

Psychology Indicative GTA Project Areas

Likely DoS	Brief Summary of Research Interests
Adam Qureshi	Social cognition, executive function, the contribution of executive function to social cognition. Domain-specific and domain general contributions to perspective-taking and theory of mind using brain stimulation, virtual reality and eye-tracking.
Alex Balani	Research areas: Cognitive neuropsychological assessment; Cognitive deficits after brain injury; Cognitive and psychological effects of brain injury on the patients and their families; Attention and Working Memory; Attentional biases.
Damien Litchfield	Eye-tracking methodology, visual search, how eye movements change as a function of expertise, and how a person's eye gaze attracts and directs other people's visual, cognitive and social processing. Medical image perception is one of the primary visual expertise domains in which I investigate these issues, and this research is getting us closer to establishing why abnormalities such as cancer are still missed.
Derek Heim	Social and cultural influences on substance use, health and well-being. Having recently installed a 'bar lab' in our department, I am keen to examine ways in the psychopharmacological properties of alcohol interact with social and environmental contexts to shape alcohol-related beliefs and behaviours.
Derek Larkin	Psychosocial Oncology. Cancer affects 1 in 2 people, with this there is an increasing interest in the process of living with and beyond cancer. Research would be concerned with aspects of individuals' experience with cancer beyond medical treatment, and across the cancer trajectory, including at diagnosis, during treatment, transitioning to and throughout survivorship, and approaching end-of-life care.
Diana Tham	1)Research focusing on how infants and children learn from the visual world using eye-tracking technology. This includes perception of faces (emotion, race, gender) and objects (cross-modal perception, colour perception) which informs the development of social cognition. 2)Research area focusing on the development of facial mimicry. This research combines eye-tracking and facial electromyography (EMG) technology to examine the ways in which we develop these non-verbal cues.
Felicity Wolohan	Research exploring how non-verbal cues such as eye-movements and emotional expressions guide social interactions and shape our initial and lasting impressions of other people. Particular interests include: How loneliness and social exclusion might influence the utilisation of non-verbal cues and what we can learn about this by studying non-verbal communication. How social contexts and environments influence the way we 'read' non-verbal cues, causing us to make different inferences.
Geoff Beattie	1. Human multi-modal communication and cognition, 2. The relationship between iconic gesture and speech in human communication. 3. The psychology of climate change, 4. Implicit cognition and sustainable behaviour, 5. Behaviour change, 6. Implicit racial prejudice, 7. Cognitive biases, 8. The analysis of political discourse, 9. Ethnographic approaches to social life.
Joanne Powell	Research investigating theory of mind and strategic thinking in relation to game theory and expertise. Much of the research involves chess-based paradigms. Some funding has already been obtained to conduct a neuroimaging study in this field (details available on request), thus, an MRI investigation would form one component of the PhD.
Linda Kaye	1)Social and contextual effects in digital gaming. 2) Psychosocial impacts of new and emerging technologies. 3) Gender issues in stigmatised settings.
Philip Murphy	1)Problems of drug misuse. 2) Research into the impact of substance use on cognitive functioning.
Rebecca Monk	Exploring the impact of social and environmental contextual influences on substance use and related beliefs, with a particular focus on alcohol. Projects are welcomed which seek to harness real-world research, controlled laboratory experiments (e.g., bar laboratory), and/or advanced technologies (e.g., Smartphone Applications, TMS, Facial EMG). Applicants welcome to discuss ideas about developing further avenues of research in this domain.
Reshanne Reeder	Individual differences in sensory representations, including visual/multi-modal imagery and visual working memory, and how these differences relate to anomalous perception (illusions, pseudo-/hallucinations). Methods: Behaviour (psychophysics, sensory/perceptual deprivation), TMS, potentially EEG or eye-tracking. Groups of interest: normal population, aphantasia, schizotypy, synaesthesia.
Stergios Makris	Visual perception, attention and action; Body and action representation; Brain stimulation (TMS, rTMS, tDCS);The automatic activation of the motor system by viewing graspable objects (affordances); The neural basis of action prediction and anticipation; The neural and cognitive correlates of elite sport performance; The neural basis of eating behaviour and eating disorders.
Dorothy Tse	Learning and memory. What makes memories last? How factors such as emotion, novelty and prior knowledge affect episodic, semantic and spatial memory. Another research area is to investigate different strategies to alleviate mild cognitive impairment and dementia symptoms.