Prospective Graduate Students

Thank you for your interest in pursuing a PhD as part of the Brain, Behavior, and Broader Learning (BaBL) Lab! Below prospective students can find answers to common questions about being a graduate student in the BaBL Lab.

Are you accepting graduate students this year?
Yes, I will be considering graduate student applications this cycle – interested applicants can apply through the Cognitive and Computational Sciences, Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience, or Developmental Science concertation in the Department of Psychology.

Are my research interests a good fit for the BaBL Lab?
In the BaBL Lab our research is centered around understanding the cognitive and neurobiological factors that drive individual differences in language and reading development, particularly for those who come from diverse and underserved populations. Within this area, we use multiple levels of analysis including behavioral, neuroimaging, and large-scale educational datasets to better understand variability in language and reading skill. If your interests fit within this area, then you could be a good candidate for the BaBL Lab!

Am I a good fit for the BaBL Lab?
Generally, applicants who are a "good fit" for the BaBL Lab tend to have:
- A passion for learning and an enthusiasm for the research process
- Prior research experience demonstrated through either the completion of an independent research project during one's undergraduate career or via a post-bac research position and/or significant contributions to scientific papers or posters
- Experience with statistical analysis of either behavioral and/or neuroimaging data and training with at least one statistical computing program such as R, SPSS, or Python

Will the BaBL Lab be a good fit for my career goals?
Graduate students in the BaBL Lab will gain experience that will prepare them for many different careers, including working as a professor or administrator at a research or teaching institution or working as a researcher or project manager in a medical center, a non-profit, a government agency, or in industry.

What is your mentoring style?
I do my best to adjust to the individual mentoring needs of each of my students. Through regular one-on-one meetings, I provide guidance, feedback, support, and a dedicated time to develop project ideas and work through roadblocks.

What do graduates students do in the BaBL Lab?
In addition to course work and other university and departmental requirements, graduate students in the BaBL Lab can expect to contribute to ongoing research in collaboration with other students, postdocs, and visiting scholars, to develop and lead their own independent research projects from start to finish, to present research during lab meetings, to supervise and mentor more junior lab members, to attend and present at scientific conferences, and to write manuscripts and grant applications.

Where can I find more information?
Information about applying to the Psychology Graduate program can be found here.