

Predocctoral Research Position in Behavioral Science of Ethics and Decision-Making

Professors Michelle Meyer and Christopher Chabris are seeking an outstanding researcher for a position as a predoctoral fellow (a.k.a. research assistant) in the Department of Bioethics and Decision Sciences at Geisinger. The successful candidate will assist members of the Meyer-Chabris Lab in conducting grant-funded behavioral science research on decision-making within the contexts of health, science, technology, ethics, and policy. Co-authorship of publications is expected with intellectual contributions to projects. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone whose future plans include graduate school in any field related to behavioral science or health.

Research topics the predoctoral fellow may work on include experiment aversion (see <https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/116/22/10723.full.pdf> and <https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/117/32/18948.full.pdf>) and other attitudes about science and technology, public understanding of genetic influences on behavior and health (see <https://www.science.org/doi/abs/10.1126/science.ade1083>), and patient and clinician judgments and decision-making about unproven medical interventions.

The predoctoral fellow will report to Professors Meyer and Chabris and will interact closely with postdoctoral researchers in the lab and also with other researchers across disciplines at Geisinger. The fellow will assist in planning and carrying out web-based experimental surveys and behavioral field studies, and in analyzing general patterns of responses as well as individual differences. They will conduct tasks such as preparing IRB and other research ethics applications; recruiting study participants; collecting, processing, coding, entering, and managing data; reviewing scientific literature; helping to prepare presentations, manuscripts, and grant applications; and other functions in the lab group. We are particularly interested in candidates with strong statistical and/or computational skills.

Required qualifications:

- B.A. or B.S. degree (completed by start of employment) in psychology or another social science, computer science, or any other relevant discipline
- Coursework in behavioral science research methods and statistics

In addition to the required qualifications listed above, the successful candidate will likely possess at least some of the following:

- Experience with statistical software (preferably R, others acceptable)
- Scientific publications or conference posters/presentations
- Experience conducting literature reviews
- Experience in interdisciplinary research, working in collaborative teams, and supervising undergraduate student research assistants
- Experience with programming, preferably including web programming
- Experience with survey research and survey software (e.g., Qualtrics, Amazon Mechanical Turk, Prolific, REDCap)
- Experience cleaning and coding data
- Experience drafting IRB applications and research protocols

Duration: This is a one-year position with the expectation of renewal for additional years conditional on performance and funding.

Start date: ASAP.

Location: On-site in Danville, PA or remote elsewhere in the U.S.

Applications should be sent to RAmeyerchabrislab@gmail.com. With your application, please include: a brief cover letter explaining your interest in the position in light of your past experience and your professional goals; your C.V./résumé; one or two writing samples (preferably scientific writing); and the names, titles, and contact information for at least two references. Questions about the position may be sent to the same email address. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Geisinger is a large, integrated health services organization that, through its 10 hospital campuses, serves more than 3 million residents throughout central and northeastern Pennsylvania. As a learning health system, Geisinger integrates research into all aspects of medicine and healthcare delivery. Research at Geisinger benefits from the system's 25 years of electronic health records, its clinical data warehouse, and its rapidly growing biobank (more than 330,000 patient-participants consented for genetic sequencing, with over 170,000 exomes sequenced to date). Geisinger's location in Danville, PA, is within a three-hour drive of New York City, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC and about one hour east of Pennsylvania State University.

Professor Meyer: <http://www.michellenmeyer.com>

Professor Chabris: <http://www.chabris.com>

Department of Bioethics and Decision Sciences:

<https://www.geisinger.edu/research/departments-and-centers/bioethics-and-decision-sciences>