

Psychology Volunteers Newsletter

Issue 8: November 2016

Welcome to the latest edition of the **Psychology Volunteers Newsletter**. Every 3-4 months we will send you the latest **News, Upcoming Events**, and chances for you to get involved in the Psychology Research Centre.

This issue focuses on the **Eating Disorder Awareness Week** taking place the week commencing **27th February 2017** at Bournemouth University. During the week you will be able to attend talks and events given by staff from the local eating disorder services, people with lived experience, and Bournemouth University staff. Below is a guide to the topics we will cover. Full details will be available nearer the time. For more details please contact Sarah on swilliams@bournemouth.ac.uk

Monday 27th February - Transforming Eating Disorder services: Changing what we do

Tuesday 28th February - Eating Disorders and skills for carers

Weds 1st March - The Neuropsychology of Eating disorders / Eating disorders and schools / Comedy gig at the old fire station by Dave Chawner

Thurs 2nd March- Eating Disorders and Diabetes / Eating Disorders and Psychiatry

In the meantime, you may also like to check out our eating disorder awareness videos <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RO2bwkIzWM>

In this issue, we also advertise exciting studies you can participate in, such as several **eye tracking studies** for individual with/without autism, or people aged over 65, two studies on **face recognition**, and a study on **emotional and mental well-being**. Check below for further details!

Eye tracking studies examining social interactions – people with and without autism required

We currently have several eye tracking studies on-going which investigate how we look at and understand social situations.

We are looking for adult participants, either **with or without a diagnosis of autism**, Asperger's syndrome or autism spectrum condition, between 18 – 60 years old, to take

part. Participants should have good vision (wearing contact lenses or glasses to correct a visual problem is fine).

Studies range in length from just 25 minutes – 2 hours for which you will be given between £5 and £10 depending on the length of the study. You are welcome to take part in more than one study. The general format of these studies is watching others interacting on a computer screen or interacting with someone yourself via video link whilst we record where you look. The studies also involve filling out questionnaires about how you feel about social situations and other things such as whether you have any current feelings of depression or anxiety.

For further details please contact Dr Nicola Gregory, Lecturer in Psychology, at ngregory@bournemouth.ac.uk or call 01202 962373

Navigation and Eye tracking experiment for participants age 65+



Exemplary picture of the virtual environment.

We are looking for female and male participants age 65 and older for our navigation experiment.

If you would participate, the appointment would be two-part:

- 1.) Some questionnaires and cognitive tests. This part will take about 40 minutes.
- 2.) The navigation experiment. Here you will be shown videos of short routes through a virtual environment. After each video, you will be shown pictures of the intersections in a random order and you will be asked to recall the route. This procedure will be repeated depending on how well you were able to learn the route. To obtain measure of gaze behaviour and visual attention, eye movements will be recorded during the entire experiment using a head-mounted eye tracker. This part will also take about 40 minutes.

You will be compensated £16 and the experiment will take place in room P103 (Poole House).

For further information please contact Dr Ramona Grzeschik:
rgrzeschik@bournemouth.ac.uk

Is thinking about past events influenced by factors that are associated with emotional and mental wellbeing?

We are looking for **participants aged between 18 and 80** to be part of a research project that examines how people think about how past events could have turned out differently and whether this ‘counterfactual thinking’ process is influenced by how people tend to think and feel. Taking part in the study will involve coming to the university to fill some questionnaires and talk about your thoughts previous social situations. The study will last no longer than 90 minutes and your travel expenses will be reimbursed. You will also be entered in to a prize draw to win a £50 Amazon gift voucher.

If you wish to possibly be part of the study or find out more about it, please contact the researchers (Dr Kevin Thomas and Joe Hysa) using the details below.

Dr Kevin Thomas, Department of Psychology, Bournemouth University

E-mail: kthomas@bournemouth.ac.uk

Telephone: 01202 968188

Joe Hysa, Department of Psychology, Bournemouth University

E-mail: i7240012@bournemouth.ac.uk

Improving face recognition ability in those who suffer from face blindness



Would you like to be part of a research programme that could improve poor face recognition ability in people who suffer from a condition called prosopagnosia, also known as face blindness?

We are looking for males aged between 60-70 years to take part in the following study:

This project is investigating how face processing can be improved through the use of oxytocin. This is a hormone that is produced and broken down naturally in the body, and is completely harmless. You would be required to inhale the oxytocin or a placebo, which is just like inhaling a nasal spray used for colds. You would then complete a small number of face tasks on a computer. This would be done over two separate sessions, as you would take the oxytocin in one session, and a placebo in the other. You will also receive a monetary payment of £18 at the end of each session.

If you are interested in participating in this project, or have any questions, please contact

Amanda Adams at the following address:

adamsa@bournemouth.ac.uk

Face Processing Research



Face processing is an important part of our daily lives, and provides our primary means to identify others. The current research aims to explore the variability in face processing skills within the adult population.

We are inviting **males** who are **aged 50-59 and 70-79** to participate in approximately 60 minutes of paper-based and computer-based tests. Each session consists of questionnaires, a face perception test, and two face recognition tests.

Please note we are **not** looking for participants who:

- Have previously been diagnosed with (or suspects they may have) any neurological, psychiatric or developmental conditions
- Believe they have any difficulties with face perception.

The session will take place on Talbot Campus at Bournemouth University, and we are able to arrange parking if needed. You will receive a **payment of £10** cash (plus tea/coffee and biscuits!) for your participation.

If you have any questions about this research, or if you are interested in taking part, please contact Ebony on **emurray@bournemouth.ac.uk**.

Ebony Murray

Postgraduate Researcher

Poole House, Talbot Campus

Bournemouth University, BH12 5BB

Development of the State Cognitive Fusion Questionnaire



Psychologists often use questionnaires to measure the outcomes of their studies, so making sure that new questionnaires are of very high quality is essential.

In particular, it is important to assess that a questionnaire measures the psychological process it was designed to measure, and that it does so reliably. The aim of this project is to evaluate a new questionnaire, which assesses how we relate to our thoughts.

I am looking for **people aged 18 years and above** to complete an online set of questionnaires which should take no longer than 30 minutes. People who participate will be emailed 4 weeks later to be invited to complete an additional follow-up part of the study, which will only take 5 minutes.

The survey is available via the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G29J3KM>

If you have any questions, please contact the researcher:

Helen Bolderston on (hbolderston@bournemouth.ac.uk)

Psychology Volunteers and Social media

Like us on Facebook: search for BU Psychology Volunteer Scheme
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If you have suggestions for future Psychology Volunteers' events or newsletters please get in touch with Laura Renshaw-Vuillier on lrenshawvuillier@bournemouth.ac.uk

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