Research and Teaching Assistantships
What is a Research Assistantship?

“Skills are actually more important than course content”

What is a research assistantship?

- Assist faculty members in a program of research
- Be involved in conducting research instead of merely reading about or participating in research

http://tinyurl.com/y7293xx2
What are the Advantages of Research Assistantships?

- Acquisition of skills and knowledge not easily gained in the classroom
- Opportunity to work one-on-one with a faculty member
- Opportunity to contribute to the advancement of the science of psychology
- Exposure to general research techniques helpful for pursuing later graduate work
- Opportunity to practice written and oral communication skills by preparing for and attending professional conferences and preparing and submitting manuscripts for publication
- Cultivation of a mentoring relationship with a faculty member that will be helpful for acquiring letters of recommendation
How Do I Secure a Research Assistantship?

- Review list of faculty and their interests
- Make an appointment with faculty member

**DO YOUR HOMEWORK**
- Know what the professor researches
- Read previous publications

- Be yourself
- Ask questions
- Complete additional forms as necessary
What do Research Assistants Do?

- Administer research sessions with student participants
- Score, code, and/or enter collected data
- Conduct literature searches
- Develop new research ideas
- Attend lab meetings
- Use computer programs to complete project
- Submit abstract/present findings at conference
- Submit manuscript/publish findings in journal
What Questions Should I Ask?

- Current projects?
- Duration of projects?
- Responsibilities?
- Time commitment?
- Credit/pay/volunteer/senior thesis?
- Qualifications?
- Application process?
What Do Teaching Assistants Do?

- Attend class and take notes
- Hold office hours/tutoring sessions
- Proctor/grade exams
- Score assignments for grading