Summer CAMP
(Cambridge Access to Mental Health and Psychology)

For the first time, researchers in psychiatry and psychology at the University of Cambridge are hosting a virtual summer programme. We recognize that certain groups of students are underrepresented in postgraduate study and academic careers, especially those from ethnic minority backgrounds or lower socioeconomic status, and we are taking active steps to address this inequality. Summer CAMP is an opportunity for students with a passion for mental health and psychology to develop necessary skills for postgraduate-level research and build connections within academia.

Summer CAMP is a free, entirely online programme running from September 6-17th, 2021

Applications are due on Friday June 25th, 2021
Submitted to: Summer_CAMP@medschl.cam.ac.uk
Website: https://www.psychiatry.cam.ac.uk/students/prospective/summer-camp/

The Summer CAMP Experience

A critical research skill is knowing how to turn an academic interest into a concrete research question with a tangible plan to answer it. CAMP Scholars will be paired with a Cambridge postgraduate researcher who will provide one-on-one supervision to help develop this skill.

Over the course of the two-week programme, Scholars will write a research proposal (1200 word limit) on a topic of their choice which aligns with their postgraduate supervisor’s work*. They will arrange four one-hour supervision meetings to come up with a realistic proposal for a masters-level research project. Supervisors will provide guidance on structuring the proposal, reading and citing research articles, writing in an academic style, and other necessary skills.

On the final day, Scholars will each give a short oral presentation on their proposal. After the programme, supervisors will provide feedback on the written proposal and presentation.
The programme will also include:

- Virtual social for Scholars and supervisors to meet
- Q&A panel on postgraduate student life
- Session on postgraduate applications and funding
- Talks from Cambridge faculty
- Opportunity to attend a Cambridge research group meeting

*Please note that Scholars will not be conducting any research during the programme or carrying out their proposed project with their supervisor*

**What is a research proposal?**

A research proposal is a document which outlines what you would like to research and how you intend to research it. It includes a background section summarising what is already known about your topic and the central aims of your study; a methods section detailing how you will collect and analyse data; and a conclusion discussing why your proposed work is important.

Postgraduate psychology courses often require a research proposal as part of their application, and for PhD programmes, it is arguable the most important document you will submit. It gives you, as the applicant, the opportunity to demonstrate that you have the aptitude for postgraduate-level research, can concisely communicate complex ideas, and that your interests are a good fit for the supervisor to whom you are applying.

However, undergraduate students are not typically taught how to write a research proposal, which can make the postgraduate applications process daunting. We hope that Summer CAMP will provide our Scholars with the practical knowledge and confidence to pursue academic research in mental health and psychology.

**Eligibility**

Summer CAMP is open to undergraduate students at Brunel University London who are interested in pursuing research careers or postgraduate study in mental health or psychology. The programme is not restricted to students studying psychology.

Applicants must have attended a non-selective state school and meet at least one of the following eligibility criteria:

- Eligible for free school meals
- From an ethnic minority background
- Among the first generation in your family to attend university
- Have been, or currently are, in care
- Young carer
- Education has been affected by illness or disability
Application process

Please complete and submit the Summer CAMP application by **Friday June 25th 2021**

Short-listed applicants will be invited to an informal online interview shortly thereafter, where you will have the chance to discuss your research interests with potential supervisors.

CAMP Scholars will be notified of their acceptance to the programme by July 31st 2021

Please contact us at [Summer_CAMP@medscl.cam.ac.uk](mailto:Summer_CAMP@medscl.cam.ac.uk) with any questions

We look forward to receiving your application!