

Inhoud

1. Imposter phenomenon, performance, intelligence	
- Prof. Dr. Jasmine Vergauwe	2
2. Ageing in place as a matter of rights	
- Prof. Dr. Liesbeth De Donder	5
3. Electrophysiological correlates and interventions for inhibition-related psychopathology // Use of NIBS	
- Prof. Dr. Kris Baetens	8
4. Participatory Arts for Climate (Education)	
- Prof. dr. Elvira Crois & prof. dr. Free De Backer	11
5. Ageing well with disabilities in the right place	
- Dr. Sofie Van Regenmortel	14
6. Profiel, noden en behoeften van Jeugdwerk(ers) / Profiling youth work(ers)	
- Prof. Dr. Pieter Meurs	17
7. Queer Ageing in Community in Brussels, Vienna, and Manchester	
- Prof. Dr. An-Sofie Smetcoren	20
8. Urban accessibility research for wheelchair users	
- Prof. Dr. Nico De Witte and Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Jacquet	23
9. Strengthening youth care by research	
- Prof. Dr. Johan vanderfaeilie	26
10. Alternative housing options for later life: an analysis of policy document	
- Prof. Dr. An-Sofie Smetcoren	29
11. Personality types and individual differences in information processing in older adults	
- Prof Dr. Gina Rossi, Prof. Dr. Eva Dierckx (VUB); Prof. Dr. Rudi De Raedt (UGent)	32
12. The social function of the cerebellum	
- Prof. dr. Frank Van Overwalle	36
13. Animal research on the neural processes that control behavior	
- prof. dr. Rudi D'Hooge	39

1. Imposter phenomenon, performance, intelligence - Prof. Dr. Jasmine Vergauwe

Research group and line of research:

WOPs – Imposter phenomenon

Title:

Imposter phenomenon, performance, intelligence

Promotor:

Prof. Jasmine Vergauwe

Supervisor:

Prof. Jasmine Vergauwe, Siglinde Van Den Bossche

Contact by...

E-mail: jasmine.vergauwe@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

English

Abstract (max 250 words):

The impostor phenomenon refers to intense feelings of intellectual fraudulence, often experienced by successful individuals. Despite external evidence of their intelligence and abilities, these individuals struggle to internalize their achievements. They are convinced that others greatly overestimate their capabilities and will eventually discover that they are not truly intelligent, but rather impostors. As a result, they are plagued by a constant fear of being "found out." In this project, we put this notion to the test by examining the relationship between the impostor phenomenon, intelligence, and (academic) performance.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, as you will be collaborating with PhD students, we will select tasks and a timeline together with you.
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks: T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I: 10
- Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:
- Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:
- Recruit participants, T&I: 5
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I: 5
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I: 5
- Analyze existing data, T&I: 5
- Interpret and present data, T&I: 5
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I: 10
- Participate at a conference, T&I: 2

Present the research at a conference, T&I:

Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

No, because ...

Yes, if the student makes a contribution to the work, then he/she will receive credit.

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

The following prior knowledge is needed:

2. Ageing in place as a matter of rights - Prof. Dr. Liesbeth De Donder

Research group and line of research:

Society and Ageing Research Lab (SAR-LAB)

Title:

Ageing in place as a matter of rights

Promotor:

Prof. Dr. Liesbeth De Donder

Supervisor:

Prof. Dr. Liesbeth De Donder, and Prof. Dr. Kieran Walsh (HOMeAGE project)

Contact by...

E-mail: yudi.pamela.suero.samboy@vub.be

Office: Room B.3.47

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

English

Abstract (max 250 words):

This research will conduct focus groups with social activists from Europe and different regions of the world to explore what human rights principles are relevant for ageing in place, from the perspective of actors involved in advocacy for the rights of older persons in diverse contexts.

Nine small online focus groups (3-5 participants) will be organized with social activists advocating for older persons' rights, covering Europe, Northern Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South America, North America, Central Asia,

South Asia, East Asia, and Oceania. One focus group will include activists from indigenous communities. Activists will be selected in consultation with the Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People (GAROP), with over 400 members worldwide. In Europe, selection will be in partnership with the AGE Platform.

Key information and preliminary questions will be sent before sessions to facilitate thoughtful discussions. A pilot focus group will refine the approach. Focus groups will be transcribed verbatim and analyzed through thematic analysis using MaxQDA.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, ...
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I:
- Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:
- Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I: 3
- Recruit participants, T&I: 20
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I: 2
- Conduct a study, T&I: 15
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I: 10
- Analyze existing data, T&I:
- Interpret and present data, T&I:
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I:
- Participate at a conference , T&I:

Present the research at a conference, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

No, because ...

Yes, if ...but unsure for now. It will depend on the tasks finally performed.

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

N/A

The following prior knowledge is needed:

Planning, organizing and good time management skills; basic notions of qualitative research with focus groups; good communication skills in English, written and orally; highly valuable if the student handles MaxQDA or other qualitative research analytical tools.

3. Electrophysiological correlates and interventions for inhibition-related psychopathology // Use of NIBS - Prof. Dr. Kris Baetens

Research group and line of research:

BBCO/BRUCC: Clinical biological psychology

Title:

Electrophysiological correlates and interventions for inhibition-related psychopathology // Use of NIBS

Promotor:

Prof. Dr. Kris Baetens

Supervisor:

Helen Tobback

Contact by...

E-mail: helen.tobback@vub.be and kris.baetens@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

Dutch

Abstract (max 250 words):

In this research project, we investigate dispositional (self-report and EEG) characteristics, objective behavior performance on inhibition tasks and the EEG correlates thereof in healthy controls and diverse clinical groups, with a focus on addiction problems. We also apply non-invasive brain stimulation and investigate its impact on these metrics, as well as clinical outcomes. The honors student can contribute as a research intern, with a focus on electrophysiological data collection, or, alternatively, develop extensions of ongoing studies on a semi-autonomous basis.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, depending on the project chosen for the Honours program, the start could be sooner or later.
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I:
- Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:
- Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:
- Recruit participants, T&I:
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I: EEG / tES or combined experiments
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I:
- Analyze existing data, T&I: depending on interest of honours student
- Interpret and present data, T&I:
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I:
- Participate at a conference , T&I:

Present the research at a conference, T&I:

Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

No, because ...

Yes, if ...

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

EEG and/or tES data collection, supervisor / promotor

Interpreting and analyzing data (depending on project)

Presentation skills, supervisor / promotor

The following prior knowledge is needed:

A sound basis in biological psychology and research ethics.

4. Participatory Arts for Climate (Education) - Prof. dr. Elvira Crois & prof. dr. Free De Backer

Research group and line of research:

BILD, arts education

Title:

Participatory Arts for Climate (Education)

Promotor:

Prof. dr. Elvira Crois & prof. dr. Free De Backer

Supervisor:

Prof. dr. Elvira Crois

Contact by...

E-mail: free.de.backer@vub.be

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

Dutch, English

Abstract (max 250 words):

Recent cultural research on Earth's sustainability shows the limitations of information-based teaching strategies and call for a broadening of methods. A potential avenue is offered by participatory arts, which use a wide range of creative methods to engage audiences with climate, yet studies are limited to singular case studies that focus on learning outcomes while failing to give in-depth insight into the mechanisms of their methods. This postdoctoral research project responds to this need by conducting a systematic literature review, conducting interviews, and action research to better understand how and why these mechanisms work which will lead to a directory of methods with their corresponding mechanisms, values and addressed competences.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, ...
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I:
- Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:
- Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:
- Recruit participants, T&I:
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I:
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I:
- Analyze existing data, T&I:
- Interpret and present data, T&I:
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I:
- Participate at a conference , T&I:
- Present the research at a conference, T&I:
- Other: be part of ongoing Erasmus+ research projects Codename Seedling and Wave Makers, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

No, because ...

Yes, if they significantly contribute to the actual writing of an article.

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

NA

The following prior knowledge is needed:

NA

5. Ageing well with disabilities in the right place - Dr. Sofie Van Regenmortel

Research group and line of research:

Society and Ageing Research Lab

Title:

Ageing well with disabilities in the right place

Promotor:

Dr. Sofie Van Regenmortel

Supervisor:

Dr. Sofie Van Regenmortel

Contact by...

E-mail: sofie.van.regenmortel@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

English, Dutch (only if Dutch interviews will be analysed)

Abstract (max 250 words):

Ageing comes with different transitions and challenges which might impede ageing well in the right place. Older people are a sociodemographic diverse group, with various needs, which are not always addressed equally. People who age with a disability face additional challenges for ageing well in the right place. We aim to draw on both ageing studies, geographical gerontology as well as the idea of spatial justice to contribute to the growing field of research on ageing with disabilities.

The internship within this honours program consists of:

- Co-writing a research note on ageing well with disabilities in the right place
- And/or mapping which existing quantitative data sets can be used in the context of and exploration of ageing with disabilities.
- And/or analyzing 5 (Dutch) interviews of disability experts or 10 (Dutch) life course interviews on ageing with disabilities
- And/or collaborating in writing a research proposal on ageing well with disabilities in the right place

The internship as part of the honours programme may result in a research proposal, a presentation, or a paper. Which tasks the student will actually undertake and the intended final product will be decided in consultation with the student, considering their preferences, talents, and development goals. The tasks described below including the T&I are solely suggestions.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, can be negotiated and depending on the chosen tasks
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

Which tasks the student will actually undertake, the intended final product and the estimated timing will be decided in consultation with the student, considering their preferences, talents, and development goals. Below you can find **suggestions**.

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I: 10
- Develop research question(s), T&I: 2
- Develop a research design, T&I: 8
- Write a research proposal, T&I: 5 (outline, first draft, bullet points)
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:
- Recruit participants, T&I:
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I:

- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I:
- Analyze existing data, T&I: 10
- Interpret and present data, T&I: 5
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I: 6
- Participate at a conference , T&I:
- Present the research at a conference, T&I:
- Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

- No, because ...
- Yes, if the contribution is sufficient and the work leads to a paper (academic or vulgarizing) or a presentation

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

Qualitative interviews (theoretical training of 2x 2h, practical training of 2h, various example papers, close guidance)

Introduction to Ageing Research & Disability Studies (selected video material and papers)

This training will be provided to the student by the promotor, supervisor or one of their colleagues.

The following prior knowledge is needed:

Course on (basic) research methodology (research cycle, quantitative and/or qualitative research)

6. Profiel, noden en behoeften van Jeugdwerk(ers) / Profiling youth work(ers) – Prof. Dr. Pieter Meurs

Research group and line of research:

EDWE – youthwork

Title:

Profiel, noden en behoeften van Jeugdwerk(ers) – Profiling youth work(ers)

Promotor:

Pieter Meurs

Supervisor:

Minne Huysmans

Contact by...

E-mail: pieter.meurs@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

Dutch

Abstract (max 250 words):

Jeugdwerk is een belangrijke agogische sector die niet altijd de onderzoeksmatige aandacht krijgt die het verdient. Deze Honours-stage is gericht op de ondersteuning van verschillende onderzoeksprojecten die gericht zijn op de brede sector van het jeugdwerk. Meer specifiek, willen we met dit honours-programma ingaan op een samenwerking tussen verschillende spelers uit het jeugdwerkveld, waarbij de Ambrassade werk wil maken van een bevraging bij jeugdwerkers. We willen in kaart brengen hoe jeugdwerker hun eigen functie en rol omschrijven, en welke noden en

behoefden ze daarbij hebben. Finaal dient de bevraging uit te monden in een kenniskaart die meer zicht geeft op het profiel, de noden en behoeften van jeugdwerkers. De bevraging zelf zal ondersteund worden door onderzoekers van Vrije Universiteit Brussel en Erasmushogeschool.

Jouw rol in dit proces is voornamelijk gericht op het faciliteren en ondersteunen van dit proces, mee op zoek gaan naar en het contacteren van jeugdwerkers voor de bevraging, in kaart brengen van belangrijke spelers,

Youth work is an important (ped)agogical sector that does not always receive the research attention it deserves. This honours-internship aims to support several research projects focused on the broad sector of youth work with the Department of Educational Sciences at VUB. More specifically, with this honors program we want to address a collaboration between different players from the youth work field. At the of this collaboration, the "Ambrassade" wants to develop a survey for youth workers. We want to map how youth workers define their own function and role, and what needs and requirements they have in order to remain within the sector. Ultimately the survey should result in a knowledge map that gives more insight in the profile, needs and requirements of youth workers. The survey itself will be supported by researchers from the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Erasmushogeschool Brussel.

Your role in this process is mainly focused on facilitating and supporting this process, looking for and contacting youth workers for the survey, mapping important players, working on the research methodology,

General timing described in the task section is:

Flexible, ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I: 55u
- Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:

- Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I: 50u
- Recruit participants, T&I: 45u
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I: 50u
- Conduct a study, T&I: 50u
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I: 50u
- Analyze existing data, T&I:
- Interpret and present data, T&I:
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I: 50u
- Participate at a conference , T&I:
- Present the research at a conference, T&I:
- Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

- Yes, als de student een substantiële bijdrage levert.

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

/

The following prior knowledge is needed:

Ervaring in het jeugdwerk wordt sterk aanbevolen. Kennis van het jeugdwerkveld is noodzakelijk.

Ervaring met kwalitatief onderzoek is sterk aanbevolen.

Experience in youth work is strongly recommended. Knowledge of the youth work field is required.

Experience with qualitative research is strongly recommended.

7. Queer Ageing in Community in Brussels, Vienna, and Manchester– Prof. Dr. An-Sofie Smetcoren

Research group and line of research:

Society and Ageing Research Lab, HOMeAGE research project
(<https://homeage-dn.eu>)

Title:

Queer Ageing in Community in Brussels, Vienna, and Manchester

Promotor:

Prof. Dr. An-Sofie Smetcoren

Supervisor:

Luise Stoisser

Contact by...

E-mail: luise.lilo.stoisser@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1-2

Language needed to do this internship?

English (language of communication, language for publications)
Ideally Dutch and French (interviews will be conducted in Dutch and French)

Abstract (max 250 words):

Older adults who live non-normative love lives, such as people who identify as LGBTQIA+, might experience specific difficulties when it comes to finding the right place to age. Many decide to go back into 'the closet' once they move into a care facility and might be inclined to hide their identities from carers and neighbors. We draw on both ageing studies and geographies of sexuality to contribute to the growing field of queer ageing. We aim to find out how older adults living in different types of housing in Vienna, Brussels, and Manchester negotiate their identities. Your part will focus on Brussels.

The internship within this honours program consists of:

- Conducting, transcribing, and analyzing a small number of in-depth interviews with queer older adults living in Brussels Capital Region
- Conducting and analyzing participatory photography and object elicitation with the same participants. Brief description of this method: We take a picture of the older adult in/and their place of ageing to study the way they make the place their home. We ask them to choose three objects that are important to them in their home to stimulate storytelling.
- Contributing to a scientific paper on queer ageing

Which tasks the student will actually undertake and the intended final product will be decided in consultation with the student, considering their preferences, talents, and development goals.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, can be negotiated and depending on the chosen tasks. Start foreseen in Spring 2025 in discussion with the student.
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

Which tasks the student will actually undertake, the intended final product and the estimated timing will be decided in consultation with the student, considering their preferences, talents, and development goals. Below you can find **suggestions**.

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I: 8
- Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:

- Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:
- Recruit participants, T&I: 5
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I: 17
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I: 10
- Analyze existing data, T&I:
- Interpret and present data, T&I: 5
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I: 5
- Participate at a conference, T&I:
- Present the research at a conference, T&I:
- Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

- No, because ...
- Yes, if the contribution is sufficient and the work leads to a paper (academic or vulgarizing) or a presentation

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

Qualitative interviews and training on participatory photography as well as photo elicitation will be provided by the supervisor, (online) courses, or through reading material.

The following prior knowledge is needed:

Course on (basic) research methodology (research cycle, qualitative research)

8. Urban accessibility research for wheelchair users – Prof. Dr. Nico De Witte and Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Jacquet

Research group and line of research:

Society and Ageing Research Lab

Title:

Urban accessibility research for wheelchair users

Promotor:

Prof. Nico DE WITTE and Prof. Wolfgang JACQUET

Supervisor:

Hiva Houshyar

Contact by...

E-mail: seyedeh.hiva.houshyar.yazdian@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

English and Dutch

Abstract (max 250 words):

During this internship as part of the PE Honours Programme, the candidate will have the opportunity to participate in an ongoing, interdisciplinary and international research project, a collaboration between the EDWE department and VUB Brubotics, KU Leuven, Politecnico di Torino, GIH – The Swedish School of Sport and Health Sciences, Mid Sweden University, and some other universities.

In 2022, the European Union (EU) reported that 101 million individuals, or one in every four adults, had some form of disability, and many of them may require mobility aids such as wheelchairs. The World Health Organisation (WHO) recognises that these individuals, like everyone else, have the inherent right to participate in social and community activities. According to the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF), participation involves an individual's engagement in life situations. Focusing on participation in social and community activities is widely acknowledged as crucial in rehabilitation for people with disabilities, positively impacting quality of life, health, and key clinical outcomes.

However, there are significant challenges that undermine this ideal, particularly for wheelchair users. Cities are often designed with mobility in mind, yet they inadvertently create barriers for those using wheelchairs. Cobblestone streets, stairs-only entrances, and inaccessible facilities are just a few obstacles preventing full participation in daily life. These barriers frequently remain unnoticed by those without disabilities, and cities typically lack comprehensive data on street and sidewalk conditions. Addressing these issues is essential to ensure that the right to participate fully in community life is extended to all individuals, regardless of mobility.

As part of this project, we aim to conduct a comprehensive survey of street and sidewalk conditions in cities to identify and understand the challenges that arise when moving with a wheelchair in an urban environment.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, ...
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I: 8days
- Develop research question(s), T&I: 2days
- Develop a research design, T&I: 8 days
- Write a research proposal, T&I: 4 days
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I: 3days

- Recruit participants, T&I: 7days days
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I: 3 days
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I: 10 days
- Analyze existing data, T&I:
- Interpret and present data, T&I: 5 days
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I: (not mandatory, TBD)
- Participate at a conference , T&I:
- Present the research at a conference, T&I:
- Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

- No, because ...
- Yes, if the student makes a significant contribution to the work, their level of engagement will determine their position as a co-author (e.g., first, second, etc.) on any resulting publications.

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

To be discussed prior to the start of the internship, based on the candidate's prior knowledge (supervisor and promotors)

The following prior knowledge is needed:

Basic knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies

9. Strengthening youth care by research – Prof. Dr. Johan vanderfaeilie

Research group and line of research:

Centrum voor Jeugd- en Opvoedhulp

Title:

Strengthening youth care by research

Promotor:

Johan vanderfaeilie

Supervisor:

Contact by...

E-mail: johan.vanderfaeillie@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

2

Language needed to do this internship?

Dutch: research is done in Flemish foster care.

Abstract (max 250 words):

During the internship as part of the PE Honours Programme, the candidate(s) will get involved in the daily research activities of the research group Centrum voor Onderzoek in Jeugd- en Opvoedhulp (Center for research in youth care and support) at the Psychology Department. The candidate will be involved in ongoing research projects within the group: research regarding all aspects of youth care, special foster care and research into child abuse and neglect. Also, the possibility exists to publish with already collected data.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- X Flexible, ...
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- X Read and select relevant literature, T&I:
- X Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:
- X Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:
- Recruit participants, T&I:
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I:
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I:
- X Analyze existing data, T&I:
- X Interpret and present data, T&I:
- X Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I:
- Participate at a conference , T&I:
- Present the research at a conference, T&I:
- Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

No, because ...

Yes, if ...

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

The following prior knowledge is needed:

Preliminary insights in youth care, foster care, child abuse and neglect.

10. Alternative housing options for later life: an analysis of policy document – Prof. Dr. An-Sofie Smetcoren

Research group and line of research:

Society and Ageing Research Lab – HOUSING IN LATER LIFE

Title:

Alternative housing options for later life – an analysis of policy document

Promotor:

Prof. dr. An-Sofie Smetcoren

Supervisor:

Prof. dr. An-Sofie Smetcoren

Contact by...

X E-Mail: An-Sofie.Smetcoren@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

Given the analysis of Dutch-language policy documents, knowledge of Dutch is definitely necessary

Abstract (max 250 words):

To gain in-depth knowledge of the boundaries for the realization of innovative housing, a policy analysis of the Belgian housing system will be conducted. This analysis of policy documents aims at deriving an overview of main hindrances and opportunities in current policy and legislation and gaining insight into probable future goals of our housing policy in terms of innovative housing. This internship therefore concerns a document analysis

of existing policy documents, but also documents from the professional field around the topic. If necessary, this analysis can be accompanied by some expert interviews. The internship consists of further developing a step-by-step plan to correctly perform a document analysis, collecting relevant texts from the field and policy, creating a code tree to read these texts, analyzing the selected texts and then writing out 1st findings. For this, intern will be assisted by researchers.

General timing described in the task section is:

Fixed, ...

X Flexible: Will be further discussed between student and supervisor what is possible and desirable. There is definitely some flexibility as well as working independently.

Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

X Read and select relevant literature, T&I: 10 days

Develop research question(s), T&I:

X Develop a research design, T&I: 5 days

Write a research proposal, T&I:

Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:

Recruit participants, T&I:

Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:

Conduct a study, T&I:

X Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I: 15 days

Analyze existing data, T&I:

X Interpret and present data, T&I: 10 days

X Write down findings in the form of a brief paper/presentation, T&I: 10 days

Participate at a conference , T&I:

Present the research at a conference, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

No, because ...

X Yes, If it is published, authorship will certainly be discussed. A publication can be an academic paper, but also a report, a valorizing article, a policy brief, etc.

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

Training in performing document analysis - Here we provide 2 days of training, this can be through attending a guest lecture, self-study, online classes/tutorials/webinars, etc.

The following prior knowledge is needed:

/

11. Personality types and individual differences in information processing in older adults – Prof Dr. Gina Rossi, Prof. Dr. Eva Dierckx (VUB); Prof. Dr. Rudi De Raedt (UGent)

Research group and line of research:

Personality and Psychopathology Research group (PEPS) – personality psychology, neuropsychology and gerontology research lines

Title:

(Joint PhD of doctoral student Xenia Brancart:)

Personality types and individual differences in information processing in older adults

Persoonlijkheidstypes en individuele verschillen in het verwerken van informatie bij ouderen

Promotor:

Prof. Dr. Gina Rossi, Prof. Dr. Eva Dierckx (VUB); Prof. Dr. Rudi De Raedt (UGent)

Supervisor:

Prof. Dr. Gina Rossi, Prof. Dr. Eva Dierckx and doctoral student Xenia Brancart

Contact by...

E-mail: Gina.Rossi@vub.be;
Eva.Dierckx@vub.be ; xenia.christiane.brancart@vub.be

How many people can be selected for this internship?

1

Language needed to do this internship?

Dutch and English

Abstract (max 250 words):

The general objective of the PhD research is to increase insight into the relationship between personality types, psychological functioning and information processing in older adults in order to develop a targeted cognitive intervention to facilitate effective emotion regulation. Within Gray's theory of sensitivity reinforcement, two systems of reactivity temperament are distinguished: the Behavioural Inhibition System (BIS) and the Behavioural Activation System (BAS). Different configurations of these systems in combination with effortful control (EC) can be associated with an over- and under-controlled type and a resilient personality type. Until now, only types in younger adults have been studied on the basis of temperament factors (BIS, BAS and EC). The current study focuses on older adults (clinical and community-dwelling samples). The internship will contribute some sub-targets of this PhD research, namely the link between the personality types and executive functioning and cognitive emotion regulation. Depending on advancement of the research, the intern may also contribute to another sub-study of the doctoral research examining the effectiveness of the Ronnie Gardiner Method (RGM), a promising multimodal therapy, in improving executive functioning and emotion regulation in clinical older adults.

General timing described in the task section is:

Fixed, ...

Flexible, literature study, data analysis and article writing possible until May, from May onwards this can be combined with additional activities (e.g. test administrations)

Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information Note: Supervisors (PhD student Xenia Brancart and her promotors, Prof. Rossi & Dierckx) will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

Read and select relevant literature, T&I: literature study and contribute to writing scientific article(s) – ca. 90 hours

Develop research question(s), T&I:

Develop a research design, T&I:

Write a research proposal, T&I:

Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:

Recruit participants, T&I:

Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:

Conduct a study, T&I:

Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I:

Analyze existing data, T&I: in the context of writing scientific article(s) - 40 hours

- Interpret and present data, T&I: interpreting the data analyses and feedback of the results to fellow researchers – ca. 50 hours
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I: as-co-author (see read and select literature for estimated hours)
- Participate at a conference, T&I:
- Present the research at a conference, T&I: possibility to present a poster – ca. 35 hours
- Other:, T&I: test administrations of psychogeriatric patients (residentially admitted to the psychiatric clinic of Alexianen Zorggroep Tienen) and entering data in SPSS - ca. 60 hours, delve into mediation analysis – ca. 20 hours

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

- No, because ...
- Yes, if ... the student makes a substantial contribution

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

/

The following prior knowledge is needed:

Knowledge of statistical software (SPSS) is necessary.
The student has the means to move independently and easily (e.g. driver's license or easy travelling with public transport)

12. The social function of the cerebellum - Prof. dr. Frank Van Overwalle

Research group and line of research:

BBCO

Title:

The social function of the cerebellum

Promotor:

Prof. dr. Frank Van Overwalle

Supervisor:

Guidance by PhD student working on a project related to the social function of the cerebellum

Contact by...

E-mail: Frank.VanOverwalle@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

3

Language needed to do this internship?

Dutch or English

Abstract (max 250 words):

The cerebellum plays a much more important role in social judgments about intentions, thoughts, emotions and traits of others, than previously known. Very recently, we have learned that the cerebellum is responsible for sequencing the social events that give rise to such judgments. To investigate in more detail the fundamental role of the cerebellum, we also use cerebellar neurostimulation, because this also has clinical value for improving social thinking. Implications for autism, characterized by social difficulties, are also actively investigated.

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, which depends on the experiments that are run
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I:
- Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:
- Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:
- Recruit participants, T&I:
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I: typically helping running a study
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I: typically helping the analysis of the data from a study
- Analyze existing data, T&I:
- Interpret and present data, T&I:
- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I:
- Participate at a conference , T&I: when taking place in Belgium

- Present the research at a conference, T&I: when taking place in Belgium
- Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

- No, because ...
- Yes, if the contribution of the student is substantial (more than just running the study, but also helping to develop the study)

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

--

The following prior knowledge is needed:

--

13. Animal research on the neural processes that control behavior – prof. dr. Rudi D’Hooge

Research group and line of research:

Biological Psychology (KuLeuven)

Title:

Animal research on the neural processes that control behavior

Promotor:

Prof. dr. Rudi D’Hooge

Supervisor:

Dr. Zsuzsanna Vegh or other members of the lab

Contact by...

E-mail: rudi.dhooge@vub.be

Office:

How many people can be selected for this internship?

2

Language needed to do this internship?

English

Abstract (max 250 words):

Rodents have been used in experimental psychology for more than 100 years already to examine cognitive processes and brain-behavior relationships. Our group has many years of experience in the use of lab rodents in behavioral neuroscience research about the neural mechanisms of learning and memory, and other neurocognitive functions. We have been examining how different neurotransmitter systems and brain regions control learning and cognitive flexibility, and how processes of neuroplasticity underlie these abilities that play a crucial role in the

cognitive functioning of humans and other animals. In recent years, we have used lab mice to study the functions of forebrain (telencephalic) structures, such as the prefrontal cortex, and its connectivity with other brain regions. The prefrontal cortex is of course a brain region that is typically human, but the homologies between the brains of rodents and primates have allowed behavioral neuroscientists to use rodent models to learn more about the functions of this crucial brain region. We have shown that the prefrontal cortex and its functional connections with other areas (striatum, hippocampus) is particularly involved during the early phases of learning (e.g., Woolley et al., PNAS 110: 3131-3136, 2013). Also, our group has made quite some progress in defining the specific neurocognitive functions of telencephalic systems and pathways such as the corticostriatal and the glutamatergic system. However, many questions remain... (see literature by D'Hooge and associates: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=igHG2roAAAAJ>)

General timing described in the task section is:

- Fixed, ...
- Flexible, ...
- Other: ...

The student *can* perform the following tasks:

T&I = Estimated timing and extra information

Note: the promotor, supervisor and student will plan which tasks the student *will* perform and when, taking into account that the internship will encompass a total of 45 to 50 full time days (i.e. 7 hours a day).

- Read and select relevant literature, T&I:
- Develop research question(s), T&I:
- Develop a research design, T&I:
- Write a research proposal, T&I:
- Develop and/or validate stimulus material/questionnaires, T&I:
- Recruit participants, T&I:
- Conduct a Pilot study, T&I:
- Conduct a study, T&I:
- Analyze data that you collected yourself, T&I:
- Analyze existing data, T&I:
- Interpret and present data, T&I:

- Write down findings in the form of a paper, T&I:
- Participate at a conference , T&I:
- Present the research at a conference, T&I:
- Other:, T&I:

Will the student have the chance to become a co-author if the work leads to a publication?

- No, because ...
- Yes, if there is sufficient data and scientific contribution by the student

The student will need the following training at an estimated time which will be provided by:

European lab animal certificate (FELASA), can be obtained at VUB or elsewhere by taking theoretical and practical classes

The following prior knowledge is needed:

Basic knowledge of neuroscience & neuropharmacology