hormonal birth control in the past 3 months. For more information, go to www.wiserwomen.umn.edu.

MAY/FALL PSYCHOLOGY COURSES

MAY TERM SEMINAR IN MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING— SEATS STILL AVAILABLE!

PSY 3960 -103, Mind Reading: Using MRI to Uncover Cognition and Emotion, 2 credits
12:20 P.M. - 02:40 P.M., M,Tu,W,Th (05/27/2008 - 06/13/2008), N391 Elliott Hall

The seminar is intended to be a workshop-style experience for undergraduates interested in learning more about functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) than they would in their regular coursework (e.g. Biological Psychology, Cognitive Psychology). Students who are beginning to, or wish to, work in UMN labs employing fMRI methods are especially encouraged to enroll. My hope is to expose you to the variety of applications of fMRI and the ways in which you can get involved with such research here at the U. The three weeks would be split roughly as follows: 1) Introduction to fMRI-history, pioneers, very basic physics & biology 2) Readings & discussions on benefits and problems with fMRI in both research and diagnosis 3) Hands-On labs: students visit UMN Center for Magnetic Resonance Research to observe scanning procedures, use a computer program to create simulated fMRI data sets, analyzing one or two real fMRI data sets, then interpret and write up the results of the analyses. Points for deriving grades will be obtained through participation points, a small quiz on discussion material from each week, and a short writing assignment on interpretation of fMRI findings. Please route questions to Jim Porter: porterj@umn.edu.

EXCITING NEW PSYCH CLASS ADDED FOR FALL 2008

Psy 3960 -001 Understanding Depression and Bipolar Disorder, 2 credits
4:15-5:55 Tuesdays, N391 Elliott Hall

This course will be a discussion-based seminar. We will cover multiple aspects of major Mood Disorders (i.e., Major Depressive Disorder and Bipolar Disorder). Students will learn the specific diagnostic criteria for depression as well as descriptive information including prevalence rates, ages of onset, and recurrence. This course will provide an overview of the causes of depression, primary interventions, and empirically-validated treatments. We will also discuss suicide and suicidal behaviors, focusing on causes, risk assessment, as well as moral and ethical implications.

INTERESTED IN THE USE OF IMAGING TECHNOLOGY IN PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH?

Consider taking a 3-credit lab course in functional MRI (Psy 5960) being offered Fall 2008.

1:30-2:45pm Tuesdays and Thursdays, S225 Elliott Hall

Interested undergraduates are encouraged to sign up for Prof. Engel's course, "Introduction to fMRI". This class will give students the chance to work in small groups to design and run their own fMRI experiment. Following introductory lectures and lab exercises, students will develop experimental materials, and acquire and analyze functional MRI data. The course will give students first hand experience in the brain imaging methods that are becoming increasingly important to psychological research.

JOB/INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

IMPORTANT: The organizations for which positions have been posted below are not affiliated with, nor endorsed by the Department of Psychology or the Psychology Advising office. Please exercise the same discretion as you would in viewing any other source.

GAIN PAID EXPERIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY AT ACR HOMES

Are you looking for a Job? Are you interested in making a difference? Secure a job starting this summer or ensure that you'll have one come fall. ACR Homes, a group home for people with developmental and physical disabilities is looking for caring and dependable individuals to help support the residents that we work with. No experience necessary, paid training is provided. Earn \$10.66- 17.75/hour while making a difference in someone life. Flexible hours and over 52 metro locations. An employee care share program is available for individuals who don't have access to a car, but are still interested in this rewarding job. There is the option to apply now and start in the fall. For information on how to apply contact Catie Michaelson at 612-306-6150 or hill0663@umn.edu.

Previous issues of the Psych Scoop are available at www.psych.umn.edu/undergrad/news.htm

If you no longer wish to receive the Psych Scoop, please send an email (be sure to include your U of M e-mail address) to psyadvis@umn.edu with "REMOVE FROM SCOOP" in the subject line.
