



## 1 Advertisement

**Post Title: Research Fellow**

**School/department:** Psychology

**Hours:** Full or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 1 FTE. Requests for flexible working or part time working will be considered (subject to business need).

**Contract:** fixed term for 2 years in the first instance but potentially extendable

**Reference:** 6822

**Salary:** starting at £34,304 to £40,927 per annum pro rata if part time

**Placed on:** 15 October 2021

**Closing date:** 15 November 2021 Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

**Expected start date:** January 2022

Applications are invited for a **Research fellow** to conduct research on high level colour representation in the brain and the brain basis of colour experience. The successful candidate will be part of the **ERC-funded COLOURCODE team** based in [Jenny Bosten's Sussex Vision Lab](#) at the [University of Sussex](#). The work uses fMRI and/or EEG as well as psychophysical methods: Part will consist of analysis of the 7T fMRI [Natural Scenes dataset](https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.02.22.432340v1) (<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.02.22.432340v1>) as part of an existing collaboration with [Kendrick Kay](#), and part involves gathering and analysing new EEG data using steady-state visually evoked potentials. Candidates with experience using RSA and/or encoding models are particularly encouraged to apply.

There is a vibrant research community in colour perception and visual neuroscience at the University of Sussex, including [Anna Franklin](#), [Anil Seth](#), [Jamie Ward](#), [Tom Baden](#) and [Daniel Osorio](#). The University is committed to equality and valuing diversity, and applications are particularly welcomed from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics (STEMM) at Sussex.

Please find further details about the position, the lab and how to apply here. *Please note that this position may be subject to [ATAS clearance](#) if you require visa sponsorship.*

Please contact Jenny Bosten ([j.bosten@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:j.bosten@sussex.ac.uk)) for informal enquiries.

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)  
*The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.*

## **2. The School / Division**

Please find further information regarding the school/division at <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/schools/psychology/>

## **3. Job Description**

Job Description for the post of: Research Fellow

**Department: Psychology**

**Section/Unit/School: Sussex Vision Lab**

**Location: Pevensey1/2**

**Grade: 7**

**Responsible to:** Senior Lecturer

**Responsible for:** N/A

### **PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES**

1. To engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications; and to develop research funding and knowledge exchange income individually or in collaboration with others, as appropriate, depending on the size and scope of the bid.
2. To contribute to School teaching activities.

### **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise**

- 1.1 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.
- 1.2 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.
- 1.3 Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
- 1.4 Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and contribute to the School's REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.
- 1.5 Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.

- 1.6 Individually or with colleagues, explore opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy, where permissible.
- 1.7 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.
- 1.8 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

## **2. Teaching & Student Support**

- 2.1 Undertake teaching duties, if required.
- 2.2 Assist in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of student projects if required.
- 2.3 Assist in the development of student research skills, for example as part of a postgraduate supervision team.

## **3. Contribution to School & University**

- 3.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.
- 3.2 Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal Investigator and/or Head of School.

## **4. Role-specific duties**

- 4.1 Analysis of brain imaging data, typically using Matlab, and using methods such as encoding models and RSA
- 4.2 Programming experiments (typically in Matlab using Psychtoolbox or CRS toolbox for Matlab)
- 4.3 Recruiting participants for EEG and psychophysical studies and running testing sessions to gather data
- 4.4 Engage in lab-specific activities such as Journal Club, presenting papers to the group
- 4.5 Present work at internal and external seminars and conferences

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

#### **4. Person Specification**

##### **ESSENTIAL CRITERIA**

1. A PhD in a relevant discipline such as vision science, cognitive neuroscience (involving brain imaging) or computer science (e.g. computer vision).
2. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity.
3. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
4. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
5. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
6. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
7. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
8. Excellent IT skills.

##### **ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA**

9. Advanced programming skills, ideally in Matlab.
10. Advanced skills in academic writing and the ability to write initial drafts of research publications independently.

##### **DESIRABLE CRITERIA**

1. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
2. Experience with gathering and analysing neuroimaging data: fMRI and/or EEG.
3. Experience creating and applying encoding models for neuroimaging data.
4. Experience with steady-state visually evoked potentials.
  - If a DBS is required, please ensure this is included in the essential criteria.

