University of Missouri’s MU-ARTSS Program

The MU-ARTSS program is designed for undergraduate students interested in alcohol research and possible careers as alcohol researchers. The Department of Psychological Sciences at the University of Missouri (MU) hosts a diverse cadre of psychologists dedicated to research into the etiology and course of alcoholism and related disorders. MU-ARTSS professors represent a wide array of expertise in the science of alcohol and addiction including genetics, personality, psychopathology, social and affective neuroscience, and social network analysis. Students participating in the MU-ARTSS program are part of the larger MU Undergraduate Summer Research Internship Program which hosts approximately 100 students from universities and colleges across the nation every year. Students participating in the program develop a research abstract and create a poster to present at the Summer MU Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievements Forum. Our program was highlighted in the Observer. https://www.psychologicalscience.org/observer/hands-on-training-in-alcohol-research

MU-ARTSS is structured into a week-long didactic program providing an intensive introduction to alcohol research followed by an 8-week research internship in the lab of a MU-ARTSS professor. The program is set up to provide an independent learning experience and offer the intern an opportunity to get a sense of a ‘grad school’ working environment. The internship is full-time with a stipend of $3,800 provided by the National Institutes of Health. In addition, the University of Missouri will be providing room and board at no cost to participants. However, travel costs are not covered and are the responsibility of the intern. Interns will receive 1 hour of academic credit (course title: Special Problems in Psychology, Psych 2950) from the University of Missouri which is paid for by the program. If you would like to have your credit transferred to your academic institution, some educational institutions require prior approval before the start of an internship if students wish to count the credit hour towards their degree. Applicants should check with their institution regarding any such requirements before accepting an internship position. MU-ARTSS aims to increase the pipeline of scientists among minority and nonminority undergraduates who are interested in pursuing careers in alcohol research and is supported by a grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA, R25AA023687), part of the National Institutes of Health.

The summer program will contain four components:

1) A week-long didactic program held in the Department of Psychological Sciences from June 2–June 8, 2022.  
2) At the conclusion of the didactic program, MU-ARTSS students will be placed in internships from June 9–July 29, 2022 in the laboratories of addiction researchers housed in the Department of Psychological Sciences at MU.  
3) Weekly meetings with the MU-ARTSS group to update on the status of the project, professional development discussions, informal discussions on research topics led by postdoctoral and predoctoral fellows, and viewings and subsequent discussions of classic movies that portray the myriad of ways alcohol affects people’s lives.  
4) Structured activities as part of MU Undergraduate Summer Research Internship Program on campus, including seminars, training in the responsible conduct of research, and professional development.

MU-ARTSS Professors at the University of Missouri

| MU-ARTSS Co-Directors: Denis McCarthy, PhD, Ian Gizer, PhD, Ken Sher, PhD |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Bruce Bartholow, PhD           | Dennis Miller, PhD |
| Shawn Christ, PhD              | Mary Beth Miller, PhD |
| Clint Davis-Stober             | Doug Steinley, PhD |
| Scott Frey, PhD                | Timothy Trull, PhD |
| Brett Froeliger, PhD           | Ashley Watts, PhD |

Funded by NIH Grant R25AA023687
Summer Research Internships: June 1-July 29, 2022
At the conclusion of the week-long didactic program, MU-ARTSS students will be placed in experiential learning internships in the laboratories of researchers at the University of Missouri. Depending upon individual interests, students will be assigned to labs that focus on one or more of the following areas: human genetics; behavioral psychiatric and genetic epidemiology; neurophysiology; and statistical modeling. MU-ARTSS interns will work alongside other interns, graduate students, and faculty members to gain experience in contemporary alcohol research which will provide valuable experiences for preparation for graduate study. Research projects may involve administration of alcohol to humans and work environments may vary from the traditional wet lab to computer labs. This is a full-time experience and participants are strongly discouraged from taking on additional commitments such as summer school or part-time work as the commitment will be 40 hours per week. Information on the type of research projects available may be found at: https://psychology.missouri.edu/research/artss/labs

Eligibility
The program seeks applicants who demonstrate a strong interest in science and medicine. Applicants ideally must have completed 2 years of undergraduate work (exceptions may be made), with a B average or better in all coursework and who are US citizens or permanent residents. It is desirable for students to have completed at least 2 courses (3 semester credit equivalents) in each of the following areas: a) behavioral or social sciences, b) biological sciences, and c) physical sciences/mathematics. Acceptance into MU-ARTSS will be made on the basis of academic performance, overall breadth and depth of academic coursework to date, and recommendations. Seven students will be selected to participate. Individuals who will have earned a baccalaureate degree by the summer of 2022 are not eligible to apply.

To Apply
Applicants MUST apply through our website: https://psychology.missouri.edu/research/artss/mu-artss

1) Complete and upload an application form: https://psychology.missouri.edu/research/artss/muartss-application
2) Request and have two MU-ARTSS Student Rating Forms (https://psychology.missouri.edu/research/artss/muartss-rating-form), submitted from individuals familiar with the academic potential and performance of the applicant.
3) Upload on website an unofficial academic transcripts from currently enrolled institution OR send to MUARTSS@missouri.edu OR the address listed below.
4) Upload a resume with current address and email, phone number, computer skills, and research software with which you are familiar. Please also indicate the type of research you are interested in exploring.

Deadlines
Eligible applications must be received via email by February 20, 2022. Applicants will be notified of decisions by March 20, 2022.

Impact of COVID-19
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Missouri and Boone County Department of Public Health have established guidelines and protocols designed to minimize risks from the disease. More details about these plans can be found at the following websites:
https://renewal.missouri.edu/
https://www.como.gov/coronavirus/
Students who participate in this program will be expected to follow all university and county public health guidelines. These guidelines are subject to change, but currently include wearing face coverings whenever indoors on campus, maintaining at least 6 feet of social distance from others, and checking oneself for COVID symptoms on a daily basis (e.g., temperature checks). In the event that we are not able to offer the program on campus due to campus and/or county restrictions, we plan to offer the program virtually. We will notify applicants as soon as possible regarding any changes or adjustments that need to be made.

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