

# Research Workshop

Useful Tips and Resources to Help You Apply!

# What does a research assistant do?

- ♦ Run participants, collect data
- ♦ Enter data, help with analysis
- ♦ Edit and write papers
- ♦ Discuss future experiment ideas
- ♦ Work on personal project
- ♦ About 10 - 15 hours per week

# Why be an RA?

- ◆ REQUIREMENT: two quarters of PSYC 194
  - ◆ 194A - Developmental
  - ◆ 194B - Cognitive
  - ◆ 194C - Social
- ◆ Great preparation for graduate school
- ◆ See if research is right for you

# Steps to Take

- ◆ Choose a few labs you're interested in
  - ◆ Check online: <http://psychology.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/undergrad-opportunities/194-openings.html>
  - ◆ Find professors whose classes you've enjoyed
- ◆ Contact professor or grad student (email, in-person, office hours)
  - ◆ Read up on research, check out lab websites
  - ◆ They may ask for unofficial transcript/writing sample
  - ◆ Discuss classes taken, research interests
  - ◆ Present yourself as a strong candidate\*
- ◆ Remember - you are NOT guaranteed a spot!
  - ◆ If you don't get one quarter, try again

# Tips

- ◆ Get emails and writing samples proofread
- ◆ Send several applications, keep options open
- ◆ Try to make good first impression\*
- ◆ Show an interest in lab's work
- ◆ Ask friends in labs to put in a good word!
- ◆

# Resources

- ◆ Career Center
  - ◆ Interview workshops
  - ◆ Resume & Cover Letter Workshop
    - ◆ Fri. May 30, 2:30 - 4:0 PM
    - ◆ Cervantes and Velasquez Room, 3rd floor of Bay Tree Building
- ◆ Drop-in writing tutoring
  - ◆ Monday - Thursday, 3 - 6PM at ARCenter 216
- ◆ TAs - friendly and helpful!

Questions?