Undergraduate Research Opportunities

Project Team 1: The Social and Emotional Developmental Benchmarks Project

Lead Investigator: Dr. Cynthia Willner

Description of Research: This project aims to establish empirically-supported developmental benchmarks and tools for assessing children’s social-emotional skills from pre-K through 12th grade. In support of this aim, we are developing a valid, reliable, and practical set of performance-based assessments of children’s social and emotional skills for use in pre-K through 12th-grade. Seeking undergraduate research assistants starting Fall 2019.

Description of Position: Undergraduate RA’s will be involved in multiple aspects of research (dependent on number of semesters committed). Duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Reviewing literature on emotion regulation strategy development and social-emotional skill assessments
- Coding survey data
- Assisting in assessment development and pilot testing
- Collecting child and adolescent data in school settings (Fall 2019 and beyond)
- Attending weekly meetings

Project Team 2: The School Climate Assessment Project

Lead Investigator: Dr. Jessica Hoffman

Description of Research: This project is developing a novel, interactive, valid, reliable, and practical app that measures school climate through the student lens and promotes student voice. Seeking undergraduate research assistants starting Spring 2019.

Description of Position: Undergraduate RA’s will be involved in multiple aspects of research (dependent on number of semesters committed). Duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Reviewing literature on the construction of school climate and school climate indicators and interventions
- Coding survey data
- Assisting in assessment pilot testing
- Data collection
- Attending weekly meetings

Project Team 3: Promoting School Readiness Through Emotional Intelligence
Lead Investigator: Dr. Craig Bailey

**Description of Research:** This project aims to test the efficacy of RULER, an approach to social and emotional learning, in 72 early childhood programs (preschools) across Connecticut. Undergraduate research assistants will primarily focus on data collection beginning Summer 2019. Experience working with children and/or in school settings is preferred, but not required.

**Description of Position:** Undergraduate RA’s will be involved in multiple aspects of research (dependent on number of semesters committed). Duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Collecting child data in schools (must be available for morning school visits)
- Attending lab meetings

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**Project Team 4: RULER High School in Mexico Project**

Lead Investigator: Dr. Jessica Hoffman

**Description of Research:** This project is tracking the RULER Implementation of 37 high schools across the country of Mexico, all part of the PrepaTec School System. Data was collected at 5 time points over 2016-2018 from over 15,000 students and 2,000 educators measuring school climate, how people feel at school, engagement, burnout, and satisfaction. Seeking undergraduate research assistants starting Spring 2019.

**Description of Position:** Undergraduate RA’s will be involved in multiple aspects of research (dependent on number of semesters committed). Duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Coding survey data and preparing data sets for analysis
- Data analysis and interpretation
- Reviewing literature on school climate, impact of social-emotional learning on student and educator wellbeing
- Attending weekly meetings

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**For All Positions**

**Compensation Per Position:** Course Credit (3) or Student Worker Payment

**Requirements:**

- A commitment of 10 hours a week (minimum)
- 3.0 GPA (minimum)
- Multi-semester commitment is preferred, but not required
- Interest in child development and/or assessment development
- Position is contingent on passing applicable background checks

**Contact:** Please E-mail alexandra.p.harrison@yale.edu for more information