

Dr. Manjari Murali

Assistant Professor, Instructional Faculty

Crean College of Health and Behavioral Sciences; Health Sciences

Office Location: Crean Hall 207

Office Hours: (Sp 22) Mondays 2:00pm–5:00pm, and Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:30pm–4:00pm

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Education: Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, Bachelor of Science
Brown University, Ph.D.

Biography

Dr. Murali joined Crean College of Health and Behavioral Sciences full-time as an Instructional Assistant Professor in 2019. Prior to starting in her current position, she worked as an adjunct faculty member for three years at various institutions of higher education in Orange County, CA. Between 2013–2014, she worked for the Alzheimer's Association, a Health Non-Profit Organization, both in Orange County, CA and in Rhode Island. Additionally, she served as the Interim Executive Coordinator of the Neuroscience Graduate Program at the University of Rhode Island in 2012 during the program's inception.

Teaching and Research Interests:

Dr. Murali's main focus is on teaching and advising students in the Health Sciences and Neuroscience programs. She also teaches the Principles of Medical Science (Pathophysiology) course for Chapman's Physician Assistant Program every Spring trimester. Her current research involves identifying risk factors for Alzheimer's disease; and investigating the benefits of Mindfulness practices on brain health. She has given podcast interviews on the benefits of meditation on brain health and mental resilience. Additionally, she has been invited to conduct workshops on mindfulness and well-being.

In the past, Dr. Murali has conducted research in the fields of Synaptic Plasticity (the physiological mechanism of learning and memory), and Alzheimer's disease. For her dissertation research at Brown University, she investigated the effects of acute nicotine administration on synaptic plasticity in the Brain Reward Circuit. She has authored a number of popular science articles on Alzheimer's disease. She interned at the Alzheimer's disease and Memory Disorders Center at Rhode Island Hospital in 2013, where she assisted staff members who conducted clinical trials on patients with Alzheimer's disease. Additionally, between 2003–2004 she worked on a research study at the University of Rhode Island studying the effects of the heavy metal lead (Pb) on the proteolytic breakdown of the Amyloid Precursor Protein implicated in Alzheimer's disease.

Courses Taught

HSCI 366 Human Physiology Part B

HSCI 366L Human Physiology Part B Laboratory

NEUR 495 Neuroscience Capstone

PAS 500 Principles of Medical Science

AHP 345 Pathophysiology: Diet, Disease and Exercise

HSCI 210L Human Anatomy Laboratory

HSCI 112 Human Physiology