



PSY 4940 Research Internship in Psychological Science

Section: U32

In-Person meetings arranged

Spring Term 2024

Course Meeting Information

This course requires 150 in-person hours (10 hours/week) on campus in DM 269A. Some students may be assigned to collect data off campus. Attendance at a biweekly lab meeting held on campus is required, and counts towards the required number of hours.

Professor Information

Lab Director: Dr. Eliza Nelson

Contact: elnelson@fiu.edu

Website: <https://hands.fiu.edu>

Office Hours:

By appointment only

Graduate Student: Kaityn Contino

Contact: kcont012@fiu.edu

Office Hours:

By appointment only

Graduate Student: Atefeh Karimi

Contact: akari015@fiu.edu

Office Hours:

By appointment only

Graduate Student: Kate Long

Contact: klong023@fiu.edu

Office Hours:

By appointment only

Course Description and Purpose

In this course, you will work as a research assistant in the HANDS Lab directed by Dr. Eliza Nelson. Dr. Nelson is a comparative psychologist whose main interests are laterality and motor skills. Lab projects address one or both of these areas. Scientific opportunities vary by semester based on research stage. You will be assigned to work on one or more active projects based on a combination of lab priorities and your individual training goals. The purpose of this course is to help you develop transferrable skills that can be used in any career path. This skill set includes "hard skills" like data collection and data entry and "soft skills" like communicating effectively and working on a team.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Complete independent readings and summaries
- Reliably collect and/or generate data using lab techniques
- Reliably complete data entry and/or data cleaning
- Interpret data and present research findings

Expectations of the Course

This course is in person. There is no option to complete lab responsibilities remotely.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory. If you need to miss data collection or a lab meeting due to illness/emergency, you must contact Dr. Nelson. If you need to miss a scheduled lab slot, you must contact your graduate student supervisor.

Illness/Emergency Policy: To protect the HANDS team and our participants/subjects, there is a strict "stay home sick" policy. An illness is any fever, vomit, or diarrhea in the past 24 hours. An emergency is a one-time unavoidable occurrence. You do not need to share details of the event beyond when you expect to return to work.

Make-up Policy: Missed time must be made up in order to total 150 hours worked in the lab by the last day of classes. Failure to make up missed hours will result in an overall deficit for the semester and a grade of "F" in the course.

Undergraduate Research Assistants (RAs) are expected to:

- complete/maintain required research compliance;
- attend lab meetings;
- complete lab tasks as assigned by graduate students or Dr. Nelson;
- log hours worked in the lab weekly, totaling 150 by the last day of class;
- lead discussion of one article in lab meeting (prepared with graduate student);
- give final presentation on lab contribution (prepared with graduate student);
- interact with peers, graduate students, and Dr. Nelson in person.

Graduate Students will:

- check RA logs weekly and report to Dr. Nelson;
- assign tasks to RA(s) based on project needs and report to Dr. Nelson;
- prepare RA(s) to lead article discussion as assigned by Dr. Nelson;
- prepare RA(s) for final lab presentation as assigned by Dr. Nelson;

- interact with peers, undergraduate RAs, and Dr. Nelson in person.

Dr. Nelson will:

- oversee graduate student supervision of undergraduate RAs;
- assign articles to read for lab meetings;
- assign topics for final presentations;
- interact with undergraduate RAs and graduate students in person;
- write recommendation letters for students who earn a "P".

Assignments

All students must complete mandatory compliance before starting in the lab.

Students working on projects with human participants must complete/maintain:

1. CITI online training "Social/Behavioral Human Research Course" (credential valid for 3 years)
2. CITI online training "CITI Health Information Privacy and Security (HIPS) for Clinical Investigators (credential never expires)

Fingerprinting is required for projects with data collection at MDCPS sites. There is an **out-of-pocket cost** for this background check (badge valid for 5 years).

Students working on projects with animal subjects must complete/maintain the following FIU requirements:

1. CITI online training "Working with the FIU IACUC (Lab Studies)" (credential valid for 3 years)
2. CITI online training "Working with the FIU IACUC (Field Studies)" (credential valid for 3 years)

3. CITI online training "Working with Non-Human Primates in Research Settings" (credential valid for 3 years)
4. Submit FIU EH&S Risk form (annually with Dr. Nelson)

Students working on projects with animal subjects must also complete the following Monkey Jungle requirements:

1. Submit proof of a negative TB test dated within the past year annually. There may be an **out-of-pocket cost** at your healthcare provider. If a TB skin test cannot be performed, a negative chest x-ray can be submitted.
2. Submit proof of initial COVID-19 vaccination. There may be an **out-of-pocket cost** at your healthcare provider.
3. Sign a risk waiver.
4. Attend an on-site safety training session.

All students must give two presentations in lab meetings.

1. Lead discussion of one article in lab meeting (prepared with graduate student).
2. Give final presentation on lab contribution (prepared with graduate student).

All students must log 150 hours of research effort.

Research effort includes, but is not limited to, time spent on compliance, assigned readings/summaries, scheduled lab slots, scheduled data collection, meetings with graduate students or Dr. Nelson, attendance at lab meetings, and preparing lab talks.

All data collected in the HANDS Lab are the property of Dr. Nelson and may not be used or distributed without express permission.

Grading

This course is graded Pass/Fail. To earn a "P", you must log 150 hours of research effort. Attendance at lab meeting, including two presentations, is mandatory.

Textbook and Course Materials for Purchase

If no materials listed, no items are needed.

No Textbook Required for purchase

Required/Recommended: NA

Authors: NA

Publisher: NA

Publication Date: NA

Copyright Date: NA

ISBN 10: NA

ISBN 13: NA

Panther Book Pack Undergraduate Rental Program

Applicable if enrolled for 1+ credits

FIU has implemented the Panther Book Pack rental program, which provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of \$20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack. The Panther Book Pack program applies to all undergraduate credit hours per academic session. I recommend that you review the pricing for all materials across your classes this session compared to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. You may opt back into the Panther Book Pack up to three days after the add/drop deadline. If you do not opt out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged \$20 per credit hour and the course materials will be reserved for you for the undergraduate courses for which you are registered. For more details, visit bookpack.fiu.edu

Policies

As a member of the HANDS team, you are expected to be knowledgeable about the expectations set by off-campus sites where you are collecting data. Failure to adhere to these rules and regulations is grounds for immediate dismissal. Taking photos or videos

on personal devices during data collection is strictly permitted, and will result in immediate termination. If you are dismissed from the lab, you will receive a grade of "F".

As a member of the FIU community, you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the [FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code](#).

In addition, the [FIU Policies and Procedures Library website](#) serves as the official repository for university-wide policies and procedures.

Accessibility and Accommodation

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

For additional assistance please contact [FIU's Disability Resource Center](#).

Web Accessibility Statements for Partners and Vendors

- [Canvas](#)
- [Microsoft](#)
- [Adobe](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [ProctorU](#)
- [HonorLock](#)
- [Turnitin](#)
- [OpenStax](#)

- [Zoom](#)
- [Respondus LockDown Browser](#)

Please visit accessibility.fiu.edu for additional information about accessibility at FIU.

Academic Integrity

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the University's educational mission. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Conduct and Honor Code.

Academic Misconduct includes:

Cheating

- The unauthorized use of any materials, information, study aids, or assistance from another person on any academic assignment or exercise unless explicitly authorized by the course Instructor;
- Assisting another student in the unauthorized use of any materials, information, or study aids, unless explicitly authorized by the Instructor; and
- Having a substitute complete any academic assignment or completing an academic assignment for someone else, either paid or unpaid;

Plagiarism

- The deliberate use and appropriation of another work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the Student's own.

- Assisting another student in the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own.

Learn more about [Student Conduct and Academic Integrity](#).

Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have, for the classmate's well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with [FIU's Panthers Care website](#).

[Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don't wait to call (305) 348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

Inclusivity

This course will serve to embrace the diversity and inclusivity found within Florida International University. We appreciate and respect diversity, equality, equity, cooperativeness, community, and sustainability within our online courses. We are committed to the ongoing education of our students and their participation within the course regardless of gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, geographical location, religion, and disability. We strive in encouraging collaboration by preparing our students to value the differences in others. At the core of our intentions is the encouragement of acceptance and appreciation of differences within our student population and community.

Copyright

The following conduct is prohibited by the Student Conduct and Honor Code. A lack of familiarity with University policy is not a defense to a violation of this Code. Unless

specifically noted, the intent is not a required element to establish a policy violation. The following conduct violation or any attempt to violate the Code will be used in charging all Students or Student Organizations;

Section 5 | Conduct Violations - g. Computer Misuse

- vii. Unauthorized distribution or downloading of copyrighted materials, including but not limited to, unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing. This is a violation whether the user is using their own personal computer or the University's information technology system for unauthorized distributions.

Copyright Statement: The materials and content in this course are provided solely for student use during the course. Course materials may not be shared outside of the course or with any third party without the explicit permission of the instructor or content publisher. Visit FIU [Library's Copyright Lib Guide](#) to learn more about copyright law and restrictions.

Additional Resources:

- [Student Conduct and Honor Code](#)
- [Digital Millennium Copyright Act Policy](#)
- [FIU - Copyright Guidance for Students](#)
- [FIU Library's Copyright Lib Guide](#)