PhD student position in decision making and learning (public sector pay grade TV-L 13, 50%), Institute of Experimental Psychology, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany

Applications are invited for a PhD student position (three years) in the Biological Psychology of Decision Making Group headed by Gerhard Jocham. The lab investigates the neural and computational mechanisms of reward-guided learning and decision making in humans.

Your PhD project would be focussed on the role of neuromodulators (GABA, glutamate, norepinephrine, acetylcholine) in learning and choice. This will be investigated using pharmacological interventions in healthy humans and computational modelling, possibly combined with M/EEG and pupillometry. The position is available immediately (exact starting date is subject to negotiation).

We are seeking enthusiastic candidates with a strong interest in decision making and learning. Applicants should have an MSc (or equivalent degree) in psychology, neuroscience, or in a related field, and sound knowledge of statistics. The ideal candidate should also possess programming skills (e.g., Matlab, R, Python). A keen interest in formal models of behaviour and an excellent command of English are essential. In addition to your role in research, you would also be involved in teaching in the BSc or MSc Psychology programme (2 h/week).

You will be part of a dynamic, international, and interdisciplinary team. The Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, in collaboration with nearby Research Centre FZ Jülich, provides an excellent environment for cutting-edge cognitive neuroscience. Being embedded in the local neuroscience community, you will additionally benefit from the interactions with other researchers in the departments of psychology, medicine, and the FZ Jülich.

Pay scale will be (subject to the applicant's qualification) public sector pay grade TV-L 13 (50%). Applications should include a brief cover letter (max. 1 page, stating research experience/interests and academic achievements), a CV, and names of at least 2 referees. Please send your application electronically as a single pdf file to Gerhard Jocham (gerhard.jocham@hhu.de). Applications will be considered immediately until the post is filled.