The University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology
An Overview of PSYC2112 Research Internship in Neuroscience

Course description
Students will have an opportunity to learn to do research as an intern in ongoing empirical research projects under a teacher’s supervision in the Department of Psychology. Students spend 10-12 hours per week assisting various research activities. The internship includes participating in lab meetings or meeting individually with the supervisor, reading relevant theoretical and empirical articles, assisting in ongoing empirical research projects, and writing an internship report. Information about research projects offering internship placements and application procedure will be available in the Psychology Department webpage.

Objectives
The internship aims at engaging students in research to prepare them better for their capstone projects. More generally, this internship is designed to offer students an opportunity to observe scientific research up close and gain hands-on research experience by working as a member in an active research team.

Course Learning Outcomes
On completing the course, students will be able to:
1. critically evaluate neuroscience research methodology.
2. implement research designs.
3. understand how to apply neuroscience theories and concepts to research design to study ill-defined problems in everyday life.
4. conduct research in a responsible and ethical manner and critically evaluate the ethical soundness of a neuroscience research study.
5. critically evaluate their own assumptions and biases in conducting research including collecting and coding data.

Course Content and Topics
Course content and topics vary across research labs. In general, they should cover:
1. Application of neuroscience theories, prior research, and pilot data to research design in studying ill-defined problems in everyday life.
2. How to conduct research in a professional, responsible, and ethical manner.
3. Hands-on experience in implementing research studies such as preparation of research materials, data collection, processing, and coding.

Required/Recommended Readings and Online Materials
Readings and online materials are subjected to individual supervisor’s recommendation/requirement.
Course Assessment

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<tr>
<th>Assessment method</th>
<th>Type of assessment (e.g. description of assignment)</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Supervisor’s assessment</td>
<td>Performance as a research assistant and participation and contribution in lab/supervision meetings.</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Written report</td>
<td>A report on research work performed with relevant background and reflections on learning achieved.</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Each intern will be graded by the supervisor on performance as a research assistant (10 to 12 hours per week), participation and contribution in lab or supervision meetings, and quality of internship report. The internship report will be a 6- to 10-page double-spaced paper. It should include a discussion of theories and empirical research relevant to the projects that the intern has worked on (based on assigned readings), what the intern has done and learned in the projects, what the challenges were, and how they were dealt with.

Application Procedure

1. For research internship opportunities offered by lecturers, please click the lecturer’s name below and read the details under “Research Internship Opportunities”.

   Department of Psychology
   Prof. Benjamin BECKER
   Prof. Fan CAO
   Prof. Dorita H. F. CHANG
   Prof. Yuanwei YAO

   Students may also approach Prof. OUYANG Guang from the Faculty of Education, for research internship opportunities in neuroscience.

2. Select the research project which you are interested in, and contact the lecturer for further information.

3. Fill in the application form and return it to the General Office of the Psychology Department before the deadline. The form should be endorsed by the lecturer or attached with an email confirmation of acceptance.

4. Enroll the course (PSYC2112) through Student Portal.