University of Regensburg (UR)

Courses Taught in English at the Institute of Psychology

Course Program for Exchange Students

Universität Regensburg
INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Introduction

The Institute of Psychology at the University of Regensburg has its roots in psychology as an experimentally oriented, natural science discipline in the context of the human sciences. The traditional research focus of the Institute of Psychology is Experimental Psychology. To date, the institute consists of ten chairs that are equipped with state-of-art laboratories for conducting classical psychophysics and behavioral experiments as well as eye movement and EEG studies. Moreover, the Institute has access to a modern 3T MRI scanner.

Since the academic year 2023/24, UR offers two master programs in the area of psychology: An MSc in Clinical Psychology (with a specific focus on biological and clinical psychology, as well as psychotherapy) and an MSc in Psychological Science (MPS; with a focus on basic and applied psychological research).

Course Offer in Psychology:

Most of the courses are taught in German. However, to increase the qualification of UR's students and open up opportunities for exchange students, **several courses taught in English** have been established over recent years. **These are mostly directed at advanced bachelor students as well as master students.**

Courses taught in English are offered mainly in the following fields of study:

- **Experimental Psychology**
- **Cognitive Neuroscience**
- **Developmental Science**

Course Offer outside of the Institute of Psychology
In addition, students may also take courses from other areas/faculties at UR for their elective modules at their home institutions. Students who are looking for courses in the field of Work, Organization and Business Psychology may take courses in our Business and Economics Faculty (e.g. *Behavioural Economics*, or *Human Resource Management*). In the field of Applied Psychology, courses like *Emotional Competencies of Teachers*, *Controversies in Education and Child Development* might be of interest, as well as courses in (Neuro-) Biology or Medicine.

Furthermore, students are welcome to improve their German language skills by participating in the program offered by UR's **German as a Foreign Language Unit**.

Language Requirements

Students wishing to take courses from the English-taught course program must have English knowledge on level B2 (according to CEFR) or better.

Intensive Language Course in German:

For all students who come to UR and have no or only very limited knowledge of German, we recommend participation in our pre-semester intensive language course (ILC). It takes place 5 weeks prior to the beginning of the regular semester and comprises 120hrs of German instruction as well as orientation on campus and the city, and extra-curricular activities.

Categories of Courses

To sum up, exchange students within an exchange program in the area of Psychology may choose from the following categories of courses:

- **Courses from the Faculty of Human Sciences:**
    - Psychology
    - Educational Science

  Courses from other departments and faculties like Business and Economics, Biology and Medicine, Physics, and the new Faculty for Informatics and Data Science (
- **Courses from the "German as a Foreign Language Unit"**
    - Pre-semester Intensive Language Course
    - German language courses during the semester

- **Special Courses for International Exchange Students with a Focus in German and European Studies and Culture e.g.:**
    - Perspectives on German Culture
    - Intercultural Communication
    - Sociological and Political Perspectives on Modern Germany
    - Courses from International Politics

- **Independent Studies**
    - In individual cases, it is also possible to arrange for individual studies for special research topics. These independent studies will be supervised by an instructor at one of the chairs in the Institute of Psychology. The number of ECTS awarded for these independent studies may vary between 8 ECTS and 12 ECTS depending on the workload and final assessment of the project.

Students are free to combine courses according to their needs unless the home university requires differently.

Course offer

Course Title	credits	level b (bachelor) m (master)	term w (winter) s (summer)
Empirical-experimental project seminar (M03)			
Varying topics (psychophysics, EEG, fMRI, etc.)	8 ECTS	b	w, s
Developmental Psychology (M09)			
Experimental Developmental Psychology	4 ECTS	b	s
Advanced Module Applied Cognitive Research (M19)			
Cognitive Neuroscience	4 ECTS	b	w, s
Rational Decision Making	2 ECTS	b	s
Practical research I (MPS-103) *Varying topics, e.g. Psychtoolbox, ePrime, Psychopy*			
MPS-103.1 Practical course (work in lab; report)	6 ECTS	m	w
MPS-103.2 Seminar	4 ECTS	m	w
Practical research II (MPS-104) *Varying topics, e.g. SPM, Fieldtrip, R*			
MPS-104.1 Practical course (work in lab, report)	6 ECTS	m	s

MPS-104.2 Seminar	4 ECTS	m	s
Research Topics (MPS-102) *Varying topics, e.g.:*			
Machine Learning in Neuroscience	6 ECTS	m	w
Topics in Cognitive Neuroscience	6 ECTS	m	s
Topics in Developmental Science	6 ECTS	m	w
Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience	6 ETCS	m	s
Research Module (M-107.1/.2)			
Research Colloquium	2 ECTS	b, m	w, s
Professional practical training (MPS-106)			
Research Internship	10 ECTS	b, m	w, s
Data Science courses with programming in R			
Statistical Programming with R (EDS-206)	3 ECTS	b, m	w, s
Advanced Statistical Programming with R (EDS-207)	3 ECTS	b, m	w, s
Applied Machine Learning with R (EDS-2020)	3 ECTS	m	s

Cognitive and Translational Neurobiology (BIO-M-TM-CTM)			
Cognitive and Translational Neuroscience CTN I, Cognition and Emotion	3 ECTS	m	s
Cognitive and Translational Neuroscience CTN II, Neurology and Psychiatry	3 ECTS	m	s

L = Lecture; T = Tutorial ; S = Seminar;

M – course belongs to a module within the Bachelor of Psychology or the General Master of Psychology.
MPS – course belongs to a module with the Master of Psychological Science.
BIO – course belongs to a module within the Master of Biology.

**** Level*** **There is some flexibility in the level: Bachelor students in their final year may also take courses from the Master program, as long as they have the necessary pre-knowledge on the course's topic.**

Course Descriptions:

Empirical-experimental project seminar (M03)

Research projects in cognitive psychology (M19.3)

In this course students will conduct individual research projects in groups of 3-4 students. Each group is expected to choose their own research topic within the field of cognitive psychology (e.g. topics taught in General Psychology). Through a series of lectures, students will learn how to plan and carry out their study, including topics such as literature review, experimental design, data collection and analysis, and report writing. They will then apply these skills to their own research project in regular interaction with the lecturer and other groups. At the end, each group will present a research poster at a mini-conference, and students will write an individual short report on their study. The course will be taught in English/German, depending on the participants and group constellations.

Course Type: Seminar
Credits: 8 ECTS
Assessment: written project report
Contact: Dr. Marius Zimmermann (Chair of Experimental Psychology), marius.zimmermann@ur.de

Developmental Psychology (M09)

Experimental Developmental Psychology (M09.2)

In this seminar, topics from the lecture "Experimental Developmental Psychology" (M09.1, winter semester only, German only) will be discussed in depth on the basis of original empirical articles. Topics for in-depth study include: Development and culture, conformity and normativity, motor development and cognition, memory development, theory of mind, identity development. The seminar is available in English and in German, please make sure to sign up for the preferred language. Some previous knowledge of developmental psychology is recommended.

Course Type: Seminar
Credits: 4 ECTS
Assessment: presenting one session and one poster; the seminar can be graded or non-graded depending on the student's/home universities requirements.
Contact: Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology), moritz.koester@ur.de

Advanced Module Applied Cognitive Research (M19)

Cognitive Neuroscience

In this seminar, students will learn about the basic processes underlying high-level visual processing, and key paradigms used to examine these processes. In a seminar format, we will read, present, and discuss journal articles, review articles, and book chapters. Throughout the seminar, we will learn how to read, present, and critically evaluate empirical studies targeting these topics in an interactive format. By the end of the seminar, students will be able to (a) read and evaluate primary and secondary scientific articles, (b) describe fundamental neural mechanisms underlying high-level visual processing, and (c) be familiar with key paradigms and how these can be applied to novel questions.

Course Type: Seminar
Credits: 4 ECTS
Assessment: presenting one session and one poster; the seminar can be graded or non-graded depending on the student's/home universities requirements.
Contact: Prof. Angelika Lingnau & Dr. Marius Zimmermann (Chair of Cognitive Neuroscience), angelika.lingnau@ur.de, marius.zimmermann@ur.de

Practical research I (MPS-103)

Within this module, the Chairs of Cognitive Neuroscience (Prof. Lingnau) and Developmental Cognitive Psychology (Prof. Köster) offer practical courses (MPS-103.1) and seminars (MPS-103.2) that will introduce participants to professional study implementation in psychological science and techniques used in experimental psychology, e.g. Psychtoolbox, ePrime, Presentation or PsychoPy. MPS-103.1 and MPS-103.2 are offered in combination.

- **Practical Course (MPS-103.1)**
  Credits: 6 ECTS
  Assessment: attendance, experimental work and written report
  Contact: Prof. Angelika Lingnau (Chair of Experimental Psychology), angelika.lingnau@ur.de
  Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology), moritz.koester@ur.de

- **Seminar (MPS-103.2)**
  Credits: 4 ECTS
  Assessment: attendance, work assignments
  Contact: Prof. Angelika Lingnau (Chair of Experimental Psychology), angelika.lingnau@ur.de
  Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology), moritz.koester@ur.de

Practical research II (MPS-104)

Within this module, the Chairs of Cognitive Neuroscience (Prof. Lingnau) and Developmental Cognitive Psychology (Prof. Köster) offer practical courses (MPS-104.1) and seminars (MPS-104.2) that will introduce participants to professional study implementation in psychological science and techniques used in experimental psychology, e.g. fMRI, EEG, Eye-tracking. MPS-104.1 and MPS-104.2 are offered in combination.

- **Practical Course (MPS-104.1)**
  Credits: 6 ECTS
  Assessment: attendance, experimental work and written report
  Contact: Prof. Angelika Lingnau (Chair of Experimental Psychology), angelika.lingnau@ur.de
  Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology), moritz.koester@ur.de
- **Seminar (MPS-104.2)**
  Credits: 4 ECTS
  Assessment: attendance, work assignments
  Contact: Prof. Angelika Lingnau (Chair of Experimental Psychology), angelika.lingnau@ur.de
  Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology), moritz.koester@ur.de

Research Topics (MPS-102)

Within this module, the Chairs of Cognitive Neuroscience (Prof. Lingnau) and Developmental Cognitive Psychology (Prof. Köster) offer research-oriented seminars on a range of topics in the field of Cognitive Neuroscience and Developmental Cognitive Psychology.

- **Machine Learning in Neuroscience**
  Credits: 6 ECTS
  Assessment: attendance, oral exam
  Contact: Prof. Angelika Lingnau (Chair of Cognitive Neuroscience), angelika.lingnau@ur.de

- **Topics in Cognitive Neuroscience**
  Credits: 6 ECTS
  Assessment: attendance, oral exam
  Contact: Prof. Angelika Lingnau (Chair of Cognitive Neuroscience), angelika.lingnau@ur.de

- **Topics in Developmental Psychology**
  Credits: 6 ECTS
  Assessment: attendance, oral exam
  Contact: Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology), moritz.koester@ur.de

- **Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience**
  Credits: 6 ECTS
  Assessment: attendance, oral exam
  Contact: Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology), moritz.koester@ur.de

Research Colloquium (Research Module, M-107.1/.2)

Within this module, the Chairs of Cognitive Neuroscience (Prof. Lingnau), General and Applied Psychology (Prof. Dreisbach), and Developmental Cognitive Psychology (Prof. Köster) offer a weekly research colloquium. In these colloquia, scientific results are presented and discussed in the form of presentations of ongoing Master- and PhD projects, talks by invited speakers and journal clubs.

Course Type: colloquium
Credits: 2 ECTS
Assessment: communication of scientific results (which may also include the presentation of results from the student's own master thesis, depending on how advanced the student is)
Contact: Prof. Prof. Angelika Lingnau (Chair of Cognitive Neuroscience); angelika.lingnau@ur.de
Prof. Gesine Dreisbach (Chair of General and Applied Psychology); gesine.dreisbach@ur.de
Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology), moritz.koester@ur.de

Research Internship (MPS-106)

Within this module, the Chairs of Cognitive Neuroscience (Prof. Lingnau), General and Applied Psychology (Prof. Dreisbach), and Developmental Cognitive Psychology (Prof. Köster) offer research internships (240 hours) on a range of different topics, including multisensory integration during self-motion; mid-level vision in autism spectrum; visual, auditory, multisensory perception and perceptual learning; action recognition; cognitive control, conflict processing, cognition-emotion interactions. Students will be supervised in all stages of experimentation (literature research, programming, data analysis, and data presentation). Participation should be combined with participation in the corresponding research colloquium.

Course Type: internship
Credits: 10 ECTS
Assessment: written report and oral presentation
Contact: Prof. Moritz Köster (Developmental Cognitive Psychology); moritz.koester@ur.de

Statistical Programming with R (EDS-206)

In this course, the Chair of Educational Data Sciences (Prof. Hilbert) offers an introduction to statistical programming with R. This course provides a solid foundation in statistical programming principles, essential functions, dataset basics, and R's operational mechanics. The course is open for students of all empirical sciences.

Course Type: seminar
Credits: 3 ECTS
Assessment: portfolio
Contact: Christina Ehras; christina.ehras@ur.de

Advanced Statistical Programming with R (EDS-207)

In this course, the Chair of Educational Data Sciences (Prof. Hilbert) offers a seminar on advanced programming with the statistical software R. This seminar will explore data wrangling techniques, sophisticated statistical and graphical representations for statistical models, and the identification of complex patterns within data. The course is open for students of all empirical sciences but requires experince in programming with R.

Course Type: seminar
Credits: 3 ECTS
Assessment: portfolio
Contact: Christina Ehras; christina.ehras@ur.de

Applied Machine Learning with R (EDS-2020)

Within this module, the Chair of Educational Data Sciences (Prof. Hilbert) offers a seminar on programming machine learning models with R. This course will cover the theoretical underpinnings of machine learning and data science, practical applications of machine learning problems using R and the tidymodels package, and optimization techniques. The course is open for students of all empirical sciences but requires basic knowledge of machine learning and experince in programming with R.

Course Type: seminar
Credits: 3 ECTS
Assessment: portfolio
Contact: Christina Ehras; christina.ehras@ur.de

Cognitive and Translational Neurobiology (BIO-M-TM-CTM)

Please note: You need well-founded knowledge in neurobiology in order to sign up for these courses.

Within this module, which is part of the Master in Biology program, lecturers from different specialties offer insight into the cognitive and translational neurobiological aspects of the following topics:

CTN I – Cognition and Emotion
Topics may include: Hippocampus-memory, attention, Language and Symbolic representation, perception and action, emotions and stress, social interactions, neuroethology, addictions and stimulants, decision/free will and intentionality, consciousness and brain states including sleep.

Course Type: lecture
Credits: 3 ECTS
Assessment: oral exam (30min.)
Contact: Prof. Veronika Egger (Neurophysiology), veronika.egger@ur.de

CTN II – Neurology and Psychiatry
Topics may include: Introduction to neurology with translational aspects, introduction to neuroimmunology, animal models in multiple sclerosis, introduction to neurooncology, modelling the tumor microenvironment, introduction to neurosurgery, Cancer neuroscience, Resection vs. function in brain tumors, tissue-based neuropathical diagnostics, brain tumor classification using methylation profiles, brain tumor diagnosis and therapy prediction using DNA/RNA next generation sequencing (NGS), introduction to human genetics and neurogenetics, depression and psychosis, self-harming behavior in youth, brain stimulation, neurodegeneration, vascular neurobiology, viral CNS infections, pain.

Course Type: lecture
Credits: 3 ECTS
Assessment: oral exam (30min.)
Contact: Prof. Veronika Egger (Neurophysiology), veronika.egger@ur.de

Further Information:

Information on all courses can be accessed via the **Course Catalogue:**

https://www.uni-regensburg.de/en/international/coming-to-regensburg/exchange-programs/course-selection-amp-learning-agreement

Please see our **orientation guide** for incoming students for further information on German language courses, housing, insurance, orientation programs, etc.:

https://www.uni-regensburg.de/en/international/coming-to-regensburg/exchange-programs

Contact:

Main Contact for Incoming Students:
Christine Betzner (Ms.)
UR International Office
International.exchange-student@ur.de

Phone: +49 -941 943 2306

UR International Homepage:

- https://www.uni-regensburg.de/international/wege-nach-regensburg/austauschprogramme (German)
- https://www.uni-regensburg.de/en/international/coming-to-regensburg/exchange-programs (English)

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