



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



ANNOUNCES

COMPETITION: POSITION ASSISTANT PROFESSOR POST-DOC, POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

RESEARCH PROJECT: NAWA CHAIR

PROJECT TITLE: UNLEASHING THE POWER OF SECOND LANGUAGE MASTERY: COGNITIVE FOUNDATIONS OF THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE EFFECT AND STRATEGIC LANGUAGE USE

Basic information

- I) **Competition reference number: POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW IN THE NAWA CHAIR RESEARCH PROJECT**
- II) **Research discipline:**
Linguistics, Psychology
- III) **Number of work hours per week including a task-based work schedule (if applicable):**
Full-time (40 hours per week)
- IV) **Type of an employment contract and expected duration of employment:**
Fixed-term contract for 2 years
POSITION: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR POST-DOC
- V) **Anticipated job starting date:**
October, 1 2022
- VI) **Workplace location:**
Faculty of English, Adam Mickiewicz University
Collegium Heliodori
Grunwaldzka 6
60-780, Poznań
Poland
- VII) **Application deadline and process:**

The complete application should be sent by e-mail to ewuszka@amu.edu.pl by **August, 20 2022**

VIII) Required documents

1. Application form/letter of the candidate;
2. *Curriculum Vitae*;
3. Diplomas or certificates issued by colleges and universities attesting to education and degrees or titles held (in case of academic degrees obtained abroad - the documents must meet the equivalence criteria set out in Article 328 of the Act of 20 July 2018 Law on Higher Education and Science (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 574 i.e. as amended; Polish: Dziennik Ustaw 2022 poz. 574 z późn. zmianami) a cover letter (addressed to the PI) explaining the motivation behind the application, including a description of past research experience and scholarly interests.
4. a list of publications.
5. contact details of up to three academic references.
6. A one-page summary describing how the candidate would conduct one experiment within the theme of the project
7. Consent to the processing of personal data as follows : *In accordance with Article 6 (1) (a) of the General Data Protection Regulation of 27 April 2016. (OJ EU L 119/1 of 4 May 2016) I consent to the processing of personal data other than: first name, (first names) and surname; parents' first names; date of birth; place of residence (mailing address); education; previous employment history, included in my job offer for the purpose of the current recruitment."*;

Conditions of the competition determined by the competition committee

I) Determination of qualifications: (researcher profile) according to the Euraxess guidelines

- ~~(R1) First Stage Researcher (up to the point of PhD)~~
- ~~(R2) Recognised Researcher (PhD holders or equivalent who are not yet fully independent)~~
- ~~(R3) Established Researcher (researchers who have developed a level of independence)~~
- ~~(R4) Leading Researcher (researchers leading their research area or field)~~

II) Job Offer description

A full-time postdoctoral position available in a research project (PI: prof. Guillaume Thierry) that focuses on the investigation of the foreign language effect ("Unleashing the power of second language mastery:

Cognitive foundations of the Foreign Language Effect and strategic language use"). The position is available for 2 years.

Project description:

One of the most controversial phenomena highlighted in recent bilingualism research is the foreign language effect, that is, the claim that functioning in the second language calls for a more utilitarian thinking style and leads to different decision patterns as compared to operating in the native language. However, on the one hand, this hypothetical phenomenon still requires empirical

validation, and on the other hand, its unconscious underpinning neural mechanism remains essentially unexplored. Here, we intend to build a research team at the forefront in this field to examine the validity of the foreign language effect concept and uncover the depth and span of its unconscious basis using neuroscientific and behavioural investigation methods. More specifically, we intend to (a) clarify the degree to which emotional experience is toned down when functioning in the second language, not merely from a conscious, metacognitive viewpoint but also from an implicit, unconscious perspective; (b) understand how decision-making is dependent upon language of operation in high and low risk contexts; and (c) determine whether a second language communication context facilitates or hinders reasoning and creative thinking. Crucially, we make the hypothesis that the foreign language effect is contingent upon (1) second language proficiency, (2) language learning context, and (3) age of acquisition. We will explore the resulting three-by-three matrix using a predictive neuroscientific approach and measures closer to conscious manifestations of the mind, namely behavioural measures of accuracy, reaction times, and discriminability, as well as questionnaires. Throughout this programme of research and beyond, we plan to reveal unprecedented language-cognition interactions in a foreign language and their consequences for decision-making in some of the most proficient second-language speakers of English in the world.

Roles / Duties:

1. Cooperating closely with the principal investigator (PI) in framing key research questions, designing experiments, and developing stimuli (stimulus creation, calibration, and norming).
2. Applying for research grants (National Science Centre, European Research Council).
3. Taking leadership in the programming of electrophysiological experiments
4. Managing participant recruitment and behavioural and electrophysiological data collection (pilot studies, main experiments).
5. Implementing data analysis and visualization (e.g., MATLAB and R) and delivering training other members of the team.
6. Disseminating project results (publications, international conferences, reach-out activities).
7. Co-supervising a PhD student with the PI.
8. Carrying out other project-related tasks assigned by the PI.

III) Requirements and qualifications

The competition is open to individuals who meet the requirements specified in Article 113 of the Law on Higher Education and Science of 20 July 2018 (Journal of Laws of 2021, item 478, i.e. Article 113) and who meet the following requirements:

1. PhD (awarded or submitted) in the field of psycholinguistics, psychology, or cognitive neuroscience.
2. Strong motivation to conduct research in bilingualism and/or cognitive neuroscience of emotion-language-decision making interactions.
3. High proficiency in English (B2/C1).
4. Record of scientific or public-oriented articles (published or under review).
5. Excellent organizational skills.
6. Excellent social skills and ability to work collaboratively with others.
7. Ambition to pursue an academic career.

IV) Required languages

1. Language: English
2. Level: Excellent

V) Required research, teaching or mixed experience

Desirable research experience includes:

1. Having worked on groundbreaking ideas in the fields of bilingualism, emotion regulation, and decision-making.
2. Experience with presenting research findings at international conferences.
3. Experience with advanced analysis of behavioural / eye-tracking and/or electrophysiological (EEG) signals.
4. Advanced expertise in statistical analysis procedures (SPSS / Jamovi / R).
5. Ability to program experiment using specialized software (Eprime / Psychopy / OpenSesame / MatLab).
6. Experience with online data collection (Gorilla / Pavlovia / Jastor / Survey Monkey / Qualtrix, etc.).
7. Experience with writing grant application and funding capture.

No teaching experience is required.

VI) Benefits

- an atmosphere of respect and cooperation
- supporting employees with disabilities
- flexible working hours
- remote work applicable
- life insurance
- pension plan
- savings and investment fund
- preferential loans
- additional social benefits
- leisure-time funding
- subsidizing children's vacations
- "13th" salary

VII) Eligibility criteria

1. PhD (awarded or submitted) in the field of psycholinguistics, psychology, or cognitive neuroscience. :: 1 point
2. High proficiency in English. :: 1 point
3. Publication record (scientific or public-oriented articles published and/or under review.) :: 3 points
4. Experience with writing grant application and funding capture :: 3 points
5. Experience with presenting research findings at international conferences :: 3 points
6. Experience with advanced analysis of behavioural / eye-tracking and/or electrophysiological (EEG) signals :: 3 points
7. Advanced expertise in statistical analysis procedures (e.g., SPSS / Jamovi and/or R) :: 3 points
8. Ability to program experiments using specialized software (e.g., Eprime / Psychopy / OpenSesame and/or MatLab) :: 3 points
9. Experience with online data collection (e.g., Gorilla / Pavlovia / Jastor / Survey Monkey and/or Qualtrix) :: 3 points
10. Excellent social skills and ability to work collaboratively with others :: 3 points

VIII) The selection process

1. Competition committee begins working no later than 14 days after the deadline for submission of documents.
2. Formal evaluation of submitted proposals.
3. Call to provide additional or missing documents if necessary.
4. Selection of candidates for the interview stage.
5. Interviews for candidates who meet the formal requirements.
6. The committee has the right to request external reviews of candidates' work.
7. The chair of the competition committee announces the results and informs the candidates. This information will include justification with a reference to candidates' strengths and weaknesses. Submitted documents will be sent back to candidates.

IX) Prospects for professional development

The candidate will be working full-time for a period of two years in a highly collaborative research team comprising postdoctoral researchers and PhD students and led by a recognised scientist in the field (prof. Guillaume Thierry). In the course of the project, a postdoctoral fellow will be supported in applying for additional research funding opportunities (grant capture) and will take a leading role in disseminating project results (publications, international conferences, reach-out activities) which will greatly enrich the candidate's research portfolio. The candidate will have an opportunity to accelerate their research career while working at a vibrant and friendly scientific environment at the Faculty of English, AMU, with unlimited access to state-of-the-art lab facilities including eye-tracking, behavioural and phonology laboratories as well as two electrophysiological (EEG) labs.

RODO Information Clause :

Pursuant to Article 13 of the General Data Protection Regulation of 27 April 2016. (Official Journal of the EU L 119 of 04.05.2016) we inform that:

1. The controller of your personal data is Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań with the official seat: ul. Henryka Wieniawskiego 1, 61 - 712 Poznań.
2. The personal data controller has appointed a Data Protection Officer overseeing the correctness of the processing of personal data, who can be contacted via e-mail: iod@amu.edu.pl.
3. The purpose of processing your personal data is to carry out the recruitment process for the indicated job position.
4. The legal basis for the processing of your personal data is Article 6(1)(a) of the General Data Protection Regulation of 27 April 2016 and the Labour Code of 26 June 1974. (Journal of Laws of 1998 N21, item 94 as amended).
5. Your personal data will be stored for a period of 6 months from the end of the recruitment process.
6. Your personal data will not be made available to other entities, with the exception of entities authorized by law. Access to your data will be given to persons authorized by the Controller to process them in the performance of their duties.
7. You have the right to access your data and, subject to the law, the right to rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, the right to data portability, the right to object to processing, the right to withdraw consent at any time.
8. You have the right to lodge a complaint to the supervisory authority - the Chairman of the Office for Personal Data Protection, ul. Stawki 2, 00 - 193 Warsaw.
9. Providing personal data is mandatory under the law, otherwise it is voluntary.
10. Your personal data will not be processed by automated means and will not be subject to profiling.