

The Faculty of Psychology invites applications for doctoral research positions in the OPUS 23 grant

„Bilingual conversation: easy, flexible, and effective? The role of adaptive attention and control mechanisms (under number UMO-2022/45/B/HS6/01931)

under supervision of Dr. Kalinka Timmer

Position: full-time scholarship grantee within grant/ PhD student

Discipline: Psychology

Admission limit: 2

Duration work within grant: 4 years (start in October 2023)

Scholarship: if the candidate does not qualify to the Doctoral School, the scholarship from the project will be 3 228.90 PLN gross (before the mid-term evaluation) and 4 109.70 PLN gross a month (after positive mid-term evaluation), or if the candidate qualifies to the Doctoral School – the Doctoral School scholarship will be 2 667.70 PLN gross (before mid-term) and 4 109.70 gross a month (after positive mid-term evaluation) plus an additional scholarship from the project of 4 300.00 PLN net per months

Application deadline: 8th of May, 2023

End of recruitment: 22th of May, 2023

We are accepting applications for full-time Ph.D. students for a period of a maximum of four years. The position is part of the OPUS 23 grant, which aims to investigate how bilinguals in naturalistic conversations easily switch between their languages to achieve effective and successful communication. The Ph.D. student will be based at the Faculty of Psychology, University of Warsaw (Poland). Upon successful application for this position, candidates will also be asked to apply for admission to the Doctoral School described at the end of this document..

Project description: the goal of the project is to understand: (1) language switching mechanisms during a more naturalistic conversation, (2) the flexibility of these mechanisms in different types of language conversations, and (3) their similarity to other non-language mechanisms that we use in daily life. Bilinguals will take part in different experiments, among which an interactive quiz paradigm. During this task, participants are asked to answer one-sentence questions about general knowledge as quickly as possible or a picture naming paradigm preceded by short spoken questions asking them ‘Co to jest?’ or ‘What is this?’. We will combine both well-established and novel paradigms to examine how bilinguals in naturalistic conversations switch between their languages with ease to achieve effective and successful communication.

The candidates should meet the following essential and/or desirable requirements:

- hold a Master's degree (or equivalent) in psychology, cognitive science, neuroscience, (psycho)linguistics, or another related subject, or is in the last year of their studies
- have the commitment to pursue research on bilingualism
- prior research experience within bilingualism will be taken into account, but research experience within other topics will also be valued
- demonstrate knowledge of experimental design and measurement
- prior experience with behavioral and/or neurophysiological (i.e., EEG) data analysis is valued
- programming skills with software to prepare experiments (e.g., E-prime, Psychopy, DMDX, or other) and software to perform statistical analyses (e.g., SPSS, Statistica, R, or other), and electrophysiological (EEG) methods are valued
- be proficient in written and spoken English
- have excellent interpersonal and organizational skills and the ability to work in a research team
- the willingness to travel and do research at other locations

The main tasks of the hired person will be to (among others):

- preparing and conducting experiments with electrophysiological (EEG) within the research aims of the grant
- analyzing the behavioral and EEG data
- interpreting the data and publishing works in international scientific journals
- presenting the results at national and international conferences

We offer:

- work in a dynamic international team with international collaboration
- development of your research skills
- flexible working hours;
- the possibility of trips abroad

The language of the selection process, including the interview, shall be carried out in English.

Candidates can apply by submitting the documents listed below by **08.05.2023**, 12:00 am (CET) by e-mail (all documents in one PDF file) to k.timmer@uw.edu.pl:

1. **Cover letter** stating (a) that the candidate is willing to apply for the position and (b) specifying the candidate's motivation, research experience, and interests (in English).
2. Scan of **Master's degree** certificate (if applicable).
3. **Curriculum vitae** detailing research achievements (grants, stipends, awards), organizational experience, and a full publication list (if applicable) (in English).

4. **One reference letter** from previous supervisors or other persons that can support your qualifications (in English).
5. **Abstract of the master's thesis** or master's project in English (up to 3,000 characters with spaces)
6. Please sign the **attached clause** consenting to the University of Warsaw to process your personal data for this application.

Selection criteria for the offer:

Criterion 1: the candidate's research achievements, including publications in prestigious academic press / journals (50% of the final score):

4 points outstanding; 3 points very good; 2 points good; 1 points poor; 0 points no scientific achievements.

Criterion 2: research-related achievements, scholarships, awards, and research experience gained in Poland or abroad, research workshops and training courses, participation in research projects (20% of the final score):

4 points - outstanding (e.g., scholarships, fellowships at leading foreign research centers, prestigious international prizes or awards, workshops or training courses at the leading research centers, participation in international or foreign projects); 3 points significant (scholarships, fellowships at good Polish and foreign research centers, national prizes or awards, domestic or foreign workshops or training courses, participation in Polish or foreign projects); 2 points moderate (local prizes or awards, workshops or training courses, participation in university projects); 1 point poor achievements; 0 points no achievements.

Criterion 3: the candidate's competence to carry out specific tasks in the research project (30% of the final score):

3 points very good; 3 2 points good; 1 points poor; 0 points no competence

By **12.05.2023**, candidates will be informed about being invited (or not) to the next stage of recruitment (qualification interviews). **Interviews will take place online in the week of 15-19.05.2023**. Candidates will receive information about the result of recruitment procedures by **22.05.2023**. Candidates will be informed about the invitation to the interview and the result by e-mail (to the address they included in the application documents). Successful candidates will also to take part in the recruitment to the Doctoral School of Social Sciences according to the rules set out on the School's website and the schedule provided below:

Recruitment schedule for the Doctoral School

- registration of Candidates: 27th of April – 19th of June, 2023

- qualification procedure:
 - 1st stage of the recruitment procedure: July 3-9, 2023
 - announcement of the results of the first stage of recruitment: by July 15, 2023
 - publication of the schedule of interviews (stage II): by July 15, 2023
 - 2nd stage of the recruitment procedure: July 22-27, 2023
- announcement of the ranking list: until the 7th of August, 2023
- accepting documents from qualified candidates: 16th of August – 20th of September, 2023
- announcement of the list of accepted candidates: until the 22nd of September, 2023

Education program

The education lasts 4 years. It includes obligatory classes (no more than 300 hours in total during the whole period of education) and the implementation of an individual research program carried out under the supervision of a supervisor. Beginning of education – October 1, 2023.