

GAP YEARS RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Interested in social sensory processing & how it modifies our motivations? Want to gain experience in rodent behavior, circuit mapping, & measuring population dynamics?

The laboratory of Dr. Daniel Salzman in the Department of Neuroscience has open positions for highly motivated Research Staff Assistants to gain proficiency in a dynamic, collaborative research environment, assisting in investigating the neural mechanisms underlying cognitive and emotional processing in animal models. In particular, there are open positions to study the effects of social sensory experience on motivation.

In this lab, you'll have opportunities to gain experience in rodent and/or non-human primate animal model systems under the direction of a Postdoc. This includes:

- Performing experiments that can involve neural circuit anatomical tracing and brain histology.
- Performing tasks that engage cognitive and emotional processes.
- Measuring neural activity using calcium imaging and/or electrophysiology.
- Perturbing activity in targeted neural circuit elements during task performance.
- Use and possibly develop software to analyze data sets.

In addition to these experiences, you will also have opportunities to mentor undergraduate/high school students, as well as practice discussing your science to a variety of audiences!

Qualifications:

- A **completed bachelor's degree** in neuroscience, biology, or other related area of science or engineering is required at the time of joining the lab.
- For rodent research under Dr. Erica Rodriguez on the effects of social experience on motivation, **some experience in wet lab work** (immunohistochemistry, animal handling, and/or surgeries) **and/or coding** (ImageJ, Matlab, R-Studio, Arduino, and/or Python) **is required** (particularly of those listed above).
- The ideal candidate must possess strong organizational skills, keep excellent notes, show sound judgment, and have a collaborative style that fosters teamwork and cooperation and the ability to work independently within a diverse and dynamic team environment.

You must currently be in your gap year(s) or undergraduate senior year to apply.

To apply for the position, please visit: <https://shorturl.at/4mEgj>

The start time may be negotiable depending on the situation. All internships are paid, full-time (40 hours/week), Monday-Friday. Opportunities will range in **2 year full-time paid internships**. Questions can be directed to sf10@columbia.edu.

****We are an equal opportunity employer****