

**Hier
entsteht
Zukunft!**



Foto: Oliver Dietze



Saarland University is a campus university that is internationally recognized for its strong research programmes. Fostering young academic talent and creating ideal conditions for teaching and research are a core part of the university's mission. As part of the University of the Greater Region, Saarland University enables students and staff to share and exchange knowledge and ideas between disciplines, between universities, and across borders. With over 17,000 national and international students, studying more than a hundred different academic disciplines, Saarland University is a diverse and dynamic learning environment.

The Department of Cognitive and Experimental Psychology is inviting applications for the following position commencing **in spring 2022 (earliest start date: February 1st; latest start date: April 15th)**

Academic research assistant/Doctoral researcher (m/f/x)

Reference number W2013, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale, pay grade: E TV-L13, 3 years, employment: 75 % of standard working time.

Project description:

The research assistant / doctoral researcher will work in a project funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) examining attention towards emotional stimuli. Specifically, the project will investigate how a social processing mode modulates the occurrence of attentional bias towards emotional faces (social-processing hypothesis). A series of experiments will uncover which basic attentional processes are affected by the activation of a social processing mode. Does the social processing mode lead to a preferred initial allocation of attention towards emotional faces? Or does the social processing mode cause a delayed disengagement of attention from emotional faces? Does the social processing mode – apart from biases in spatial attention – also affect biases in temporal attention towards emotional faces? Moreover, the project will investigate whether the social processing mode affects attentional biases towards different emotional expressions in a similar manner.

The project is located at the intersection of cognitive and social psychology. Research questions will be examined in behavioural, eye-tracking, and EEG experiments. Throughout the three-year project, the research assistant / doctoral researcher will acquire and develop research skills in this field while learning to conduct and analyse behavioural, eye-tracking, and EEG data. The research assistant will have the option to complete his PhD in this project, jointly supervised by Dr. Benedikt Wirth and Prof. Dr. Dirk Wentura.

Job requirements and responsibilities:

- Conducting experiments as laid out in the project proposal (e.g., literature research, designing, conducting, and analysing experiments) in close collaboration with Dr. Benedikt Wirth and Prof. Dr. Dirk Wentura
- Publication of project results and findings in international peer-reviewed journals under the supervision of Dr. Benedikt Wirth and Prof. Dr. Dirk Wentura
- Presentation of results at national and international conferences
- Supervision of student research assistants

Your academic qualifications:

- Completed university studies (M.Sc.) in Psychology or related fields, such as Cognitive (Neuro)science

The research assistant will also be expected to:

- Have a strong interest in research questions from the field of emotion and attention research
- Have a strong interest in experimental research
- Have strong research skills
- Have excellent English skills (German not mandatory)
- Be experienced in statistical data analysis (ideally using R)
- (Ideally) Be experienced in programming experimental routines (using Eprime, Matlab, or Psychopy)

What we can offer you:

- A flexible work schedule allowing you to balance work and family
- A broad range of further education and professional development programmes
- An occupational health management model with numerous attractive options, such as our university sports programme
- Supplementary pension scheme (RZVK)
- Discounted tickets on local public transport services ('Jobticket')

We look forward to receiving your application. **Please send your application via email (as one PDF document) to: Dr. Benedikt Wirth (benedikt.wirth@uni-saarland.de).** The deadline for submitting an application is **January 15th 2022**. Also, feel free to contact Dr. Benedikt Wirth in case you have any questions about the project or the position.

The Saarland University is an equal opportunities employer. In accordance with its policy of increasing the proportion of women in this type of employment, the University actively encourages applications from women. Women are given preference in cases of equal suitability, ability and professional performance.

Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preferential consideration in the event of equal suitability. Part-time employment is generally possible.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity.

Pay grade classification is based on the particular details of the position held and the extent to which the applicant meets the requirements of the pay grade within the TV-L salary scale.

Unfortunately, costs for attending an interview at Saarland University cannot be reimbursed in principle.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University you will be transmitting personal data. [Please refer to our privacy notice for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the Datenschutz-Grundverordnung.](#) By submitting your application you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.