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## Non-cognitive Predictors of Students' Achievement

Adam Helton

*Missouri University of Science and Technology*

Rob Huerta

*Missouri University of Science and Technology*

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## Adam Helton

Joint project with Rob Huerta

Department: Psychology  
Major: Psychology, Economics  
Faculty Advisor(s): Dr. James Martin  
Advisor's Department: Psychology  
  
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### Non-cognitive Predictors of Students' Achievement

The purpose of this study was to examine the predictive value of ACT scores and personality characteristics as they pertain to college GPA and quiz scores on three upper level psychology classes. Male and female college students (N=82) from three upper level psychology classes at the University of Missouri-Rolla were asked to fill out a questionnaire surveying, among other demographic information, ACT score and college GPA, and a personality survey to measure levels of the Big Five personality traits. Our results support our hypothesis that ACT scores will be positively correlated with GPA and quiz performance, as well as our hypotheses that the personality traits Conscientiousness is positively correlated with college GPA and quiz performance and that Neuroticism is negatively correlated with college GPA and quiz performance.

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*Adam Helton is a sophomore at UMR. He grew up in a small town in central Illinois and now lives in Savoy, IL. He plays offensive line for the varsity football team at UMR. Adam is involved in Christian Campus Fellowship and intramural sports. He is the third of four children. His older sister, Kristi, and her husband have three boys, Simeon, Elias and Isaiah and live in Normal, IL. His older brother Ben lives in St. Louis and his younger sister Caroline is a senior in high school this year and is planning on enrolling at Lincoln Christian College in the fall.*