STudent REseArch Mobility Programme (STREAM)
Project proposal

Host University:
Universität Zurich

Field:
Cognitive Psychology, Psychology
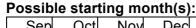
Specified field, subject:
Working-memory

Research project title:
Understanding the limits of working-memory capacity

Possible starting month(s):

Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Fev	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Possible duration in months:

1	2	3	4	5	6
☐	☐	☒	☒	☒	☒

Exact starting and end dates will be discussed between the supervisor and the student

Suitable for students in: ☒ Bachelor level   ☒ Master level

Prerequisites:
Strong interest in behavioral research, good foundation in statistics.

Restrictions:
NONE

Description (maximum 2,000 characters):
The capacity of working memory is limited, and this limit constrains all forms of deliberate complex cognition, such as reasoning, text comprehension, and learning. The main goal of the project is to understand why working-memory capacity is limited. Within this project, several sub-projects ask specific questions, such as: Do representations in working memory decay over time? What role does rehearsal play in maintaining information in working memory? What is the role of attention for maintenance? To what degree does interference between representations contribute to the capacity limit? How does interference in working memory work? How is working memory related to executive functions (a.k.a. cognitive control)? How can specific aspects of working memory functioning be measured? Students can contribute to any of these specific projects, and many more. The project is available in the Fall and Spring semester and is also open for undergraduate students who recently graduated and for graduate students. Number of places available: 2 per semester.

Note: Research project may be adapted according to the student profile and the period/timeline.

Department:
Department of Psychology

Contact person, including position:
Katja Durkin, Project Manager, International Relations Office

Contact email:
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Deadline for nomination to reach host university:
Ongoing

Notification of admission given by the end of:
Given within 4 weeks

Additional information:
NA