**Research Assistant (RA) Application**

**Application Instructions**

Please complete this application and submit to our Lab Managers, Jennifer Cunneen and Dominique Ewing, via email ([jcunneen@umd.edu](mailto:jcunneen@umd.edu) & dewing1@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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 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.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 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,*

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

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

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| 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: