



PhD Position on The Neuronal Mechanisms of Autosuggestion

The **Science Campus Magdeburg** is a unique and world-leading research campus in the heart of Magdeburg, Germany, that conducts multi-disciplinary, cutting-edge research by uniquely combining knowledge of the Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg and non-University Research Centers such as the German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE, part of Helmholtz Society) and the Leibniz Institute for Neurobiology (LIN). The Science Campus Magdeburg offers state-of-the-art research facilities, including several 3 Tesla and one 7 Tesla MRI scanner, EEG and MEG facilities, multiple platforms for student interaction, and a vibrant, international research community.

Here, we offer one PhD position (stipend-based, 3 years) in a collaborative research project between the Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg (Department of Psychology), and the DZNE Magdeburg.

The key aims of the PhD project “**The Neuronal Mechanisms of Autosuggestion**” are **(i)** to develop a behavioral paradigm that can induce autosuggestion of bodily (tactile) feelings, **(ii)** to understand fundamental aspects of controlling bodily feelings, and **(ii)** to investigate the neuronal mechanisms underlying autosuggestion using machine learning and 7 Tesla fMRI. **In this project, we will investigate which neuronal micro-circuits underlie our ability to control our own sensations both in the lab and in everyday life.**

What we offer

- **Young, interdisciplinary & international team**
- **Flat hierarchies & high self-dependence**
- **State-of-the-art research facilities, including 7 T MRI scanner**
- **Methodological support by leading experts**
- **No obligation to teach (but possible if desired)**

- **Possibility to present data at several national and international conferences.**

Qualities we are looking for

We are looking for a highly motivated student with a strong interest in cognitive neuroscience, and a high degree of scientific creativity, passion, and rigor. Suitable candidates should have an M.Sc. degree in psychology, cognitive psychology, biology, neuroscience, or a related field.

Experience in programming (matlab, R) and high proficiency in spoken and written English are mandatory. Experience in either fMRI, EEG analyses or psychophysics is desirable, but it is not a requirement.

Terms & conditions

The position is for three years. A preferable starting date is July 2019, subject to negotiation. The position will remain open until filled. This is a stipend-based PhD position (i.e., basic salary, 15,000 - Euros/year), funded by the Bial Foundation.

How to apply

The application should include the following documents (in a single PDF-file):

- 1) Cover letter (max 2 pages) providing a brief description of current research work and achievements, if applicable, and research interests and motivation;
- 2) Curriculum vitae, including a list of publications and conference abstracts;
- 3) Contact details of two professors or lecturers who can provide a letter of reference.

The application deadline is May 15th 2019. Please email this PDF file to **both Prof. Dr. Elena Azanon** (elena.azanon@ovgu.de), and **Dr. Esther Kuehn** (esther.kuehn@dzne.de), by that deadline.

Should you require any further information, please visit our websites or contact **Prof. Dr. Elena Azanon** (<http://www.ipsy.ovgu.de/allqpsych-path-980,1404,1278-p-1408.html>) or **Dr. Esther Kuehn** (www.estherkuehn-science.org).