Improving Biology Education: Constructing and Evaluating Biology Tests

Are you a biology major interested in making your experience better? Do you wonder why particular topics in biology seem especially difficult? Are you looking for a research project that relates to what you have been learning?

Join the Biology Education Research Lab and begin exploring how we can improve the way we teach undergraduate biology! Dr. Sara Brownell and Dr. Christian Wright are looking for an undergraduate student to assist in a year-long project aimed at developing and validating tests to help improve our understanding of what biology students understand as they progress through a biology curriculum.

We are looking for a student that is excited about research as well as biology education and would like to help improve the learning experiences of all students in biology. Student responsibilities will include assisting in conducting interviews, processing and analyzing data, and test development and evaluation. You may also have the opportunity to design and lead a study of your own and you can gain hands on experience in other types of biology education research if you are interested. This study could become part of an honors or SOLUR research project.

Applicants should have a major in any of the degrees offered by the School of Life Sciences. Applicants will be trained in all necessary techniques associated with biology education research by the members of the lab, thus no previous experience in education research is required. Students should expect to work a minimum of 10 hours per week on the project, which includes completing necessary readings, collecting and processing data, and attending weekly lab meetings. Applicants of all genders, races, socioeconomic status, etc. are encouraged to apply.

If you are interested in this position, please send a resume and a one page statement about your background and long-term research goals by email to:

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