

Internship Advertisement

Undergraduate Summer Research Internship, Animal Cognition Research Group

Department of Psychology, University of Alberta, Edmonton Canada

Closing date to apply: Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at 1 p.m.

Dates of internship: 12 weeks starting between May 1st and July 31st, 2022

Apply at: <https://globalink.mitacs.ca/#/student/application/welcome>

Project ID: 25251- How does nest-building behaviour relate to learning in birds?

The Animal Cognition Research Group (ACRG, <https://animalcognitionualberta.weebly.com/>) in the Department of Psychology at the University of Alberta is hiring an undergraduate researcher for a 12-week internship in the summer of 2022. This internship will include investigating the physical cognitive abilities of Zebra finches (*Taeniopygia guttata*)- what the birds learn and understand about different materials and the structural properties of those materials, especially in relation to nest-building- in a laboratory environment using foraging boards. The current research in our lab focused on variation in cognition abilities (e.g., sex differences in learning based on nest-building history), social learning in foraging and nest building, and the trade-off between asocial and social information use.



The ACRG is funded by an NSERC Discovery Grant and the Faculty of Science. Our laboratory space includes free-flight colony rooms for zebra finches, extensive laboratory space for behavioural testing, and a full histology and microscopy suite. The ACRG currently has four graduate students and several undergraduate student researchers.

As mentioned the internship will be 12-weeks, with the start date any time from May 1st to July 31st, 2022.

To apply, visit the link provided above.

- If you have questions about the research or our lab, please contact Dr. Lauren Guillette (PI) at guillett@ualberta.ca
- If you have questions about the application process, contact the Mitacs team at helpdesk@mitacs.ca

Below are the eligibility requirements (as per the Mitacs application portal):

- Be enrolled in a full-time undergraduate or combined undergraduate/master's program at an eligible institution in one of the eligible countries or regions. Official partner countries and regions are Australia, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Mexico, Pakistan, Taiwan, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the United States. Note: Applicants from the United States must apply directly to Fulbright Canada via Fulbright's website.
- Have one to three semesters remaining in your program as of Fall 2022. In other words, if you are successful in receiving an internship, you will need to complete at least one more semester

of undergraduate or joint undergraduate/master's coursework and have no more than three semesters remaining. Please review the requirements for your country to determine if any exceptions can be made.

- Be available to complete a 12 consecutive week internship. Being available for only 10 consecutive weeks is acceptable but may reduce your chances of being successfully matched.
- Start date must be between May 1st and July 31st.
- Be able to come to Canada for the duration of the internship.
- Meet the following minimum grade requirements (or equivalent) for your country or region of study:
 - Australia 75%
 - Brazil 80%
 - China 85%
 - Columbia 76%
 - France 60%
 - Germany 2.9/6 or lower
 - Hong Kong 3.0
 - India 75%
 - Mexico 80%
 - Pakistan 80%
 - Taiwan 77%
 - Tunisia 80%
 - Ukraine 80%
 - United Kingdom 60%
- Provide an official transcript from your home university.
 - A transcript is a detailed record of your marks or grades that has been generated by your current or former university. Usually this will be an official document, either on paper or online, with a list or table of the individual modules, papers or courses you have completed with a numerical and/or letter grade against each. It may also give an overall grade for your qualification. As you have not yet completed your current degree, you need to submit an official interim/provisional transcript from your institution with details of the grades you have received so far.
 - Please note that if your transcript is not in English or French, you must provide a translated and notarized copy in your application, before the application deadline.
- Be fluent in the oral and written language of the project (English and/or French).
- Possess a passport from your home country that is valid at least until January 2023.
 - Please note that you do not need a valid passport to apply, however, if you are successful you will be required to provide valid passport details by February 1, 2022. If you do not currently have a passport that is valid until January 2023, we encourage you to obtain that now – don't wait to see if your application is successful.
- Provide at least one letter of reference from an academic research professor or supervisor. Guidelines for letters of reference can be found [here](#).
- Provide a CV that details your research experience. You can submit your own CV or use the Mitacs template (either is acceptable – using your own template will not negatively impact your application).
- Agree to the 2022 Globalink Research Internship Terms and Conditions.
- Be at least 18 years of age at the time of application. Apply to a minimum of 3, maximum of 7 projects in the Globalink Research Internship "Projects" tab of the application and ensure your

selections are from at least 3 different Canadian provinces. Please review the requirements for your country to determine if any exceptions can be made.

- Complete your application by September 22, 2021 at 1 p.m. Pacific Time (PT).