



Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Introducing the 2024 Summer Research Program Cohort Aging & Neurological Diseases Track



Abbey Russell

Washington University in St. Louis

Hi! My name is Abbey Russell and I am a rising senior at WashU from Portland, Oregon. I am majoring in Psychological and Brain Sciences: Cognitive Neuroscience with minors in music and global health + environment. I am interested in memory research and am currently working in a lab focused on individual differences in learning/forgetting rates. Outside of school, I love playing music, reading, traveling, and dogs. I am looking forward to this summer and excited to contribute to the growing body of research on neurological diseases and aging along with my cohort and mentors!



Alex Rose

University of Missouri – Kansas City

My name is Alex and I am a Sophomore at the University of Missouri - Kansas City studying Biology with minors in Chemistry and German Studies and an emphasis in Premedical Studies. I am interested in research, language learning, and photography, and am excited to get into research at WashU this summer and see all there is to learn!



Claire Winger

Washington University in St. Louis

I am a Chemistry and Cognitive Neuroscience student at WASHU. When I'm not a woman in STEM, I love baking, crocheting, and traveling! After graduating, I hope to attend medical school to become a neurologist. I am particularly interested in neurodegenerative diseases, and am excited to learn more about these diseases, as well as learn more about research in this field, this summer!



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Dami Adesina

Saint Louis University

I am a rising junior at Saint Louis University studying neuroscience on the pre-med track. I am very passionate about healthcare, volunteering & discovering new ways to improve the lives of marginalized populations. By participating in this research program, I aim to broaden my understanding of the social & healthcare related needs of adults with stroke & other neurological disorders that accompany the aging process. This summer, I look forward to collaborating with my mentors & helping them promote the health of aging populations.



Ella Riley

University of Arkansas

My name is Ella Riley and I am finishing my sophomore year at the University of Arkansas. I am majoring in Psychology while considering minors in both Gender Studies & Sociology. On campus, I am a member of Tri Delta & our Greek Honors Society, Order of Omega. Through Tri Delta, I have had the opportunity to be a representative on our Conduct Committee & hold positions on our Philanthropy Team which raises money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. My hobbies include golfing, hiking, grabbing coffee with friends, & singing at my church! I have always wanted to make a difference in the lives of others. This summer, I am looking forward to working with other students who share my same passion and drive for research, and I can't wait to have some hands-on experience in the field.



Fernanda Bucio

Saint Louis University

From St. Louis, MO, I'm a motivated junior pursuing a major in Neuroscience, with a blend of interests that extend into the realms of business and language. I'm minoring in Business Technology & Management, alongside a double minor in French to enhance my communication skills. Aspiring to lead a research organization dedicated to improving women's mental health. I am looking forward to an enriching summer experience in the Center for Aging's Summer Research Program & eager to deepen my understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of Neuroscience. When I am not studying, I enjoy spending time with my friends, doing arts & crafts, and practicing all kinds of sports.



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Hanna Jachna

Washington University in St. Louis

My name is Hanna Jachna & I am a rising sophomore at WashU. I plan to major in biology on the neuroscience track. I am excited for the program as I have been interested in getting involved in neuroscience research. As a first-year college student, I've loved playing club lacrosse & participating in club running. In my free time I enjoy traveling to national parks, hiking, & camping. I am looking forward to learning about aging, neurological diseases, & research through the program this summer. I am especially passionate about Alzheimer's disease due to a family history. Overall, I am excited to contribute to the field and I hope the program will be transformative for me as a person.



Jeremy Cohn

Washington University in St. Louis

Hi, I am Jeremy! I'm a cognitive neuroscience major at WashU and will be entering my junior year in the fall. Some things I like to do in my free time are making electronic music, running and trying new restaurants. I'm currently studying event cognition in a lab on campus and am excited to get more experience in the brain sciences field and meet other students in the program!



Kaitlyn Halamicek

Westminster College

I am a rising junior at Westminster College in Fulton, MO where I am a double major in Psychology & Mathematical Data Science. I am originally from St. Louis & am very excited to participate in this program! I am specifically looking forward to learning more about this topic, gaining real-world experience, & making connections while addressing issues of aging and neurological diseases. I also enjoy being outside, cooking, attending concerts, & spending time with my family & friends.



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Kay DeKock

Lindenwood University

My name is Kay DeKock, and I am a psychology student attending Lindenwood University. I look forward to learning more about research and neurological diseases this summer and hope this opportunity can help steer me in the right direction for my career path.



Liam Rodman

Saint Louis University

My name is Liam and I am Undergraduate student and researcher dual majoring in Biomedical Engineering and Biology at Saint Louis University. Currently I am working at a biomedical engineering laboratory that focuses on using seeded bio-sponges & hydrogels to help avoid volumetric muscle loss. I am excited to get research experience from best-in-class scientists as well as from my peers! Outside of academics I enjoy movies, music, guitar, and philosophy.



Leah Noble

Lindenwood University

My name is Leah Noble and I am a rising senior at Lindenwood University. I am majoring in public health and minoring in dance, both of which I am very passionate about! My interests in public health and aging stem from the interactions between movement and cognition that I have witnessed in dancers of all ages. While studying abroad in the Netherlands last year, I got to dive deeper into the topics of ageism and ableism and their intersections with public health. Now that I'm stateside again, I am very excited to get to work on a project combining my new curiosities and technical skills in my community.



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Timaya Williams Webster University

Hi! My name is Timaya Williams, and I'm currently a junior at Webster University. My major is psychology, but I also have a minor in criminology. While I do enjoy psychology and have grown quite fond of it, my interest lies in the criminal justice system and politics. I will always be an advocate for black lives, and in my future career path, I hope to continue advocating for not just black lives but for all individuals. I enjoy nature and being adventurous. I love listening to music and obtaining new knowledge. The most exciting thing I'm looking forward to is being part of a clinical trial. Being a part of real research that can change people's lives. I look forward to getting to experience having a mentor and acquiring the insight that they have. I not only look forward to being a mentee but also to gain experience from diverse people.



Tyra Smith DePaul University

My name is Tyra Smith and I'm a junior at DePaul University. My major is cellular molecular Neuroscience and I've spent my whole life fascinated with the brain and how neurological processes translate to behavior. Outside of the classroom, I spend my time keeping my hands busy, either in the kitchen or crafting, crochet or paintings. I'm looking forward to seeing how the neuroscience content I've learned can be applied and studied in real labs and research.