

SOFINA SHEKHAR

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania ♦ 302-604-2323 ♦ SKS95@pitt.edu

EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

8/18 – 12/21

Bachelor of Science in Psychology, related area in Natural Sciences

- GPA: 3.5, Magna Cum Laude

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Food for Thought Lab, Literacy Eats Program Pittsburgh/ Philadelphia, PA

9/22 – Present

Project Coordinator

- Led focus group meetings at a community center to increase literacy of preschool children from low SES background, through food practices
- Responsible for recruitment of participants, organizing meetings, contact with participants, creating report of focus group meetings, and analyzing data

Behavioral Medicine Research Group Pittsburgh, PA

1/22 – 8/22

Research Associate

- Conducted participant visits in a behavioral cardiovascular research laboratory. Assisted participants in setting up ambulatory monitoring equipment to acquire physiological data in the natural environment. Provided 24/7 support to participants in the field.
- Trained other research staff on study protocol and procedures. Analyzed and cleaned data.

Food for Thought Lab, Playful Learning Study Pittsburgh, PA

6/21 – 6/22

Research Assistant

- Conducted literature review, under the mentorship of PI Dr. Diana Leyva, to investigate the relation between colorblind racial ideology and children's academic success.
- Transcribed, checked, and coded over 50 videos of parent-child interactions, using datavyu, examining the relationship between parental math talk and children's math skills.

Cambiar Collective Lab, Pittsburgh, PA

1/21 – 1/22

Research Assistant

- Developed protocols for We Stories Study which examined White family's anti-racism action. Adjusted protocols on the fly to fit needs of the participants and RA's.
- Coded over 160 stories for the GenZ project, investigating afterschool opportunities for adolescents of color, under PI Dr. Josefina Bañales.
- Communicated with participants via email for the FAMSTUDY project which investigated school and parent racial socialization.

Frieze lab, Pittsburgh, PA

10/20 – 4/21

Research Assistant Volunteer

- Developed coding scheme for several survey questions for the Home and Coronavirus study which investigated how first-year college students' feelings of home were affected by Coronavirus, under PI Dr. Irene Frieze.
- Trained 2 RA's on coding schemes and calculated reliability.
- Assisted in conducting literature review for the study.
- Conducted in-person interviews for the Home and Coronavirus study.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Ross Lab, Pittsburgh, PA

10/19 – 6/20

Lab manager

- Lead and organized lab ordering spreadsheet, handling all ordering, and receiving for the lab.
- Worked with WordPress to keep lab website up to date and adding new relevant information.
- Completed weekly checklist to keep lab running smoothly including disposing of mice and biohazard waste, refilling distilled water, making agar plates, sanitizing glassware, and testing eye wash stations.

CLUBS & SKILLS

Mind Sense- Mental health club (University of Pittsburgh) Co-leader, Organized meditation events

9/18- 12/21

Psychology Club- Undergraduate Research Advocate Helped peers become involved in Psychology research

12/20- 12/21

Alpha Phi Omega- Service fraternity Volunteered 100+ hours to various community service projects in Pittsburgh

1/19- 12/21

Software skills: Experience with SPSS, Datavyu, Dedoose, Jamovi, Minitab, Excel, Word, and Wordpress.