

Research Assistantship Agreement

As a research assistant in the Controlled Attention and Memory Laboratory (CAM Lab), you will learn how cognitive psychology research is conducted. This will include administering laboratory experiments, interpreting data, reading research articles, and participating in scientific discussions. We are an open and inclusive lab. As the lab director, I do not have any requirements regarding educational status, GPA, technical skills, or previous lab experience. However, I do have several expectations for research assistants, which I outline below.

As a research assistant in the CAM Lab, you should expect...

Prompt and efficient communication. The best way to reach me is via email, and I will always try to respond to emails in at least a few hours. If you send me an email, and I do not respond in 24 hours, *please ping me again*. You are not bothering me! Your email may have just gotten lost in the shuffle. You may also stop by my office in Room 402 of the Life Science Building if you have an urgent concern or question. If I am in my office and available, the door will be open.

Adequate training. You will be trained either by Dr. Robison himself, a PhD student in the lab, a postdoctoral research associate, or a lab manager. You will also complete Human Subjects Protection training through the UT-Arlington Human Subjects Research portal. In lab meetings, you will learn how to read and digest scientific research, make hypotheses, interpret patterns of data, and form conclusions based on data.

Mentorship in your educational and career goals. I am happy to give guidance on steps to take to reach your goals. These will be wide and diverse (e.g., graduate school, data science jobs, medical school, etc.) But I have helped many students along the way, and I can do my best to provide some advice. Just ask, and we can set up a time to talk.

As the primary investigator of the lab, I expect research assistants to be...

Reliable. I need to know that research assistants are in the lab during their assigned hours. It is impossible for me to monitor the lab during all hours of its operation. Therefore, I expect you to be in the lab on time.

Communicative. If you are unable to come to your assigned lab session, you need help, you have a question, or you have a concern, please communicate that to me or the lab manager. Email is best, but graduate students and lab managers may also provide their phone numbers.

Professional. When you are working in the lab, I expect you to be professional and courteous with participants. This includes answering any questions that arise, being attentive, and promptly moving participants through sessions. There is no substitute for good data. Always make sure participants fully understand tasks and are following instructions. Bad/noisy data is a waste of the participant's time, your time, and lab time.



CAM LAB
CONTROLLED ATTENTION AND MEMORY LABORATORY
— AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON —