



2027 Summer Research Project Template

Help us present your project in a way that connects with the right students. Thoughtful, engaging descriptions tend to attract stronger and more suitable applications. Thank you for putting a project forward - these programs rely on your contribution, and we couldn't do it without you.

Section	Description
Project title	An exploration of incel-type beliefs – does virginity and sexual success metrics matter?
Hours & delivery	Working on this project can be on-campus, hybrid, or online and up to 36 hours per week. You are welcome to work days/hours that suit you, with the only stipulation being you are available to meet with me at a time we agree upon once per week (most likely on Monday or Tuesday).
About the project (150–250 words)	It is widely assumed that a lack of sexual success plays a significant role in the adherence to/endorsement of beliefs that are associated with the online “incel” (i.e., involuntary celibate) community. However, while incels have received increasing attention in the last few years, no quantifiable measure of incel-type beliefs currently exists. The project is a secondary analysis of survey data to measure the beliefs that are typically associated with members of the online incel community. The main aim of the project is to determine whether higher levels of these types of beliefs are seen in survey respondents who endorse higher levels of characteristics that we would typically assume to be associated with low levels of success in dating, such as virginity status, recency of sexual activity, and perceptions of mate value.
What you'll do (100–150 words)	You will familiarise yourself with the existing literature and theory, and contribute to the process of analysing the data and reporting results.
What you'll learn (100–150 words)	You will learn about a topic of growing relevance, engage with the literature in a critical way, and gain experience in data analysis and reporting results.
Project outcomes (75–125 words)	The primary goal for students on this project is to develop and demonstrate critical analysis skills and domain knowledge. Students will achieve this by: • Team Engagement: Active participation in project discussions and written contributions. • Data Analysis: Contributing to analytical planning and conducting supervised data analyses. • Manuscript Preparation: Participating in write-up discussions and collaboratively drafting components of the manuscript under supervision.
Who should apply? (75–125 words)	This project would be well-suited to someone with an interest in online spaces and sexism, social psychology, and measurement and statistics.
Team & supervision (75–125 words)	You will be working under the supervision of Dr Beth O'Gorman and Professor Fiona Barlow.
Additional opportunities (optional)	It is reasonable to expect that this project will be submitted for publication, and the successful applicant will have the opportunity to contribute to the manuscript. This can be further discussed and formally agreed upon at the commencement of the program. You will also have the opportunity to attend meetings of the broader research group.



**Additional
requirements**
(if applicable)

(Yes/No), students (may/may not) contact the supervisor before applying.

Contact

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