

Conflict Resolution (CORE) Lab Manual

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Overarching Research Goals

- Understand the psychological experience of conflict for the transgressor and victim
- Explore predictors of various responses to conflict: What guides people towards more constructive vs. destructive responses in conflict contexts?
- Reveal the consequences of these responses: How do the responses that transgressors and victims choose impact their relational, psychological, and physiological well-being, both in the short and long term?

Additional Areas of Interest

- Interpersonal Empathy
- Growth vs. Fixed Mindsets
- Influence of religion, political views, and other social factors on conflict situations and interpersonal relationships
- Have an idea? Do a little research and bring it up in a meeting!

Guidelines and Expectations for Undergraduate Research Assistants

As an RA, you may be recruited for a specific project (e.g. acting as an experimenter for a semester-long lab study) or to help with general tasks as needed. Either way, we do our best to give every student a variety of experiences and, when possible, tailor the workload to the RA's specific career goals.

Typical examples of tasks include: acting as an experimenter for a study, programming online survey studies into Qualtrics, coding data according to a specific scheme of categories and variables, entering and cleaning data into spreadsheets for analysis, and completing literature searches surrounding a particular topic. More advanced, veteran members of the lab may be able to help with study design and analysis or complete a senior thesis.

Especially for complicated experiments or detailed coding schemes, we will provide training for new tasks. You are encouraged to ask questions or advice from senior RAs, your project lead, graduate students, and the PI. For more basic tasks such as programming on Qualtrics, there are incredibly helpful guides and tutorials online as well.

Commitment Levels

Undergraduates generally work for course credit as Directed Research Students. Unless an assigned project requires a certain time commitment, we respect students with a heavy workload or part-time jobs and allow most RAs to choose their commitment level. However, in

order to gain a variety of knowledge and worthwhile experiences over the course of the semester, most students are expected to take at least 2 credits. The commitment level expectations are as follows:

- 1 credit = minimum of 4-5 hours/week
- 2 credits = minimum of 6 hours/week
- 3 credits = minimum of 8 hours/week

General Expectations

You are expected to:

- Be prompt, respectful, friendly, and eager to learn!
- Complete the hours and work that you have committed to.
- Attend scheduled lab, project, and training meetings.
- Communicate! Send necessary updates regularly and respond to emails promptly. We all try to do the same to be courteous of other lab members and to help things run smoothly.
- If working independently, check in weekly with the project lead to share progress updates and any obstacles you may have faced.
- Come forward with questions, concerns, or suggestions if you see something that could be improved. No one is perfect. As RAs, you are on the front-lines, so to speak, so you have the best view to determine when a certain step in an experiment is not working, a task could be organized in a more efficient way, etc.
- Let us know if there are particular research tasks that you'd like to experience! It's hard to know if you want to go to graduate school or conduct research of your own down the road if you exclusively do background research and data entry. Available tasks and projects vary greatly across semesters, but we do our best to give students new opportunities and chances are there is an idea stuck on the backburner that you could help bring to life.

Absence and Scheduling Policies

Directed research is considered a class, and without assignments or exams, your credit is earned through attendance and participation.

However, we've all been to college here, and obviously work at one, so we know how schedules and workloads can fluctuate. At no point do we want your duties in the lab to cause your coursework to suffer. If you face a week with an overwhelming amount of assignments or exams, we will generally allow you to make up your hours.

Barring emergencies, if you need to be absent from scheduled hours due to illness, coursework overload, or other valid reason, you are expected to notify your project lead of your planned absence and your plan to make up those hours.