

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT RESEARCH PARTICIPANT POOL GUIDELINES  
ELEMENTARY PSYCHOLOGY  
FALL 2020  
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## **RESEARCH PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT**

For Summer 2020, you'll need to complete **5.0** hours of research credit.

There are three ways you can earn credit:

- Participate in studies conducted by the Psychology Department at the University of Georgia via the SONA System
- Write brief (one- or two-page) review papers of psychology articles
- Participate in research alternative studies via the SONA system

You may complete any combination of research studies and review papers to earn your credit.

**RP POOL OPENS ON AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 AT 8 AM**

**RP POOL CLOSES ON DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 AT 5PM**

All study participation and review papers are to be completed and, in the case of papers, turned in by 5 pm on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

## SETTING UP A SONA SYSTEMS ACCOUNT

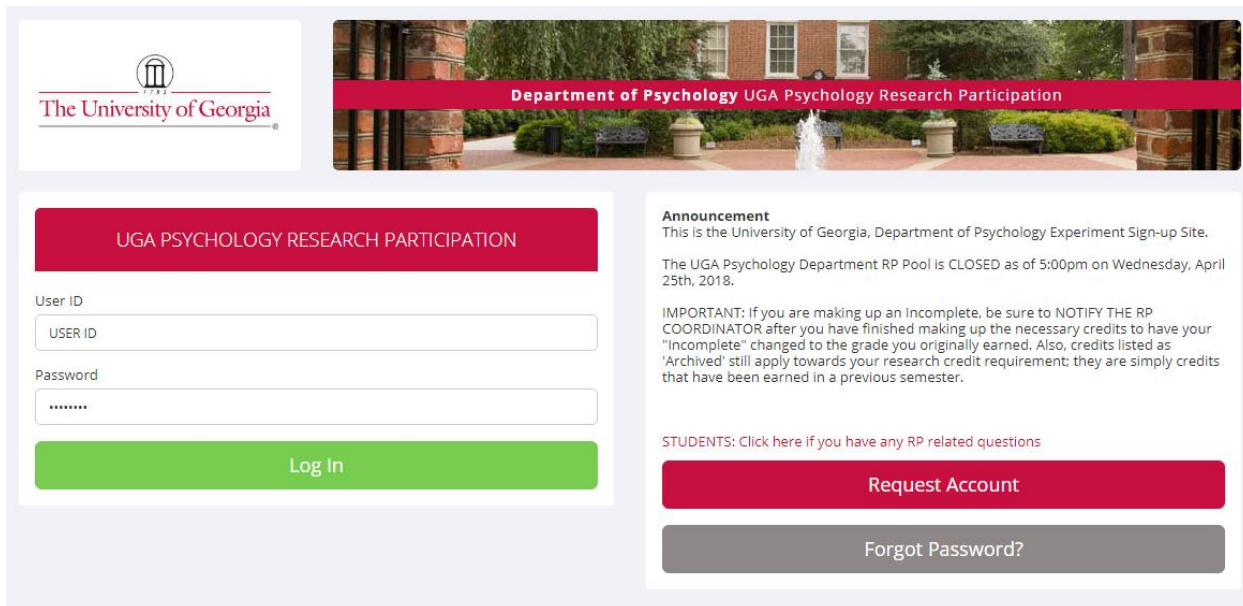
### EVERYONE NEEDS A SONA SYSTEMS ACCOUNT

On this website, you can sign up for lab studies, view your lab study appointments, and check the number of credits you have earned, including your paper reviews.

### STEPS

Go to <http://uga.sona-systems.com>

Make sure you are on the Psychology Department's Sona Systems website – they all look similar, so check on the front page for “UGA Psychology Research Participation” banners. This is what the first screen will look like:



The screenshot shows the website interface for UGA Psychology Research Participation. At the top left is the University of Georgia logo. A red banner across the top reads "Department of Psychology UGA Psychology Research Participation". Below the banner is a login form with a red header "UGA PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH PARTICIPATION". The form includes fields for "User ID" (containing "USER ID") and "Password" (containing "\*\*\*\*\*"), and a green "Log In" button. To the right of the login form is an "Announcement" section with text about a closed RP Pool and an "IMPORTANT" note regarding incomplete grades. Below the announcement is a link for "STUDENTS: Click here if you have any RP related questions", a red "Request Account" button, and a grey "Forgot Password?" button.

Click “Request Account” button to register

Use your UGA email as your User ID – note that Sona will add the “@uga.edu” for you, so don’t enter this information when entering your email address

For Student ID Number use the nine-digit portion of your UGA MyID that begins with 81x

Select the current course(s) you are registered in that requires this research requirement – if you are making up an Incomplete, select “Incompletes” as your course

Within a few hours you'll receive your login and password information via email – go back to the Sona Systems website and enter this information to log in. You have to do this step within three days after requesting an account or the requested account will be deleted.

### **RETURNING USERS**

Go to <http://uga.sona-systems.com>

Log in using your previous login information

Under “My Profile” click “Change Course”

## SIGNING UP FOR STUDIES

Go to <http://uga.sona-systems.com>

Log in using your Sona Systems account login information

Under “Study Sign-Up” click “View available studies”

There will be a list of all available studies. Explore the studies by clicking on the titles to read a detailed description of what the researcher is expecting from participants. There will also be information about how long the study will take and how many credits each study is worth.

Check the eligibility requirements to make sure you are eligible to participate in the study – just because you can sign up for the study on Sona does not guarantee eligibility. Researchers have the right to deny participation to interested students based on posted eligibility criteria.

If you are interested in participating and eligible to participate, click “Timeslots Available” then “View Timeslots for this Study” to see a list of available times the study is running.

Select the timeslot you would like to participate in and then click “Sign Up” to officially sign up for the study.

After completion of a study, the researcher will grant you credit on Sona Systems. You will be able to check your accumulated credits on your account any time. Researchers who are hosting online lab studies may set their own deadline as long as it is on or before the RP Pool closing date and time.

## WRITING REVIEW PAPERS

REMEMBER, EVEN IF YOU COMPLETE YOUR REQUIREMENT BY ONLY WRITING PAPERS, YOU NEED A SONA SYSTEMS ACCOUNT

The purpose of having the option to complete a review paper is for the people who do not want to participate in studies to complete some in-depth reading about psychological research beyond the coverage in a textbook.

A one-page, double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12-point font review paper is worth .5 research credits.

A two-page, double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12-point font review paper is worth 1 research credit.

NOTE: Title pages or headers do not count toward the length requirement.

Text that is after two pages will not count for more credit, BUT it is always better to err on the side of more writing than less. Papers that do not meet the length requirement will need to be resubmitted or be accepted for less credit.

## STEPS FOR COMPLETING REVIEW PAPERS

First, choose and read a relatively recently published article directly related to psychology research in some way. A recommendation is to use *Psychology Today* or *Scientific American* to find shorter articles that are based on psychology research – using one of these sources is not required, just recommended. You may not use Internet articles as your sources UNLESS the Internet article is the same article that appears in a published magazine or journal format (e.g., a *Psychology Today* article that can be found on its website).

The review paper's purpose is to demonstrate that you have read and understood the research article. The review paper should be partly a summary of the article and a description of what you got out of the article. You need to critically evaluate the material. Submissions of poor quality will not be accepted.

Then, write and submit a review paper that has the following components:

A copy of the article you read sent as a PDF attachment

A title page (which doesn't count toward page length) with the following:

Semester, Year, Psychology Course, and Professor of the Course for which you're submitting this work

Your Full Name and your 81x Number

Your UGA Email Address

Article information: Title, Author, Magazine or Journal, and Link

The proposed number of credits the paper is worth (.5 or 1 credit)

An example template document is available for download on the RP website as well as from your instructor.

**NOTE: Any paper that is entirely or partly copied word-for-word from a research article (or from another student) is not acceptable. This is plagiarism, which is a very serious academic offense. Your instructor may also be contacted to determine if any additional steps should be taken to deal with the problem.**

Papers may only be submitted via email.

Papers should be sent to [rp@uga.edu](mailto:rp@uga.edu) as word documents and have a separate attachment of the article you chose to summarize as a PDF.

**All papers must be submitted by 5:00 pm on the deadline specified above.** Papers turned in after the deadline will not be accepted.



## **INCOMPLETES**

IF YOU DO NOT EARN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RESEARCH CREDITS THAT ARE REQUIRED FOR YOUR COURSE BY THE CLOSING DATE OF THE RP POOL, THIS WILL RESULT IN **A REDUCTION OF YOUR FINAL GRADE FOR THE COURSE BY ONE LETTER.**