



WHAT THE ERP LAB DOES...

The TCNJ ERP Lab is powered by undergraduate student work, and we conduct studies of memory that focus on brain activity (called Event-Related Potentials or ERPs). Typically, different studies are done each semester, depending on the time permitted. These studies are conducted by students in collaboration with Dr. Leynes. Each year students have the opportunity to attend psychology conferences (e.g., Eastern Psychological Association, Cognitive Neuroscience, etc.). Those students who have worked in the lab present posters describing their study at the conference. It's a good experience for learning more about psychology, and we have a good time.

In past semesters, we have done studies on topics such as: Gender stereotypes in memory, Memory for actions, Source monitoring (i.e., memory for the origin of information), Recognition (i.e., old/new judgments)

HOW CAN YOU GAIN COURSE CREDIT FOR THIS EXPERIENCE?

Students can work in the lab under a variety of course options including:

PSY 390: Laboratory Learning (available for all students); ***PSY 492: Senior Laboratory Learning*** (for experienced lab members); ***Honors Thesis I or II*** (for experienced lab members)

PSY 390 can count for a specialized course and/or a psychology option for the Psychology major. PSY 492 and Honors Thesis satisfy the senior experience requirement for the major. Check with your advisor (or Dr. Leynes) for more information.

In some circumstances, students are allowed to volunteer if they are over the maximum credit allotment, or if they feel as though they would not be able to allot the proper amount of time for a full course.

WHAT TO EXPECT...

Time Commitment:

Lab members who work in the lab for credit should expect to allot a 3 hour block of time per credit hour. Lab members are expected to devote at least 9 hours per week. A typical lab session is between 2 ½ to 3 hours. Also, in the event that another lab member cannot come to a session, your schedule should be flexible enough that you can act as an 'alternate' on some occasions.

Lab Training:

Students do not need experience to participate in this experience – they will be trained on every task. We have a training system that allows lab members to gain responsibility in the lab as they gain experience. Under this system, students have a choice of how much responsibility they wish to have and to determine the pace that they want to learn.



BENEFITS OF WORKING IN THE LAB...

Working in the lab will give you valuable research experience, as well as a chance to explore and apply concepts you've learned in your classes. Research experience is especially important if you plan to go on to graduate school, and it looks great on a resume. Also, working closely with Dr. Leynes will give him a chance to get to know you better, which is helpful for developing richer letters of recommendation.

Additionally, working in the lab provides an opportunity to work with other students who have similar interests in all fields of psychology.



Accomplishments of TCNJ ERP lab members:

- 9 Students have completed a Senior Honors Thesis in the lab
 - 5 students have been Marshall Smith Scholars (given to the most distinguished student in Psychology)
 - 6 Students have won Phi Kappa Phi Student-Faculty Research Awards to support their research
 - 4 Students have completed a Summer Research Program in our lab
 - 4 Students have won Research Experience for Undergraduate summer fellowships (a national honor to conduct research at another institution)
 - 2 Students have presented research to members of Congress
- ERP members are in many honor societies (Golden Key, Psi Chi, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Beta Kappa)

ERP Lab Students have attended **graduate school** at:

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| Clemson University | SUNY Binghamton |
| Farleigh Dickinson University | Syracuse University |
| Fordham University | Temple University |
| Harvard University | University of California, Berkeley |
| John Jay School of Criminal Justice | University of California, Davis |
| Indiana University | University of California, Los Angeles |
| Marywood University | University of Maryland |
| Monmouth University | University of Minnesota |
| Montclair University | University of South Carolina |
| New York University | Virginia Tech |
| Princeton University | West Chester University |
| Rutgers University | William Patterson University |
| Simon Fraser University | Yale University |

...and **medical school** at: Robert Wood Johnson, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

For more information.....

contact Dr. Leynes (Office: Social Sciences 125; Phone: 609-771-2624; E-mail: leynes@tcnj.edu) or speak to current lab members.