



Cardiff University
School of Psychology

Studentship Title:	PhD in Psychology
Research Area/ Project Title:	Perceptual consequences of visual object formation
Location:	School of Psychology
Expected Start Date:	1 st October 2017
Duration:	3 years
Deadline for Application:	28 th February 2017

Description of Research Opportunity:

The object-oriented nature of perception is a fundamental aspect of its adaptive function. Recent research from the supervisors' laboratories has shown how formation of perceptual objects leads to enhanced processing of 'lower' level information as a function of object structure, including enhanced contrast processing at object boundaries and privileged processing of information within an object independent of spatial scale. The PhD project will involve further investigation of how processes of perceptual object formation affects processing of information within the visual scene. The project will employ methods from psychophysics and eye tracking. Depending on the interests of the successful candidate, there might be possibilities to extend the project to neuroimaging. (for more details, please contact macken@cardiff.ac.uk or teufelc@cardiff.ac.uk).

The successful candidate

We are looking for an enthusiastic, motivated, and innovative individual with an excellent degree in psychology, biology, neuroscience, or engineering/computer science (with good knowledge of human sensory systems). Research experience in psychophysics and programming skills (e.g., C/Java/Matlab/Python) are desirable but not essential as long as you have the enthusiasm and aptitude to learn.

You will:

- receive a full scholarship covering your tuition fees and maintenance, as well as research costs and conference funding
- receive training in psychophysics, modelling, and eye-tracking
- be part of a world-class research community in vision science/cognitive neuroscience
- have access to state-of-the-art psychophysics and perception research facilities.
- depending on the interests of the successful candidate, there might be possibilities to receive training in neuroimaging

Award:

The studentships 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, all School

of Psychology students receive conference and participant money (approx. £2250 for the duration of the studentship). They also receive a computer and office space, additional funding for their research, and access to courses offered by the University's Doctoral Academy and become members of the University Doctoral Academy.

Eligibility:

Full awards (fees plus maintenance stipend) are open to UK Nationals, and EU students. International students will typically be eligible for a UK/EU equivalent award only.

As only one studentship is available and a very high standard of applications is typically received, the successful applicant is likely to have a very good first degree (normally in a science discipline, a First or Upper Second class BSc Honours or equivalent) and/or be distinguished by having relevant research experience.

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

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/applying>

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

Please specify that you are applying for this particular project.

Application deadline: 28th February 2017 with interviews (either in person or by Skype) being held on or around March/April and decisions being made by April/May

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:

Professor Bill Macken

Email:	macken@cardiff.ac.uk
Phone:	

**For further information please contact:
Postgraduate Research Enquires**

Email:	Psych-PhD@cardiff.ac.uk
Phone:	+44 (0)29 208 75381
Address:	Mrs Clair Southard School of Psychology Cardiff University Tower Building, Park Place Cardiff CF10 3AT