



MU Alcohol Research Training Summer School & Internship (MU-ARTSS)

June 1-August 1, 2026

Travel Days: June 1 & August 1

Orientation Days: June 2 & 3

University of Missouri's MU-ARTSS Program

The MU-ARTSS program is designed for undergraduate students interested in alcohol research and possible careers as alcohol researchers. The Department of Psychological Sciences at the University of Missouri (MU) in collaboration with the Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine hosts a diverse cadre of psychologists dedicated to research into the etiology and course of alcoholism and related disorders. MU-ARTSS professors represent a wide array of expertise in the science of alcohol and addiction including genetics, personality, psychopathology, social and affective neuroscience, and statistical modeling. Students participating in the MU-ARTSS program are part of the larger MU Summer Undergraduate Research Program which hosts approximately 100 students from universities and colleges across the nation every year. Students participating in the program develop a research abstract and create a poster to present at the Summer MU Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievements Forum. Our program was highlighted in the Observer. <https://www.psychologicalscience.org/observer/hands-on-training-in-alcohol-research>

MU-ARTSS is structured into a week-long didactic program providing an intensive introduction to alcohol research followed by an 8-week research internship in the lab of a MU-ARTSS professor. The program is set up to provide an independent learning experience and offer the intern an opportunity to get a sense of a 'grad school' working environment. The internship is full-time with a stipend of \$5,200 provided by the National Institutes of Health. In addition, room and board are also provided at no cost to participants. However, travel costs are not covered and are the responsibility of the intern. Interns will receive 1 hour of academic credit (course title: Special Problems in Psychology, Psych 2950) from the University of Missouri with tuition paid for by the program. MU-ARTSS aims to increase the pipeline of scientists among undergraduates who are interested in pursuing careers in alcohol research and is supported by a grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA, R25AA023687), part of the National Institutes of Health. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents.

The summer program will contain four components:

- 1) A week-long didactic program held in the Department of Psychological Sciences from June 3–June 10, 2026.
- 2) At the conclusion of the didactic program, MU-ARTSS students will be placed in internships, from June 11-July 31, 2026, in the laboratories of addiction researchers housed in the Department of Psychological Sciences at MU.
- 3) Weekly meetings with the MU-ARTSS group are held to update on the status of the project, professional development discussions, informal discussions on research topics, viewings and subsequent discussions of classic movies that portray the myriad of ways alcohol and other substances affect people's lives and a Journal Club.
- 4) Structured activities as part of MU Summer Undergraduate Research Program on campus, including seminars, training in the responsible conduct of research, and professional development.

MU-ARTSS Professors at the University of Missouri

MU-ARTSS Co-Directors: Ian Gizer, PhD, Denis McCarthy, PhD, Roberto Cofresí--Bonilla, PhD	
Clint Davis-Stober, PhD	Dennis Miller, PhD
Lisa Flores, PhD	Mary Beth Miller, PhD
Brett Froeliger, PhD	Samantha Portis, PhD
Ashley Helle, PhD	Ken Sher, PhD
John Kerns, PhD	Timothy Trull, PhD
Sean Lane, PhD	Andera Wyckoff, PhD

Summer Research Internships: June 3-July 31, 2026

At the conclusion of the week-long didactic program, MU-ARTSS students will be placed in experiential learning internships in the laboratories of researchers at the University of Missouri. Depending upon individual interests, students will be assigned to labs that focus on one or more of the following areas: human genetics; behavioral psychiatric and genetic epidemiology; neurophysiology; and statistical modeling. MU-ARTSS interns will work alongside other interns, graduate students, postdocs and faculty members to gain experience in contemporary alcohol research which will provide valuable experiences in preparation for graduate study. Research projects may involve administration of alcohol to humans and work environments may vary from the traditional wet lab to computer labs. This is a full-time experience and participants are strongly discouraged from taking on additional commitments such as summer school or part-time work as the commitment will be 40 hours per week. Information on the research labs and a list of past posters can be found on our website: [research labs](#) and [past poster titles](#)

Eligibility

The program seeks applicants who demonstrate a strong interest in science and medicine. Applicants ideally must have completed 2 years of undergraduate work (exceptions may be made), with a B average or better in all coursework and who are US citizens or permanent residents. It is desirable for students to have completed at least 2 courses (3 semester credit equivalents) in each of the following areas: a) behavioral or social sciences, b) biological sciences, and c) physical sciences/mathematics. Acceptance into MU-ARTSS will be made on the basis of academic performance, overall breadth and depth of academic coursework to date, and recommendations. Seven students will be selected to participate. Individuals who will have earned a baccalaureate degree by the summer of 2026 are not eligible to apply. **Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents**

To Apply

Applicants MUST apply through our website: <https://psychology.missouri.edu/research/mu-artss>

- 1) Complete our application form
- 2) Request and have two MU-ARTSS Student Rating Forms, submitted from individuals familiar with the academic potential and performance of the applicant. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTACTING YOUR RATERS AND PROVIDING THEM WITH THE LINK TO THE FORM FOR THEM TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT.**
- 3) Upload an unofficial academic transcript from currently enrolled institution **OR** send to MUARTSS@missouri.edu **OR** the address listed below.
- 4) Upload a resume with current address and email, phone number, computer skills, and research software with which you are familiar. Please also indicate the type of research you are interested in exploring.

Deadlines

Eligible applications must be received by 6:00 a.m. Monday **February 16, 2026**. Applicants will be notified of decisions by April 1, 2026.

Contact Information:

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