



Cardiff University
School of Psychology

Studentship Title:	School of Psychology
Research Area/ Project Title:	PhD studentship in mechanisms of social cognitive development
Location:	School of Psychology
Expected Start Date:	1 st October 2017
Duration:	3 Years
Deadline for Application:	28 th February 2017

We are currently accepting applications to be considered for School of Psychology funding.

Description of Research Opportunity:

From birth, humans are immersed in a complex social environment with which they must interact and learn from in order to survive and thrive. As social animals, recognising the goals of others' actions is a crucial foundation for the great cognitive and technical feats accomplished by humans. Infants recognise others' behaviour as goal-directed early in life, but little is known about how they generalise initial understanding of others' actions. This project will involve active data collection with infants and young children using converging methods (EEG, eyetracking, behavioural paradigms) to investigate the generalisation of infant and children's understanding of other people and their actions. Most research for this project will take place in the new Cardiff University Centre for Human Developmental Science (CUCHDS), equipped with EEG, eyetracking, and other techniques suited for use with developmental samples. This centre is a rich intellectual resource of developmental scientists, a breadth of experts spanning typical and atypical development, and a participant panel of families interested in engaging in developmental research.

Award:

The studentship will commence in October 2017, and will cover your tuition fees (at UK/EU level) as well as a maintenance grant. In 2016-17 the maintenance grant for full-time students was £14,296 per annum. As well as tuition fees and a maintenance grant, you will receive a participant allowance of £300 per annum, and conference funding (approx. £750 per annum). You will also receive a computer and office space. You will become a member of, and have access to courses offered by the University's Graduate College.

The successful candidate will have access to a wide range of state-of-the-art research facilities and resources, including the new Cardiff University Centre for Human Developmental Science and the new neuroimaging centre, CUBRIC, containing 3T and 7T MRI scanners, EEG/MEG and behavioural testing labs, and a high-performance computing cluster.

Eligibility:

Full awards (fees plus maintenance stipend) are open to UK Nationals, and EU students who can satisfy UK residency requirements. To be eligible for the full award, EU Nationals must have been in the UK for at least 3 years prior to the start of the course for which they are seeking funding, including for the purposes of full-time education.

School studentship funding is highly competitive. In view of the limited number of awards and the very high standard of applications received, successful applicants are likely to have a very good first degree (a First or Upper Second class BSc Honours or equivalent).

Requirements:

The successful candidate will be an enthusiastic and innovative individual. You will have, or expect to gain, a first class/good upper second degree, or a distinction/merit at masters level, in psychology, biology, neuroscience. Research experience in psychology is desirable but not essential, as is experience working with infants or young children. You will need to have good written and oral communication skills, and be able to work in a team.

For informal enquiries about the project, please contact Sarah Gerson

(GersonS@cardiff.ac.uk)

<http://psych.cf.ac.uk/contactsandpeople/academics/gerson.php>

How to apply:

You can apply online - consideration is automatic on applying for a PhD in Psychology, with an October 2017 start date (programme code RFPDPSYA).

Please use our online application service at

www.cf.ac.uk/regis/general/applyonline/index.html

and specify in the funding section that you wish to be considered for ESRC funding.

Please specify that you are applying for this particular project.

General Information:

The School of Psychology is one of the largest and most successful in the UK (<http://www.cf.ac.uk/psych/>). The School's excellent standard of research and teaching has been recognised in every Research Assessment Exercise. It has its own brain-imaging centre (<http://www.cf.ac.uk/psych/cubric/>), enhancing the international-leading research in behavioural neuroscience, cognitive ergonomics, forensic, social and developmental psychology.

Cardiff is the youngest capital city in Europe and the fastest growing in the UK. It plays host to many national and international sporting events at the Millennium Stadium (<http://www.millenniumstadium.com/>). Culturally, the city is thriving, with the Wales Millennium Centre (<http://www.wmc.org.uk/>) in Cardiff Bay. Cardiff is in very close proximity to the beautiful Welsh countryside (<http://www.breconbeacons.org/>), has a two hour rail link to London and a (cheap) one hour air link to Paris and Amsterdam (<http://www.cardiffairportonline.com/>)

Please address any informal enquiries to:

Name:

Dr Sarah Gerson

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Phone:	

**For further information please contact:
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