**Volunteer Research Assistant Position Description**

**Research in the *Movement & Learning Lab*.** Our research team asks how the actions we produce and observe every day have the power to help us learn and change the way we think using behavioral, eye tracking, and neuroimaging methods. In particular, we examine concrete actions, which are used to directly manipulate our environment, and gestures, which often accompany our speech and help us represent and manipulate ideas. The research projects we do touch on many knowledge domains, and involve child and adult participants. Even with this broad approach, all research projects relate to the common goals of the lab: (1) to understand how individuals process and interpret the meaning of gesture and action, (2) to determine how these forms of movement have similar and distinct impacts on how individuals learn, and (3) to explore the mechanisms that drive these cognitive effects.

**Requirements for volunteer research assistants:**

* Spend 8-10 hours per week in the lab.
* Devote at least 2 semesters to working with the research team.
* Maintain at least a 3.5 overall GPA.
* Complete Introduction to Psychology (or equivalent course) prior to volunteering.
* Be willing to travel off-campus to conduct research studies.
* Attend weekly lab meetings.

**Preference will be given to:**

* Psychology or Neuroscience majors
* Freshmen, sophomores and juniors
* Students who have experience working with children
* Students who have taken Introduction to Neuroscience, Developmental Psychology and Research Methods

**Responsibilities:**

* Recruit participants (individuals and schools) for studies
* Help design and create stimuli to be used in studies
* Run studies with children and adults
* Help enter and code data
* Attend and contribute to lab meetings

***If you meet these qualifications and are interested in applying, please complete the application on the next page.***

**Volunteer Research Assistant Application**

Please send your completed application to Dr. Elizabeth Wakefield ([ewakefield1@luc.edu](mailto:ewakefield1@luc.edu)) along with a copy of your unofficial transcript.

**Name:**

**Email:**

**Current class standing** (e.g., freshman)**:**

**Major(s):**

**Minor(s):**

**Cumulative GPA:**

*Please provide short answers (1-4 sentences) to the questions below.*

Work Experience

1. Do you have any research experience? If so, please describe your responsibilities.
2. Are you involved with any clubs or organization (such as volunteer work, sports, or student groups)? If so, please describe your responsibilities/participation in these activities.
3. Do you have any relevant work/volunteer experience? If so, please describe your responsibilities.
4. Do you have experience working with children? If so, please describe the age of the children you have worked with, and in what capacity.

Interests

1. Why do you want to be a research assistant in this lab?
2. What are your interests within the fields of Psychology and/or Neuroscience?
3. What are your goals after graduation?

Work Ethic

1. What do you think you can contribute to our research team?
2. What is the most challenging experience you’ve had in a work/school setting?

Availability

1. Please list which semesters you are hoping to volunteer for (fall, spring, summer)

Please feel free to include any extra information you think is important that this application may not have covered!