

Postdoctoral positions

The Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen is offering two postdoctoral positions to work on speaking and listening in conversation.

Job description

Much of experimental psycholinguistics has studied how individuals carry out tasks such as picture naming or lexical decision in the lab. But language use in everyday life is different. Most of it occurs in conversation, where speakers may or may not know each other, have common and individual goals, and coordinate their utterances, more or less successfully, in time and content to achieve these goals. The work of the Postdoctoral Researchers will contribute to a better understanding of the cognitive processes occurring when individuals speak in conversation. This will involve innovative neurobiological, computational and behavioural work involving individuals as well as pairs or larger groups of interacting speakers. The choice of project is flexible and specifics will be discussed further at interview.

Successful applicants are expected to take the lead in designing the experiments, supervising the laboratory work, performing the analyses, writing up findings for publication, and giving presentations at international conferences. The project will be embedded in the Psychology of Language Department, but collaborations with other departments are strongly encouraged. More information about the research in the department can be found here:

<https://www.mpi.nl/departement/psychology-language/5>

Requirements

- The successful applicant holds a PhD qualification in Psychology, Cognitive Sciences, or a related field.
- Their PhD and/or postdoc project concerned a topic in psycholinguistics, memory, or attention.
- They have outstanding skills in experimental design and state-of-the-art statistical analyses. EEG, fMRI or MEG experience would be highly desirable.
- They have demonstrable experience in mentoring students.
- They have strong organizational and writing skills.

Conditions of Employment

- The positions are available from March 2020.
- The term of appointment is minimally 2 and maximally 5 years.
- The salary is according to the German salary scale TVöD (starting salary €51,797 - €60,721 p.a., for full-time employment).
- All research staff have access to cutting-edge research and training facilities and technical infrastructure, as well as a generous conference and travel budget.

Employer

The MPI for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen is the only research institute in the world entirely devoted to the study of language. Our goal is to understand how our minds and brains process language, how language interacts with other aspects of mind, and how we can learn languages of quite different types. We are situated on the campus of the Radboud University, and have close collaborative links with the Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour and the Centre for Language Studies at Radboud University. We are part of the Max Planck Society, an independent non-governmental association of German-funded research institutes dedicated to fundamental research in the natural sciences, life sciences, social sciences, and the humanities. The Max Planck Society is an equal opportunities employer.

How to apply

Applications should include in a single .pdf document:

- i. A 2-page statement of interest, including motivation for applying and specific explanation of how the applicant's skills fit the requirements of the position
- ii. a CV
- iii. a list of publications
- iv. the names, email addresses and contact numbers of at least two referees who would be willing to provide letters of recommendation

Complete applications should be sent to Ms Thy Mathu (Secretary, Psychology of Language Department); E-mail: thy.mathu@mpi.nl

For any pre-application enquiries feel free to write to antje.meyer@mpi.nl

Review of applications will start on February 1 2020 and will continue until the posts have been filled.