

Post Doctoral Research Assistant - School of Psychology and Humanities - Grade F

Job Description

To support ongoing research of Dr Philipp Ruhnau in the School of Psychology. The main research interests include the development of new non-invasive brains stimulation (NIBS) approaches. The post holder will assist in the development and conduct of high-quality research, preparation of experiments within the Electroencephalography (EEG) and brain stimulation laboratories, analysis of EEG signals and behavioural responses and the production of high-quality journal articles and conference presentations under the direction of Dr Philipp Ruhnau.

Duties

1. To contribute to research design, data collection, analysis, and research report production (peer reviewed journal articles) related to auditory processing and neural processing delays using EEG and NIBS.
2. To provide excellent research outputs by publishing high-quality research in top-tier, peer-reviewed cognition and neuroscience journals.
3. To promote the scholarly activities of the School by presenting and discussing research within School-based and other research workshops, seminars and events.
4. To ensure compliance with research and clinical governance standards (e.g., the British Psychological Society's Ethical Guidelines and the Universities UK's Concordat to support research integrity).
5. To attract, support and contribute to the supervision of novice research staff (e.g, Undergraduate Research Interns, Graduate Research Interns, PhD students and Research Assistants), where appropriate.
6. To contribute to the development of interdisciplinary research and scholarship across the School.
7. Undertake other duties appropriate to the post.

Person Specification

Knowledge, Skills, and Behaviours (Essential)

- Evidence of independent research in the area of cognitive/experimental psychology or cognitive neuroscience (Application/Interview).
- A track-record of empirical papers published or submitted to leading international journals (Application/Interview).
- Experience collecting M/EEG data with high-density systems (>60 channels) (Application/Interview).
- Experience with experimental protocols studying human perception and cognition, ideally human auditory cognition (Application/Interview).
- Experience of analysing behavioural or M/EEG data using linear mixed effects models or cluster-based permutation methods (Application/Interview).

- A PhD (or one that is close to completion) in Cognitive Psychology, Experimental Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, or a related field (Application).
- Ability to work independently, manage own workload and take responsibility for the efficient completion of tasks (Application/Interview).
- Ability to contribute to publications and reports through excellent academic research writing skills (Application/Interview).
- Strong methodological skills evidenced by experience of M/EEG data collection and analysis (e.g., source analysis, connectivity analysis, integration with other methods, deconvolution) (Application/Interview).
- Good programming skills for experiment presentation and data analysis with, for instance, Matlab, Psychophysics toolbox, Psycho-Py, Python, R (Application).
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to liaise with academics and external collaborators (Application/Interview).
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team (Application/Interview).
- Excellent IT skills (MS Word, PowerPoint, Excel) (Application/Interview).
- High level of self-motivation and confidence (Interview).
- Willingness to promote and enhance the research profile in the School (Application/Interview).
- An understanding of and demonstrable commitment to the University's Values of Achieving Together, Being Proud, Creating Opportunity and Supporting All, as a framework for decisions, actions and behaviours (Application/Interview).

Knowledge, Skills, and Behaviours (Desirable)

- Experience with multiple research methods to study human cognition, for instance, M/EEG, fMRI, eye tracking, NIBS, peripheral physiology, behavioural methods (Application/Interview).
- Experience with multimodal data collection (e.g., NIBS-EEG, eye tracking -EEG co-registration) (Application/Interview).
- Experience of peer review of research papers and/or grant proposals (Application).
- Willingness to contribute to the research training of other staff (Interview).
- Experience in the area of human perception and cognitive processing more broadly (Application/Interview).
- Experience conducting human experimental research using quantitative methods (Application/Interview).