PURC 2018 IS COMING UP!

Do you have research experience? Do you want to improve your presentation skills and have the opportunity to showcase your research to other members of the psychology community? If so, we encourage you to apply to the Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference (PURC)!

PURC is an annual undergraduate conference, created by Dr. Elizabeth Bjork in 1992. This conference is a great opportunity for students to conduct and develop their own research and gain the valuable experience to share and present their research to their peers and faculty. Students will present their research as posters or paper talks during the day-long event. In addition to fostering undergraduate professionalism, PURC has proved to be a meaningful and exciting forum for students from UCLA and other universities throughout the nation to communicate their research activities with one another.

This year, PURC will be held on May 4th, 2018 at the Bruin Reception Room and Psychology Tower. Please visit https://purc.psych.ucla.edu/applying-to-purc/application-criteria/ for detailed application criteria.

The application for PURC 2018 is now available online. For questions regarding PURC, please email: purc@psych.ucla.edu.

The application deadline is March 1, 2018.

All presentations are open to the public, including UCLA undergraduate students, graduate students, staff, and faculty. We encourage guest attendance at the conference as we show our support to our undergraduate students’ research contributions.

For more information regarding student opportunities, please visit: http://www.psych.ucla.edu/undergraduate/listserv-digest.
Faculty Spotlight: Professor Lara Ray  
Primary Area: Clinical Psychology  

1. You majored in Psychology as an undergraduate, and went on to graduate from the University of Colorado at Boulder with an MA & PhD in Clinical Psychology, as well as a graduate certificate in Behavioral Genetics. What made you pursue graduate school?  

   A: I was very excited about the prospect of becoming a psychologist, especially the clinical aspects of the work. However, as I became more involved in research at the undergraduate and graduate level, I found that I have a real passion and aptitude for science and that drove me to pursue a more academic track, as opposed to a clinical practice route.  

2. What are your research interests? How did you become interested in this research?  

   A: I am generally interested in why individuals develop addictions and how we can best help them recover. I am passionate about learning from basic science (i.e., animal studies) and trying to use those insights to improve addiction science in humans. I became interested in this research after working as a research assistant at UCSD for the Contortion on Genetics of Alcoholism (COGA) study. This large project allowed me to conduct clinical interviews with individuals and families affected by alcoholism which solidified my interest in improving treatments for addiction.  

3. Did you do research as an undergraduate? How did you get involved?  

   A: Yes, as an undergraduate I took all the research methods courses available to me and worked very hard at them. I also worked as a research assistant at a laboratory studying on Eating Disorders. It was a fascinating experience. I love seeing all that the graduate students did in that lab, and I thought: "Wow, I hope to be a graduate student in clinical psychology one day." Luckily I got accepted into some great programs, including CU Boulder, which was fantastic. I always tell my students to pay close attention to our graduate students and to ask themselves whether they would like to have those types of challenges and opportunities. This is a good way to assess interest and readiness for graduate school in psychology with a more realistic perspective.

WINTER 2018 WORKSHOPS

The Psychology Advising Office will be holding the following workshop for Winter 2018. Please sign up through the links below, as space is limited.

**PhD Programs in Clinical Psychology: Getting in and Succeeding** *(Click Here for RSVP)*

- Lara Ray will be hosting an information session on navigating graduate programs in Clinical Psychology
  
  Date: 2/12/18           Time: 1-1:50PM           Location: 3534 Psychology Tower

**Research and Fieldwork Opportunities in Psychology** *(Click Here for RSVP)*

- This workshop will go over the various research and fieldwork opportunities within the Psychology department and how to earn course credit for them
  
  Date: 2/26/18           Time: 4-5PM           Location: 3534 Psychology Tower

Reminders for Winter 2018:

- Departmental Honors Program 2018-2019 Cohort applications will be available in Spring quarter. Please visit: [http://www.psych.ucla.edu/undergraduate/special-programs-and-events/departmental-honors-program](http://www.psych.ucla.edu/undergraduate/special-programs-and-events/departmental-honors-program) for more information regarding eligibility and the application process.

- Psychology Department Subject Pool: The last day to participate in and receive credit for studies through the SONA system for the Winter quarter will be on Thursday, March 15th. The SONA system will reopen for the Spring 2018 quarter on Monday, April 2, 2018.

- Interested in Fieldwork/Research opportunities? Visit [www.psych.ucla.edu/undergraduate](http://www.psych.ucla.edu/undergraduate) to view potential internship sites and/or labs that you would like to work in for the Spring 2018 quarter! Get a head start and secure your placement with the internship site and/or lab before finals week.
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
CLINICAL AREA PROGRAM MEETING

Lara Ray, Ph.D.
Professor, Clinical Psychology & Behavioral Neuroscience
UCLA Department of Psychology

PhD Programs in Clinical Psychology:
Getting in and Succeeding

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018
1:00 PM – 1:50 PM
3534 FRANZ HALL