**Research Assistant (RA) Application**

**Application Instructions**

Please complete this application and submit to our Lab Manager, Zachary Scott, via email (scottz@umd.edu) along with your resume and an unofficial copy of your transcript.

Date:\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Diversity Statement: The Shackman Lab is dedicated to building a **diverse** and **inclusive** lab environment, where we welcome and respect RAs with diverse backgrounds and experiences, and this includes (but is not limited to) racial/ethnic background, socioeconomic status, first-generation status, etc. Please feel free to skip the next two items if desired; doing so will not affect your eligibility to join the lab.

Racial/Ethnic Background: How do you usually identify? Please select **ALL** that apply.

[ ] American Indian or Native Alaskan [ ] Asian or Asian American [ ] Black or African American [ ] Hispanic or Latino/a/x [ ] Middle Eastern/North African (MENA) or Arab Origin

[ ] Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Native

[ ] White [ ] Biracial or Multiracial [ ] Prefer Not to Answer

Other Diverse Identity/Background (if comfortable sharing): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Major/Minor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Major GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_

 ***NOTE: GPA and Major GPA must both be 3.0 or greater.***

Semesters completed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Expected graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Applying For: | [ ] Research Credit | [ ] Student hourly |
| (Please choose one) | [ ] Volunteer | [ ] Work-Study |
| Number of hours per week? | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |

***NOTE:*** *Students applying for* ***work-study*** *must receive FWS (Federal Work Study) funding as part of their financial aid package. Students must work in the lab for at least 1 semester before applying for a* ***student hourly*** *position.* *Students applying for* ***research credit*** *must: work in the lab a minimum of* ***50 hours per credit*** *per semester (this is approximately 3 hours per week per credit; e.g., 3 credits = 150 hours total, or roughly 10 hours per week);* ***write an 5-8 page research paper –or- prepare a 10 min oral presentation****; and* ***attend weekly lab meetings****.*  *All new RAs must commit to at least 10 hours/week for at least 2 semesters.*

How many semesters can you commit to this position? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***NOTE: Minimum commitment is 2 semesters***

Will you be a registered student during the summer? YES [ ]  NO [ ]

Will you be available to work in the lab during the summer? YES [ ]  NO [ ]

Computer Background: Please describe your computing background, including any programming language and operating systems you know, **OR** check or list the operating systems / software / programming languages that you have experience using.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [ ]  PC DOS | [ ]  PC Windows  | [ ]  Macintosh  | [ ]  Unix/Linux  |
| [ ]  MS Word | [ ]  Excel  | [ ]  MATLAB  | [ ]  SPSS/SAS/R  |
| [ ]  MS PowerPoint | [ ]  Photoshop  | [ ]  Access/SQL | [ ]  Filemaker Pro |
| [ ]  HTML / CSS | [ ]  Visual Basic  | [ ]  Google Drive/Calendar | [ ]  C/Perl/Ruby/Python/Java |
| [ ]  AFNI | [ ]  FSL | [ ]  SPM/FMRISTAT | [ ]  ANTS/DTI TK |
| [ ]  Eprime/ Presentation |  | [ ]  Camino/TrackVis |
| Other: |

Research Interests

Please describe your research interests and what drew you to the Shackman Lab.

Problem-solving and Troubleshooting

Please describe a challenge you have faced in research, volunteering, or academic settings (*e.g., understanding a difficult concept in a class or balancing multiple conflicting scheduled assignments*) and the strategies you used to overcome it.

Puzzles and Mechanicals Background

Please describe any relevant expertise or interests in either solving puzzles/games or working with mechanical/electronic hardware (e.g., *I rebuilt my motorcycle’s carburetor last summer*; *I worked as a bike mechanic in high school*)

Professional Experience

*Please list relevant work, volunteer, club, or research experiences,*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Employer* | *Dates of Employment* | *Job Title / Description* |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Honors

*Please list any relevant honors, scholarships, or awards,*

Legal / Academic Issues

*Good science and good lab morale depend on trust, honesty, candor, and integrity. If you have ever been charged with a felony or academic misconduct, please provide the dates and details.*

References

*Please provide at least 2 professional references, preferably prior supervisors or faculty/organizational mentors,*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Name/Title* | *Dates* | *Contact Information*  | *Nature of Relationship* |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Plans

*What are your professional plans after graduation?*

Research Vision

*What kind of research or research position are you most excited about? Do you feel like you are particularly well suited to data collection vs. lab administration/coordination vs. data processing/analysis?*

*Are there any kinds of research positions (e.g., lab administration) that you definitely do not want to do?*

*Do you anticipate any ongoing time commitments aside from your coursework and hours you’d commit to the lab? For instance, professional (e.g., I know I have to work at the Union every night), personal (e.g. I go home every weekend to help out with family), or academic/sports commitments (e.g., Between o-chem and mo-bio, I know this fall is going to be a killer; Did I mention that my water polo team travels 4 days/week?) Please note any personal/any other commitments don’t bar you from participation in the lab, but are helpful in navigating staffing demands.*

Please block out times that you know you *cannot* work. Semester & Year: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I do *not* yet know my course or other schedule for this semester: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** | **Sun** |
| 8:00 AM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **NOON** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8:00 PM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Please list additional extracurricular activities that you are involved in that may affect your availability:

Please list any additional information you’d like us to know while considering your application: