

## **Research with Kirk Warren Brown, PhD at VCU**

### **Research Internship Student Information**

#### *My commitment to you*

I am committed to training you as a rigorous scientific researcher as far as your interest carries you. I want to make sure that you are getting as much out of this experience as I am getting from your help in collecting data and running studies.

#### *Our expectations*

Completing research projects involves hard work and dedication, and involves working as part of a team. We are looking forward to having you as a member of this team! Here is what we will expect of you:

- attend all training and lab meetings
- complete your lab tasks in a reliable, timely, and competent manner
- remain professional and courteous with participants
- maintain participant confidentiality
- complete your required hours of work per week
- arrive at all scheduled meetings and participant appointments on time
- maintain open channels of communication with us and your team members

If you are scheduled for a participant appointment but will be unable to attend, it will be your responsibility to find another research intern in our lab to take your place.

#### *Research intern responsibilities*

Your responsibilities will include attending all training and lab team meetings as well as completing assigned study tasks. Depending on the study or studies you are involved in, your tasks may include running participants through survey or experimental studies, interviewing participants, data entry, and behavioral coding.

#### *Time commitment*

The number of hours per week you will be expected to dedicate depends on how many hours of credit you register for: 1 credit = 3 hours; 2 credits = 6 hours; and 3 credits = 9 hours. These hours include time spent in training and lab team meetings.

#### *Lab meetings*

We will hold meetings as needed during the term. During these meetings we may discuss a number of topics, including the progress of various projects, any problems or issues that have come up, answer questions, discuss scheduling, and provide opportunities to get involved in new studies.

#### *Grading*

You will receive course credit and a letter grade for your work. If you are a reliable and hard worker – meeting the expectations described above – then that hard work will earn you a top grade for your research internship course. However, your grade will be lowered if you:

- do not do top-quality work
- do not complete your work or assignments on time
- do not show up or show up late for participant appointments
- repeatedly fail to attend meetings
- fail in other significant ways to meet the minimum expectations outlined above

You will also receive mid-semester information on your performance to-date, which will be for your purposes only.

*Research intern possibilities*

Some students may have research interests that extend beyond the study tasks outlined already, and we will allow you to get as deeply involved in the research as you would like and have interest in developing your skills for. Specifically, we will provide opportunities for:

- hands-on training in basic statistics
- taking the lead on your own research project
- poster presentations at research conferences
- publishing research articles

The amount of *independent* research that you do in this lab will depend on your level of personal interest and the amount of time that you are willing to commit to that research.

Please do not hesitate to contact me ANYTIME with questions or concerns.

Kirk Warren Brown  
kwbrown@vcu.edu  
Office: 808 W Franklin, room 202  
Office phone: 804-828-6754