

# MURI-OPUS

*Multi-University Research Initiative Operator  
Performance Under Stress*



## Research Opportunity for Undergraduates In Experimental Stress Research

Thank you for your interest in our research program. At the MURI-OPUS research lab, faculty and graduate and undergraduate students work together to investigate the role and effects of stress on performance and a number of other measures. We are currently operating on a large grant from the U.S. Army and plan to be conducting many experiments along these lines over the next few years. This is an excellent opportunity for gaining research experience and making your resume more attractive to graduate programs.

As a research assistant you would participate in:

- Preparing for data collection (working with UCF's new on-line extra credit system)
- Participating in data collection (Running participants through experiments & administering questionnaires)
- Data entry (Coding questionnaires into EXCEL and SPSS)
- Basic data analyses (Use of SPSS under guidance to compute statistics, analysis of several standardized questionnaires such as the NASA-TLX, DDSQ, Optimism/Pessimism Scale, and Adjective Checklists)
- Literature Reviews (Involving the library database, PsycINFO, and possibly MEDLINE)

### **Options:**

You may participate in MURI-OPUS as a volunteer or you can register for course credit. We prefer that you volunteer for at least one semester before signing up for credit. However, if you do register for credit, the minimum commitment required is 2 credits, and you are expected to work three hours in the lab for every credit hour (for example, if you register for two credits you must work six hours). If you volunteer your time, a minimum commitment of four hours per week is expected, and it is preferred that you work one four hour block a week as opposed to several smaller blocks.

If you would like to volunteer or register for credit please complete the attached application and place it in Jennifer Ross's box in the psychology department's mail room. If you have any trouble locating the mail room or my box please ask the secretary in the psychology department for assistance. After your application is received and reviewed, a graduate research assistant will contact you regarding an interview. We have only a

limited number of positions available each semester, but we attempt to accommodate as many interested students as possible.

**Requirements:**

Students must attend research team meetings. These meetings will be scheduled to accommodate class/work hours and while emergencies or unusual circumstances may sometimes prevent students from attending, a satisfactory grade depends on regular attendance to meetings (generally no more than two absences per semester are allowed).

All research assistants must be present during their scheduled hours unless otherwise informed. We are fairly flexible with schedule times, but the number of hours a week is strongly enforced. You will be expected to be in the lab as scheduled and as needed, and complete all assignments in a timely and professional manner.

**Grading**

All research assistants registered for credit will receive a grade of either S(atisfactory) or U(nsatisfactory) at the end of the semester. Sorry, but no letter grades are available.

If you have any further questions please e-mail [hfesras2@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:hfesras2@mail.ucf.edu).

# MURI-OPUS

## Application for Research Assistants

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### General Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers (Home/Cell/Office/Etc): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to reach you (circle one):

Mail

phone

e-mail

Overall GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Psychology GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to apply to Graduate School? (circle one)

YES

NO

If yes, in what area (clinical/experimental/IO/etc) and for what degree (Masters, Ph.D., PsyD.)? \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Could Start Research: \_\_\_\_\_

Check ONE of the following two options:

\_\_\_\_\_ I want to volunteer.

\_\_\_\_\_ I want to register for \_\_\_ credit hours.

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### Thought Questions

1. Why are you interested in working with MURI-OPUS?

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2. Describe any previous research experiences you have had (include your responsibilities, the extent of your involvement, and who you worked under):

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3. Please list any special skills you possess (e.g., SPSS, PsycINFO, etc):

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4. What assets do you feel you can contribute to our research team?

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**Your Availability**

Please mark the days and times that you would be available to participate in MURI-OPUS (NOTE: 8-10hrs in lab a week required for 3hr credit)

<b>Times</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Morning (8-12)</b>							
<b>Afternoon (10-2)</b>							
<b>Evening (1-5)</b>							

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How many classes will you be taking while participating (please include hours as well as number of courses?)

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How many hours a week will you be employed while participating?

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