

PSYC @ UCR: Lab to Life

Translating Research Skills into Career Skills

Lab Task	Translates to	PhD application	MA application	Job Skills
Data entry	General computer skills; working in SPSS & Excel; organizational skills	Foundational skills for working with quantitative data and for statistical analysis, including understanding how concepts are operationalized in research	Understanding how concepts are operationalized in research; Abilities in interpreting data and research relevant to course work and training	Working in different platforms (Mac/PC); Working with spreadsheets; interpreting quantitative information & conceptualizing the research process
Creating study materials	Various computer skills	Foundational skills in creating stimuli that test specific predictions while maintaining experimental control	Understanding the research design process, which will help in reading and understanding research in courses	Word processing; Working with pictures & images
Data collection & Participant recruitment	Interpersonal skills	Foundational skills in working with participants and adhering to a testing protocol	Having a natural interaction with people while maintaining structure/professionalism; Adapting social responses in the moment	Having a natural interaction with people while maintaining structure and professionalism; Adapting social responses in the moment
Data coding	Interpreting others' behaviors	Foundational skills in operationalizing and quantifying qualitative data	Understanding different ways of interpreting others' (clients') non-verbal behaviors	How to work with others to establish consistency (team work)
Literature searches & article reviews	Ability to locate, organize & evaluate information from multiple sources	Foundational skills for developing theories and hypotheses to conduct empirical research.	Ability to read and understand research relevant to course work and training; General writing skills	Finding information relevant to a specific project or task; general writing skills; how to concisely summarize information
Training other RAs	Leadership & mentoring	Foundational skills for conducting research in a team	Leadership, team work, mentoring	Leadership, team work, mentoring
Teamwork	Working with a team to solve a problem; Appreciation of diversity & individual differences			