

2017 Psychology VIP Information and Application Form

The Psychology VIP (or Vertical Integration Program) is a summer research program offered by the Department of Psychology & Neuroscience that provides undergraduates with the opportunity to participate in an intensive mentored research experience with a faculty member and graduate student. (Note: Although a faculty mentor is required, a graduate student mentor is not.) This summer the program will run from **May 16 through July 14**. In addition to their research, students will attend a seminar series that meets twice each week, as well as a statistics workshop that meets four times over the course of the program.

VIP Fellows receive a \$3,500 stipend. Students may not be employed by the University during the program, but are free to work outside of Duke if they are able to coordinate the schedule with their faculty advisor. Participants may live on campus if they wish at the regular summer session rates. However, housing and other living expenses are not covered beyond what is provided by the stipend.

Rising senior psychology majors who plan to enroll in the Graduation with Distinction program are given top priority for funding, as VIP is designed to help students get their thesis projects started. Other students (rising juniors, neuroscience majors) will be accepted as space permits. (Neuroscience has its own summer research program—the Summer Neuroscience Program, or SNP.)

Students **must** be in residence during at least 7 of the 9 program weeks ***including the last week of the program (July 6 through July 14)*** so they can take part in the presentations and poster session that conclude the program. ***** Any student who cannot meet this residence requirement should NOT apply. ***** Students who must be away during any week *other* than the last week will need to work this out with their faculty advisor.

Students may enroll in one summer session course during either the first or second summer session and still participate in VIP. Students who do this will receive a stipend of \$1,750 rather than the full \$3,500. Per university regulations such students will be paid during the month they ***are not*** enrolled in summer session. Students who elect to enroll in a summer session course **must receive the approval of their faculty advisor** and cannot enroll in a class that conflicts with the semi-weekly seminar series or bi-weekly statistics workshop. Generally speaking, seminars will meet at 2 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday. The statistics workshop will meet at 2 p.m. on May 17, May 31, June 14, and June 28 (all Wednesdays).

To be considered for VIP, students should complete the application below, obtain the signatures of their faculty and graduate student mentors, and return to Whitney Edmister in Room 242 Soc/Psych. ***We will begin reviewing applications on March 27, and will continue doing so until all slots have been filled.***

Name: _____

Preferred email address: _____

Class: rising sophomore rising junior rising senior

Major(s), minor(s), certificate(s): _____

Faculty Mentor: _____

Graduate Student Mentor: _____

(Although recommended, it is not strictly necessary to have a graduate student mentor to participate in VIP.)

Are you planning to enroll in the Graduation with Distinction Program in Psychology?

Yes No

Do you plan on enrolling in a summer session course during the program?

Yes No Unsure

If yes, which session? First Second

By signing below, the student acknowledges that he/she agrees to abide by the terms of participation described above.

Signature of Applicant: _____

The faculty mentor endorses the student's summer research plans and must be available to meet with his/her student at least once weekly on average for the duration of the program. If the student is a rising senior, it is expected that the faculty member will mentor the student through the completion of an honors thesis during the student's senior year.

Signature of Faculty Mentor: _____

The graduate student mentor is committed to working intensively with the student during the program. During recent years undergraduates have reported spending an average of over 10 hours/week with their graduate student mentors.

Signature of Graduate Student Mentor: _____

Research Interests and Summer Research Plans

Please attach a description of your research goals/objectives for the 9-week program. These goals should be determined in conjunction with your faculty and graduate student mentors. Limit your response to one single-spaced page. Rising seniors should be clear about how their work in the program will contribute to their honors thesis.

