

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT RESEARCH PARTICIPANT POOL GUIDELINES

FALL 2021

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## RESEARCH PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT

For Fall 2021, you'll need to complete **6.5** 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
- Attend specified in-person or virtual talks (1 hour talk = 1 credit). These will be posted on Sona.
- Conduct a review of an empirical psychology article. One review = 1 credit. These will be posted on Sona.

You may complete any combination of research studies, talk attendance, and paper reviews to earn your credit. All research pool participation is to be completed by 5pm on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

The Psychology Department has returned to conducting in-person studies. As such, **only 2 out of the 6.5 required research credits can be earned through online surveys.** Participants are *not* required to complete any online studies – all research credits can be earned through in-person study participation.

## 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.**

**RP POOL OPENS ON August 24th, 2021, AT 8 AM**

**RP POOL CLOSSES ON December 7th, 2021, AT 5PM**

## LOGGING INTO YOUR SONA SYSTEMS ACCOUNT

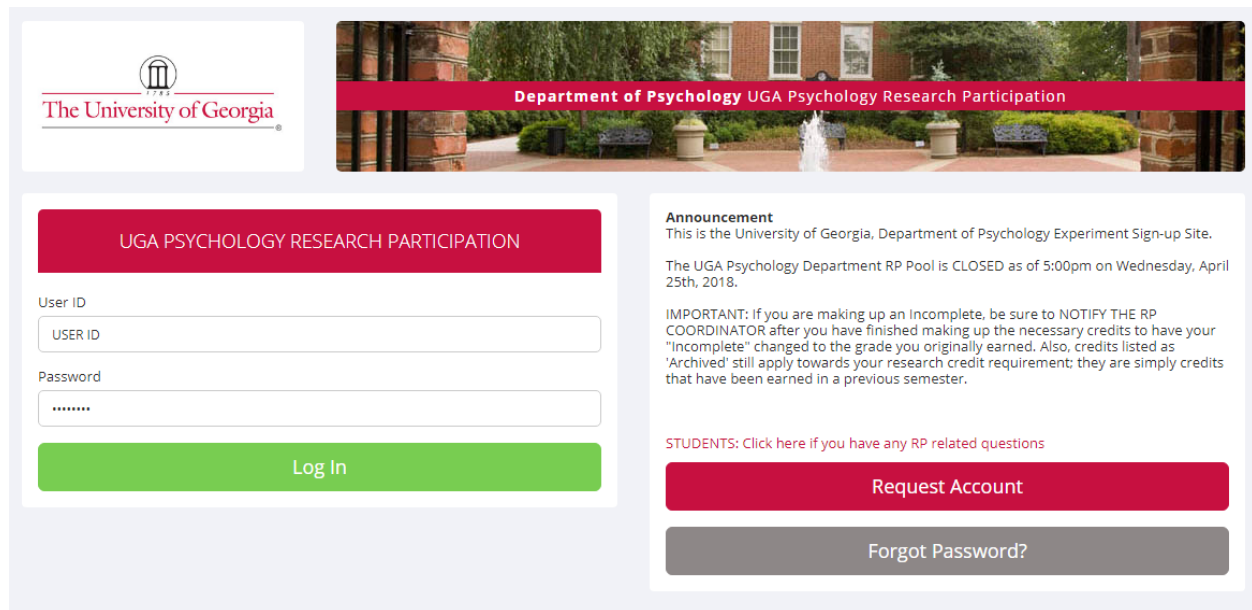
Your SONA SYSTEMS account will be created for you using your UGA e-mail address. You will receive log in information for your account on or around **August 24th**.

On this website, you can sign up for lab studies, find talks to attend, and find how to complete your research reviews. You can also view your lab study appointments and check the number of credits you have earned.

## TO ACCESS THE SITE

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 banner image of a campus scene features a red text overlay: "Department of Psychology UGA Psychology Research Participation". Below the banner is a login section with a red header "UGA PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH PARTICIPATION". It includes input fields for "User ID" (containing "USER ID") and "Password" (with masked characters), and a green "Log In" button. To the right is an "Announcement" section with text about a sign-up site closure on April 25th, 2018, and an important note about incomplete grades. Below the announcement is a link for students: "STUDENTS: Click here if you have any RP related questions". At the bottom right are two buttons: a red "Request Account" button and a grey "Forgot Password?" button.

Use the Log In information you receive on August 24th to log in. Please log in within 3 days of receiving this information to confirm your account.

Note that Sona will add the “@uga.edu” for you, so don’t enter this information when entering your email address

## 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 and talks. 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.

## RESEARCH ALTERNATIVE: ATTENDING PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH TALKS

Throughout the semester, options to attend academic talks in person or virtually may become available on Sona. You will sign up to attend these talks just as you would to complete a research study. Each talk posted will have a description, time, location, etc. At the talk, there will be a person recording attendance (named on Sona). In person, you will need to check in with that person when you arrive for the talk. For virtual talks, that person will check the attendance list of the talks at the beginning and end of talk. You are expected to stay both in person and online for the duration of the talk. You will receive credit for attending the talk through Sona, just as you would for attending a talk.

Please note that if you do not attend a talk for which you have signed up, you will receive an Unexcused Absence.

**NOTE: Professional behavior is expected at each talk. Please refer to faculty and graduate students in attendance for examples of the social norms of attendees. Rude or inappropriate behavior by talk attendees may prevent you from receiving credit for attendance.**

## RESEARCH ALTERNATIVE: WRITING REVIEW PAPERS

Article reviews are posted on Sona. The Sona description will instruct you to contact the RP Coordinator at [rp@uga.edu](mailto:rp@uga.edu) to get an invitation code that you will need to complete the article review.

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

These links on Sona will walk you through an entire empirical article, asking you read and reflect on the abstract, introduction, methods, results, and discussion. After each section, you will answer a few questions about the paper. Questions will be timed to guarantee you are completing the task thoroughly.

Inappropriate or incomplete responses will need to be resubmitted or be accepted for less credit. **NOTE: Any paper that is entirely or partly copied word-for-word from another source (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.**

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