# Application for a research assistant position

Positions are filled on a rolling basis. If we do not an open position right now, we will keep your application on file and will contact you for an interview when one becomes available. Depending on the level of commitment and the time of year, this position could be as part of an Individual Project course (e.g., PSY405/406), a work-study position, or a short-term volunteer role until a course or a paid position becomes available.

## Defining expectations

Thank you for your interest in our lab! It would not be possible to complete our research without our dedicated research assistants, and we value their contributions enormously. Given their importance, we take recruitment very seriously and attempt to define our expectations clearly from the outset.

Here are some of the basics of what we expect from our RAs:

* Honour your agreed-upon weekly time commitment (usually 8-10 hours). Report your hours in the bi-weekly log sheets to the lab manager, Dr. Barense, and your immediate supervisor.
* Conduct research in an efficient, effective, and professional manner. Complete your tasks on time. We’re aware that both delays and mistakes happen, but you must let us know immediately of any issue. Don’t ever hide a mistake!
* Make an active effort to understand the work in the lab, and take initiative. Communicate clearly and frequently; let us know what your ideas are, and how things are going.
* Contribute to lab meetings.
* Check your email once a day at a minimum. Email is the #1 way that we communicate with research assistants.
* Be organized – keep track of all data, participant notes, and follow procedures for testing participants and storing data.
* If you are working in the lab as part of course credit, you will be expected to write term papers and present at lab meetings. These will be detailed in the course contracts.

Here is what you can expect from us:

* A supportive community – we seek to provide a collegial, warm, supportive, and open lab environment to all lab members.
* Hands-on exposure to the scientific process – all RAs will be involved in a meaningful scientific project.
* Mentorship – we are delighted to provide advice on grad school, career choices, and more.
* Skill development – we hope to help you identify your strengths and working with you to improve any weaknesses. Let us know if there are specific skills you want to develop in our lab!
* Opportunities to share research findings with the scientific community – senior research assistants who contribute extensively to a project may be asked to help with the publication stage, or to present their work at a conference.

## Application

**Full name:**

**Email:**

**Last term GPA:**

**Cumulative GPA:**

**Majors/minors:**

**Please list at least 5 relevant courses (e.g., psychology, statistics, computer science, mathematics):**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**In a few hundred words, please provide an idea for a research project, as well as ideas (in broad strokes) for how you would execute your plans:**

**Please provide information on your future plans and career goals:**

**Please provide your motivation for seeking this research assistant position:**

**List any other relevant research experience:**

**When would you be able to start, and how many weekly hours could you commit?   
(Note that we usually aim for an 8 hour weekly commitment.)**

**Please this completed application, along with your CV and an unofficial copy of your transcript to** [**barenselabmanager@gmail.com**](mailto:barenselabmanager@gmail.com)**. Positions are filled on a rolling basis. If we do not an open position right now, we will keep your application on file and will contact you for an interview when one becomes available.**