

Faculty Member Contact Information

Name	Mitsuru Shimizu, PhD
Contact Info	
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Department	Psychology

1 Funded, 3 Unfunded URCA Assistant(s)

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?

- Yes, in PSYC491 for 3 credit hours.

Location of research/creative activities:

- AH3317

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

- The purpose of my research group is to provide students with the opportunity to develop an advanced understanding of psychology by involving them in theory-based research related to social and personality psychology—such as attribution bias and self-esteem—as well as health behaviors, including eating, exercising, and sleeping. Students are expected to engage in both their own research projects and those of other students conducted in the lab.
- For example, one student in my group is planning to conduct an online study because he is interested in the effects of social media use on sleep. Another student is conducting a lab study to examine how nutrition labels influence the perceived healthiness of foods. They collaborate by helping each other: the first student assists him in running the lab sessions, while the second student helps him build the online survey.

Brief description of student responsibilities?

- By attending bi-weekly individual meetings with me, students generate research ideas and design experiments. They prepare materials for Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval and participate in conducting both their own studies and other ongoing research projects. Students also analyze the collected data. Over the course of the semester, each student writes an empirically-based paper, which is often presented at regional psychology conferences such as the Midwestern Psychological Association.

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?

- By engaging in their own and other students' research projects, students should have learned:
 - How to generate research ideas
 - How to design specific research studies (e.g., online surveys or lab experiments)
 - How to prepare IRB documents
 - How to create surveys composed of multiple questionnaires
 - How to construct online surveys (e.g., using Qualtrics)
 - How to prepare, organize, and conduct experiments
 - How to analyze and interpret data
 - How to write up results for publication and/or presentation

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:

- None

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

- N/A

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

- PSYC111, PSYC220, and PSYC221

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

- None