





**Faculty Member Contact Information**

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<b>Department</b>	Psychology

**1 Funded, 1 Unfunded URCA Assistant**

	This position is <b>ONLY</b> open to students who have declared a major in this discipline.	<b>M</b>
	This project deals with social justice issues.	
	This project deals with sustainability (green) issues.	
	This project deals with human health and wellness issues.	
	This project deals with community outreach.	
	This mentor's project is interdisciplinary in nature.	<b>I</b>

**Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?**

Yes

**How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?**

(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

9

**Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?**

PSYC 491 3

**Location of research/creative activities:**

**Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?**

Research in our lab focuses around exploring the role that context plays in preference formation through a phenomenon often referred to as "Decoy Effects". Decoy effects are situations in which a seemingly irrelevant alternative in a set of options increases preference for one of the other options. This violates the economic theory of choice referred to as Expected Utility Theory, and thus provides a useful window into the cognitive processes we use when determining what it is that we like.

**Brief description of student responsibilities?**

Students will run participants in experiments (both in person and online), use SPSS to enter and analyze data, develop new experiments based on our results, learn about theories of how context influences our decisions, explore their own interests in decision making, and participate in group discussion about cognitive research with the rest of the lab. We typically present our results at the Midwestern Psychological Association conference in Spring semesters.

**URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals.**

**What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?**

Experience with running human participants, experimental design, research design in Qualtrics for online data collection, the use of SPSS for data analysis, the creation of a poster for presentation at a conference, learn about the discipline of Judgment and Decision Making & the study of human cognition, oral & written presentation of research

**Requirements of Students**

**If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:**

Students should be available on campus to collect in person human data in my research lab. Hours are flexible, but need to occur between 9 am and 5 pm during the work week.

**If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?**

**Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:**

I would prefer students to have taken at least PSYC 220. Completion of both PSYC 220 & 221 or other research methods classes is a plus.

**Other requirements or notes to applicants:**