Research Assistant – Synesthesia Studies

Role Description

GRADE
Grade 4

LOCATION
Sighthill Campus

LINE MANAGER
Dr Nikos Gkekas

Role Summary

Working in the Psychology Labs at Edinburgh Napier University, the successful candidate will play an integral role in externally funded research by the British Academy, the Leverhulme Trust, and the Carnegie Trust of the Universities of Scotland investigating aspects of multisensory perception.

Under the supervision of Dr Nikos Gkekas and Dr Duncan Carmichael, the post holder will help to set up and run a series of perceptual experiments investigating visual statistical learning and colour adaptation, recruit participants to the study, collect and manage data, and assist with analysis and interpretation of results.

In conjunction with psychophysical experiments, the post holder will also make use of functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) at the University's lab.

Line Management Responsibility for:

This role does not have any line management responsibilities currently.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research and Scholarship

- Recruitment of participants.
- Contribute to the design and running of perceptual experiments.
- Assist with the collection and management of experimental data.
- Assist with data analysis and interpretation of results.
- Undertake other appropriate assignments as necessary in consultation with the line manager.

Communication

- Contribute to the production of research reports and publications.

Teamwork

- Actively participate as a member of a research team.
- Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.

Initiative, problem-solving and decision-making

- Make use of standard research techniques and methods.
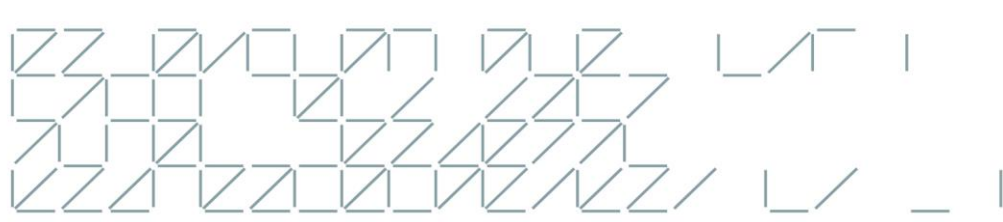
Planning and managing resources

- Plan own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed project.
- Be responsible for ensuring that the information and records processed (received, created, used, stored, destroyed) on behalf of the University are managed in compliance with ALL applicable legislation, codes and policies e.g. Data Protection, Information Security and Records Management.

Expertise

- Possess sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline (for example with an undergraduate or Master's degree) and be developing further skills in and knowledge of research methods and techniques.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE

Education / Qualifications

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
• Undergraduate degree in Psychology or a related field.	✔	
• Postgraduate degree in Psychology or a related field.		✔

Skills / Experience

• Experience of managing cognitive psychology experiments and collecting data independently	✔	
• Experience of participant recruitment.	✔	
• Experience of data management.	✔	
• Experience of quantitative statistical design and analysis.	✔	
• Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including presentation and report writing skills.	✔	
• Excellent organisation, prioritisation, and time management skills, with flexible approach to working.	✔	
• Strong attention to detail.	✔	
• Ability to work independently and as a part of a team.	✔	
• Experience of running visual experiments using software such as Psychtoolbox (MATLAB) or PsychoPy (Python).		✔
• Experience of collecting data using functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (fNIRS).		✔