

Graduate Research Assistant

Department:	Psychology
Grade/ Salary:	Grade 5, £30,176 - £34,403
Contract Type:	Fixed Term Until 30 November 2021
Hours:	17.5 per week (Part time)
Location:	New Cross, London

Start date: **1 June 2021** or as soon as possible thereafter

Goldsmiths

Goldsmiths, University of London is a world-leading centre of educational excellence where ground-breaking research meets innovative teaching and thinking. We're looking for inspiring and talented people to help build on our global reputation while also growing personally in a true learning organisation.

We are happy to supply information in alternative formats for disabled applicants. Please contact hr@gold.ac.uk to make your request.



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we are different

Department of Psychology

The Department of Psychology at Goldsmiths University of London is a thriving centre of excellence in research and teaching. Currently we have around 570 undergraduates, 140 postgraduates (including PhDs, and MSc students across 7 postgraduate programmes) with growth planned for 2017-18. We have 45 academic staff and a focus on intellectually rigorous thinking and research. Following the 2014 REF, the Times HE rated the department's research intensity in the top 10 of UK psychology departments, with 72% of its research, and 100% of its impact case studies, judged as internationally excellent or world-leading. The QS World University subject-level rankings placed the department 18th in the UK, and just outside the top 100 world-wide. The department has a track record of attracting significant research income, involving both interdisciplinary and cross-cultural work, thus reinforcing Goldsmiths' key values.

The department's research-led teaching is highly rated: in the 2016 National Student Survey, 88% of our students were satisfied with their Psychology course at Goldsmiths, and 93% were satisfied with teaching, placing the Department in a national strong position for first degrees in psychology.

For more details about the department, see our website: <http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/psychology/>.

Job description

Reporting to: Dr Devin B. Terhune

Summary:

A Research Assistant position is available in the Department of Psychology at Goldsmiths, University of London under the supervision of Dr Devin B. Terhune. Candidates should hold a good Bachelor's degree (2:1 or 1st) or preferably an MSc degree in psychology, neuroscience, or a related discipline and have a strong background in conducting experiments and data analysis. The holder of the position will be responsible for recruiting participants and running online and in-person experiments examining individual differences in responsiveness to placebos. The holder will be also be expected to contribute to the analysis of collected data and manuscript preparation. The role lasts for 6 months.

Main duties:

- Implementing online research studies using relevant software packages (Psychopy, Gorilla, OpenSesame).
- Recruiting participants and running online experiments.
- Recruiting participants and running in-person lab experiments.

- Analysing behavioural data collected in both types of experiments using relevant software (MATLAB, R, Jamovi, JASP).
- Contributing to the writing of experiment pre-registrations and journal articles describing the experiments.
- Undertaking any other duties (e.g., administrative) as may reasonably be required.
- Ensuring that you are aware of and aligned with Goldsmiths' Regulations, Strategy, and Objectives to work together to proactively advance Equality and Diversity.
- At all times to help maintain a safe working environment by participating in training as necessary and following the Goldsmiths' Health and Safety Codes of Practice and Policy.

Person Specification

Detailed below are the types of qualifications, experience, skills and knowledge that are required of the post holder. Selection will be made upon evidence of best-fit with these criteria.

The successful candidate will be skilled in participant recruitment, running experiments, data analysis, and academic writing. It is essential that the candidate has experience in collecting and analysing psychological data. Competence with running complex online psychology studies (e.g., with Psychopy or Gorilla) would be a distinct advantage as would previous research experience concerning nocebo, placebo, suggestion, pain, perception, and/or hypnosis. Applicants are expected to be able to demonstrate that they are self-motivated and able to work both independently and in a collaborative environment. The applicant will have a good (2:1 or 1st) undergraduate and/or postgraduate degree in psychology, neuroscience, or a related field. They will be used to working independently and have excellent data management and general organisation skills. Excellent computing, and oral and written communication skills are essential.

The **Essential criteria** sections show the minimum essential requirements for the post, therefore if you cannot demonstrate in your application you meet the essential criteria categorised below, you will not be invited to interview. The **Desirable criteria** sections show additional attributes that would enable the applicant to perform the role more effectively with little or no training.

The Category column indicates the method of assessment:

A = Application form C = Certificate

I = Interview R = Reference

T = Test / P = Presentation

	Category
Essential Criteria 1 - Qualifications	
A BSc and/or MSc in Psychology, Neuroscience, or a related field.	A, C, I
Essential Criteria 2 - Experience	
Experience recruiting participants for psychological research.	A, I, R
Experience running carefully-controlled psychological research.	A, I, R
Experience with multivariate data analysis techniques.	A, I, R
Desirable Criteria 2 - Experience	
Experience with online psychological research (design, recruitment, data collection, and data analysis).	A, I, P
Essential Criteria 3 – Knowledge	
Strong knowledge of psychological research design.	A, I, P
Strong knowledge of statistical analysis for psychological data.	A, I, P
Desirable Criteria 3 - Knowledge	
Knowledge of relevant research domains (nocebo, placebo, suggestion, pain, perception, health, hypnosis).	A, I, P
Essential Criteria 4 - Skills	
Excellent data management and data analysis skills.	A, I, R
Excellent interpersonal and organisational skills.	A, I, R, P
Strong communication skills, oral and written.	A, I, R, P
Excellent time management skills.	A, I, R
A high degree of initiative and motivation.	A, I, R, P
Desirable Criteria 4 - Skills	
Experience with online data collection platforms and software (Psychopy, Gorilla, Prolific, OpenSesame)	A, I, P
Coding experience (MATLAB, R, and/or Python)	A, I, P

Please also note that where qualifications are required, employment is conditional on the verification of them. Qualifications (must be original documents) will be checked on the first day of appointment.

For more information about the role, please contact Devin Terhune, d.terhune@gold.ac.uk

Summary of Benefits

If you choose to work with us, you'll become part of a learning organisation that is committed to professional and personal development, with a comprehensive and innovative staff development programme.

You'll also have access to frequent lunchtime and evening talks, seminars and performances, and annual performance and development reviews.

Our other benefits include:

- Competitive salary
- On-site cinema, Curzon Goldsmiths, with staff discounts and special screenings
- Working in Zone 2, with fantastic transport links and interest free travel to work loans
- Excellent annual leave entitlement plus additional closure days at Christmas and Easter
- Membership of USS or LPFA pension scheme, dependent upon grade
- Access to exclusive discounts, including high street retailers
- Maternity, paternity, shared parental leave and adoption leave and pay and tax efficient childcare voucher scheme
- Contractual sick pay provision
- Free eye tests
- Wellbeing initiatives including the Chaplaincy and Staff Choir
- On-site [dining facilities](#) and [gym](#)
- Access to [University of London facilities](#) such as Senate House Library

Further information

For more information about Goldsmiths, please visit: www.gold.ac.uk/about.

We can supply information in alternative formats for people with a visual impairment or dyslexia. For this please contact hr@gold.ac.uk, or visit www.gold.ac.uk/hr.

Thank you for your interest in working with us, we wish you all the best with your application.