Society for the Neurobiology of Language

Newsletter

June 2025

Save the Date: SNL 2025 at Gallaudet University

Join us September 12–14, 2025, at **Gallaudet University** in Washington, DC — the world's only bilingual ASL-English university.

- **Hotel reservations** — book early, as rooms will fill up fast!
- **Registration is open** — register early and save! **Standard Registration Deadline, August 19th**.
- **Visit the SNL 2025 Website** for full details.

Rooms are filling up quickly—reserve your hotel stay today!

Don't miss out! Secure your hotel room before they're gone. https://2025.neurolang.org/hotel-reservations/

Membership Renewal

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2025! To renew Log in to your SNL account and click the 'Pay 2025 Membership' button.

Upcoming virtual activities include:

Gradients of meaning and language - Beth Jefferies
Monday, July 7, 2025, 8:00 - 9:00 am EST America/New_York
Log In to set Timezone
Organized by: Jonathan Peelle

Women in language neuroscience - in collaboration with WINRepo
Wednesday, August 27, 2025, 12:00 - 1:00 pm EST America/New_York
Log In to set Timezone
Organized by: Valentina Borghesani

On the evolution of language - in collaboration with the NCCR Evolving Language
Wednesday, October 1, 2025, 12:00 - 1:00 pm EST America/New_York
Log In to set Timezone
Organized by: Valentina Borghesani

For more information visit: https://2025.neurolang.org/virtual-activities/

Neurobiology of Language

Neurobiology of Language is the open-access journal sponsored by the Society for the Neurobiology of Language and MIT Press. Launched in March 2019, the journal provides a new venue for articles across a range of disciplines addressing the neurobiological basis of speech and language. To learn more about Neurobiology of Language and how to submit articles, go to https://www.mitpressjournals.org/nol.

Job Postings and Announcements

If you have a job posting, general announcement, or conference that you would like to include in the SNL Newsletter, please send it to newsletter@neurolang.org.

Job Postings

Postdoctoral Position in Neuroimaging and Computational Modeling of Language

NeuroCognition of Language Lab at Massachusetts General Hospital / Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging and Tufts University

START DATE: Available Immediately.

The NeuroCognition of Language Lab, jointly based at Tufts University and the Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging at Massachusetts General Hospital, is offering a fully funded two-year postdoctoral position with opportunities to contribute to research in both multimodal neuroimaging and computational language analysis.

One project focuses on the analysis of rich MEG and EEG datasets to investigate the spatiotemporal dynamics of prediction during language comprehension. These source-localized MEG datasets offer a

uniquely powerful tool for tracking how neural activity unfolds in both time and space during real-time language processing.

A second project is part of a multi-center collaboration focused on schizophrenia, and involves analyzing large-scale corpora of patient speech. The postdoc will apply Large Language Models (LLMs) and other computational psycholinguistic methods to quantify disorganized language production and explore its cognitive and theoretical underpinnings.

Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in cognitive science, psycholinguistics, psychology, linguistics, neuroscience, computational neuroscience, or a related field. The ideal candidate will have:

- Strong computational and programming skills (Python, MATLAB, R)
- Interest in applying LLMs and computational language models to behavioral and neural data
- Enthusiasm for theory-driven research at the intersection of psycholinguistics and computational neuroscience
- Hands-on experience analyzing EEG data (preferred but not required)
- A strong interest in working with MEG data, especially in the context of source localization and high temporal resolution
- Proficiency in linear mixed-effects modeling (LMERs) and advanced statistical methods

The position offers valuable opportunities to work with state-of-the-art methods, including multimodal neuroimaging, computational modeling, and naturalistic language analysis.

For more about our lab, see: https://kuperberglab.com/

Massachusetts General Hospital and Tufts University are equal opportunity and affirmative action employers. Full-time employees receive full benefits.

To apply, please send the following to Gina Kuperberg, M.D., Ph.D. at gkuperberg@mgh.harvard.edu **and CC** arim.choi@tufts.edu**:**

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. Cover letter including a statement of research experience, achievements, and interests

PDFs of published or submitted papers

Seeking Four Postdoctoral Fellows in Neuroscience of Language!

Two fully funded slots available before June 30, 2025
+ Two more slots available after July 1, 2025
Georgetown University Neuroscience of Language Training Program Washington, DC, USA
neurolang.georgetown.edu
Submit your application HERE!

The Georgetown University Neuroscience of Language Training Program is seeking outstanding postdoctoral fellows who wish to become the future leaders of our field. We aim to develop well- rounded scientists who have a broad perspective on basic and clinical neuroscience of language research, along with the skills and track-record to succeed in their chosen career path.

We offer a rich training environment in the nation's capital where fellows conduct innovative research under the guidance of 18 faculty members studying basic and clinical neuroscience of language, along with sensory, motor, and cognitive systems as they pertain to language and communication. Fellows can work with a single faculty member or across multiple labs, including partner labs at Children's National Hospital and the George Washington University.

Fellows can also participate in clinical experiences, community engagement activities, professional development training, journal clubs, and seminars to enrich their training.
Appointments are funded at NIH NRSA stipend rates for two years, assuming fellows remain in good standing after the first year. Fellows also receive additional funds for training-related expenses, such as workshops, courses, conference travel, computers, peripherals, etc.
Eligibility: U.S. citizens or permanent residents who currently hold a doctoral degree or will have met all doctoral program requirements before enrolling are eligible. Individuals with doctoral degrees from any relevant field (Neuroscience, Cognitive Science, Linguistics, Psychology, Communication Science and Disorders, etc.) are encouraged to apply.

Admissions are rolling so applicants should inquire early about positions. Individuals from groups recognized to be underrepresented in the sciences are encouraged to apply.

Contact peter.turkeltaub@georgetown.edu with any questions.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITION – ERC CONSOLIDATOR GRANT - BIBALANCE

At the BCBL- Basque Center on Cognition Brain and Language (San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain) www.bcbl.eu

INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITION

- Position: Research Assistant
- Number of vacancies: 1
- Project: ERC Consolidator Grant - BIBALANCE: Early bilingualism boosts the brain's resilience to dyslexia.
- Location: Spain > Donostia-San Sebastián
- Research Field: Cognitive Neuroscience
- Type of contract/Duration of Contract: Temporary - 4 years
- Job Status: Full-time
- Hours per week: 35
- Starting date: 1st of September 2025
- Ending date: 30th of June 2025

Information about the project:

The Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language (BCBL) is offering a Research Assistant position within the BIBALANCE project, recently funded by the European Research Council (ERC). The project aims to investigate the impact of early bilingualism on the brain's resilience to dyslexia. The research involves acquiring behavioural, MEG, and MRI data from young Basque-Spanish bilingual children (aged 5–12) with or without a familial risk of dyslexia.

Job description:

- Coordinate participant recruitment through outreach activities in relevant educational and clinical institutions
- Collaborate on the finalization and implementation of experimental designs
- Collect behavioural and neuroimaging data from bilingual children
- Preprocess both neuroimaging and behavioural data
- Participate in regular scientific meetings of the research group
- Contribute to the dissemination of research findings to the general public

PI and research group:

Marie Lallier, Ikerbasque Research Professor and leader of the Educational Neuroscience and Developmental Disorders group, will supervise the research assistant's work and tasks. The successful candidate will join a dynamic and vibrant research team composed of predoctoral, postdoctoral, and senior researchers collaborating on the BIBALANCE project.
The group has extensive experience in clinical and educational neurocognitive science research and employs a wide range of behavioural and neuroimaging techniques (e.g., EEG, MEG), as well as diverse experimental designs (e.g., longitudinal, training-based, and single-case studies) involving young populations with or without developmental language disorders.
The team is also strongly committed to the societal impact of science, actively engaging in the transfer of scientific knowledge to society by working closely with clinicians and educators and fostering dialogue between scientists and the broader community.

CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Required skills:

- Previous experience working with children and communicating with their families
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in Basque and Spanish
- Strong organizational and interpersonal skills
- Proficiency in organizing and visualizing data (e.g., using Excel)

Desirable skills:

- Master's degree in Psychology, Neuroscience, Cognitive Science, or a related field
- Experience with state-of-the-art neuroimaging techniques and data analysis

- Previous involvement in research projects (e.g., data collection, analysis)
- Good written and oral communication skills in English
- Familiarity with statistical software such as RStudio

WORKING CONDITIONS
Salary: 19,200€/year gross

Entitlements and other benefits: https://www.bcbl.eu/en/join-us/what-is-like-to-work-bcbl

Training opportunities and Career development plan:

Researchers at any stage of their career, regardless of their contractual situation, are given opportunities for professional development and for improving their employability through access to a Personal Career Development Plan which includes:

(1) Training through individually personalized research projects under senior supervision
(2) Exchanging knowledge with the scientific community and the general public
(3) Network-wide training in theory and methods
(4) Complementary training courses
(5) Involvement in proposal writing, task coordination
(6) Development of skills for the organization of training and scientific events

BCBL seeks to foster an environment where all talents can flourish, regardless of gender, age, cultural background, nationality or impairments. If you have any questions relating to accessibility or support contact us.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

Language policy

- The corporate language at the Center is English
- The interview can be conducted in Spanish, English and Basque

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submission of the application and documentation:

To submit your application, please follow this link: applying for "Research Assistant Position - ERC Consolidator Grant - BIBALANCE" and attach the following documentation:

- A curriculum vitae
- A statement outlining research interests and motivation to apply for the position
- Two letters of recommendation

Learn more about the BCBL's OTM-R policy
Application process timeline:

1. Deadline for application: 30/06/2025
2. Evaluation by committee: 1/07/2025 – 15/07/2025
3. Interviews: 16/07/2025-25/07/2025
4. Final decision: 28/07/2025
5. Feedback to all applicants: 30/07/2025
6. Work contract start date: 01/09/2025

Contact details for enquiries: hr@bcbl.eu

Marie Lallier is also very happy to have informal chats about the project and the position with prospective candidates: m.lallier@bcbl.eu

PhD CANDIDATE POSITION – ERC CONSOLIDATOR GRANT - BIBALANCE

At the BCBL- Basque Center on Cognition Brain and Language (San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain) www.bcbl.eu

INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITION

- Position: PhD student
- Researcher Profile: First Stage Researcher (R1- up to the point of PhD)
- Number of vacancies: 1
- Project: ERC Consolidator Grant - BIBALANCE: Early bilingualism boosts the brain's resilience to dyslexia.
- Location: Spain > Donostia-San Sebastián
- Research Field: Biomedical Engineering
- Type of contract/Duration of Contract: Temporary: 4 years.
- Job Status: Full-time
- Hours per week: 35
- Starting date: September 2025 (flexible)
- Ending date: 30th of June 2025

Information about the project: The Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language (BCBL) is offering a PhD position within the BIBALANCE project, recently funded by the European Research Council (ERC). The project aims to investigate the impact of early bilingualism on the brain's resilience to dyslexia. Specifically, we will examine whether bilingualism can help mitigate early genetic susceptibility to dyslexia by following bilingual children with and without a family history of dyslexia, from before the start of formal reading instruction (the final year of kindergarten) through to two years after (end of Grade 2), when dyslexia can be reliably diagnosed. To achieve this objective, we will use both behavioural and neuroimaging techniques, including MEG and MRI.

Job description:

- Designing and implementing a longitudinal study in young bilingual children with and without familiar risk of dyslexia
- Analysing functional and structural brain recordings
- Writing research papers under the supervision of the PI, aiming to publish at top-tier journals
- Dissemination of results at international scientific conferences

PI and research group:

Marie Lallier, Ikerbasque Research Professor and leader of the Educational Neuroscience and Developmental Disorders group, will supervise the PhD student's work and tasks. The successful candidate will join a dynamic and vibrant research team composed of predoctoral, postdoctoral, and senior researchers collaborating on the BIBALANCE project. The group has extensive experience in clinical and educational neurocognitive science research and employs a wide range of behavioural and neuroimaging techniques (e.g., EEG, MEG), as well as diverse experimental designs (e.g., longitudinal, training-based, and single-case studies) involving young populations with or without developmental language disorders. The team is also strongly committed to the societal impact of science, actively engaging in the transfer of scientific knowledge to society by working closely with clinicians and educators and fostering dialogue between scientists and the broader community. The project will be carried out in close collaboration with researchers from the Infant Language and Cognition Research Group and the Neurobiology of Language Research Group at the BCBL.

CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Requirements:

- Good knowledge of the field of cognitive neuroscience and/or linguistics, experimental psychology
- Master's (or equivalent) degree in Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Linguistics, and/or other relevant areas
- Experience with brain signal analyses
- Strong background in experiment programming and statistical analyses
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English

Desirable skills:

- Previous experience in participating in research projects (e.g., data collection, analysis) is desired
- Experience with research projects in children
- Knowledge of Basque and Spanish (or willingness to learn) is a plus

WORKING CONDITIONS

Salary: 21,000€/year gross on average across the four years of the contract

Entitlements and other benefits: https://www.bcbl.eu/en/join-us/what-is-like-to-work-bcbl

Training opportunities and Career development plan:

Researchers at any stage of their career, regardless of their contractual situation, are given an opportunity for professional development and for improving their employability through access to a Personal Career Development Plan which includes:

(1) Training through individually personalized research projects under senior supervision
(2) Exchanging knowledge with the scientific community and the general public
(3) Network-wide training in theory and methods
(4) Complementary training courses
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(6) Development of skills for the organization of training and scientific events

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OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

Language policy

- The corporative language at the Center is English
- The center provides initial level Spanish and Basque lessons to all the international staff members
- The interview will be conducted entirely in English

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submission of the application and documentation:

To submit your application, please follow this link: applying for "PhD Candidate Position - ERC Consolidator Grant - BIBALANCE" and attach the following documentation:

- A curriculum vitae
- A statement outlining research interests and motivation to apply for the position
- Transcript of records for the master and bachelor degrees
- Two letters of recommendation

Learn more about the BCBL's OTM-R policy

Timeline:

1. Deadline for application: 30/06/2025
2. Evaluation by committee: 1/07/2025 – 15/07/2025
3. Interviews: 16/07/2025-25/07/2025
4. Final decision: 28/07/2025
5. Feedback to all applicants: 30/07/2025
6. Work contract start date: 01/09/2025

Contact details for enquiries: hr@bcbl.eu

Marie Lallier s also very happy to have informal chats about the project and the position with prospective candidates: m.lallier@bcbl.eu

FUNDED PhD CANDIDATE POSITION – ERC ADVANCED GRANT PROJECT - CORTICAL RHYTHMS (AT RISK)

At the BCBL- Basque Center on Cognition Brain and Language (San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain) www.bcbl.eu

INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITION

- Position: PhD student
- Researcher Profile: First Stage Researcher (R1- up to the point of PhD)
- Number of vacancies: 1
- Project: CORTICAL RHYTHMS: Aligning Brain Rhythms: Understanding the mechanisms of

cortical tracking of speech to improve language functions
- Location: Spain > Donostia-San Sebastián
- Research Field: Neuroscience
- Type of contract/Duration of Contract: Temporary: 4 years.
- Job Status: Full-time
- Hours per week: 35
- Starting date: September 2025 (flexible)
- Ending date: 30th of June 2025

Information about the project:

Speech processing and reading are essential unique human abilities underpinning social, educational, and professional advancement. However early biomarkers of speech processing deficits that have been documented in reading disabilities such as Developmental Dyslexia (DD) have yet to be identified. Here, we will explore whether the cortical tracking of speech (CTS) - the temporal alignment between fluctuations in the speech signal and fluctuations in electrical brain activity – can predict later reading deficits in DD. Cutting edge neuroimaging tools, carefully designed tasks, and longitudinal designs will be used to record CTS. Specifically, we will investigate whether CTS at an early age in speech processing and reading development (preschool years) can help detect early DD risks by predicting the children who will be diagnosed with DD later on (Grade 2 of primary school).

This project represents a radically new scientific approach that will break new ground by investigating CTS and will allow us to

(1) establish causal relationships between CTS and speech processing and reading skills
(2) use this novel approach to detect, diagnose and remediate DD.

Job description:
- Designing and implementing longitudinal studies in young children with and without familiar risk of DD
- Analysing electrophysiological recordings and EEG data during speech processing
- Writing research papers under the supervision of the PI, aiming to publish at top-tier journals
- Dissemination of results at international scientific conferences

PI and research group:
Dr. Marie Lallier and Dr, Marina Kalashnikova will be the supervisors of this PhD project. Both of these groups will be highly involved in the broader research team of this ERC Advanced Grant project, which has the aim of understand the role of CTS for language and reading acquisition from different perspectives (e.g., second language learning, illiteracy, training and remediation).

Educational Neuroscience and Developmental Disorders – PI Marie Lallier
This group revolves around research lines aiming at elucidating the neurocognitive mechanisms subtending typical and atypical language and reading development and at transferring this knowledge to clinical and educational practice. To conduct research efficiently, they use various techniques (behavioral testing, eye tracking, fMRI, EEG, MEG) and designs (cross-linguistic, cross-sectional, longitudinal, and training studies) in bilingual and monolingual populations including infants, children, and adults, with and without language and reading disorders.

Infant Language and Cognition – PI Marina Kalashnikova
This group investigates the process of early language acquisition, specifically the emergence and consolidation of speech perception and word-learning over monolingual and bilingual infants' first two years of life, as well as interactions between these early language abilities and the development of general perceptual and cognitive capacities. The group addresses these questions through cross-sectional and longitudinal designs that combine neurophysiological (EEG, fNIRS), behavioral (visual preference, eye-tracking), and observational (parent-infant interactions) techniques in the BCBL BabyLab.

CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Required skills:
- Good knowledge of the field of cognitive neuroscience and/or linguistics, experimental psychology
- Master's (or equivalent) degree in Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Linguistics, and/or other relevant areas
- Experience with EEG signal analyses
- Strong background in experiment programming and statistical analyses
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English

Desirable skills:

- Previous experience in participating in research projects (e.g., data collection, analysis) is desired
- Experience with research projects in children
- Knowledge of Spanish (or willingness to learn) is a plus

WORKING CONDITIONS

Salary: 21,000€/year gross on average across the four years of the contract

Entitlements and other benefits: https://www.bcbl.eu/en/join-us/what-is-like-to-work-bcbl

Training opportunities and Career development plan:
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OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

Language policy

- The corporative language at the Center is English
- The center provides initial level Spanish and Basque lessons to all the international staff members
- The interview will be conducted entirely in English

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submission of the application and documentation:

To submit your application, please follow this link: applying for “Ph.D. Position - ERC - CORTICAL RHYTHMS (AT RISK) 2 ” and attach the following documentation:

- A curriculum vitae
- A statement outlining research interests and motivation to apply for the position
- Transcript of records for the master and bachelor degrees
- Two letters of recommendation

Learn more about the BCBL’s OTM-R policy

Application process timeline:

1. Deadline for application: 30/06/2015
2. Evaluation by committee: 1/07/2025 – 15/07/2025
3. Interviews: 16/07/2025-25/07/2025
4. Final decision: 28/07/2025
5. Feedback to all applicants: 30/07/2025
6. Work contract start date: 01/09/2025

Contact details for enquiries: hr@bcbl.eu

Marie Lallier and Marina Kalashnikova are also very happy to hold informal chats on the project and the position with prospective candidates: m.lallier@bcbl.eu and m.kalashnikova@bcbl.eu

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION – ERC CONSOLIDATOR GRANT PROJECT - BIBALANCE

At the BCBL- Basque Center on Cognition Brain and Language (San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain) www.bcbl.eu

INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITION

- Position: Postdoctoral researcher
- Researcher Profile: Recognised Researcher (R2 - PhD holders or equivalent who are not yet fully independent)
- Number of vacancies: 1
- Project: ERC Consolidator Grant - BIBALANCE: Early bilingualism boosts the brain's resilience to dyslexia.
- Location: Spain > Donostia-San Sebastián
- Research Field: Neuroscience > Cognitive Computational Neuroscience and Neuroimaging
- Type of contract/Duration of Contract: Temporary: 3 years.
- Job Status: Full-time
- Hours per week: 35
- Starting date: September 2025 (flexible)
- Ending date: 30th of June 2025

Information about the project:

The Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language (BCBL) is offering a PhD position within the BIBALANCE project, recently funded by the European Research Council (ERC). The project aims to investigate the impact of early bilingualism on the brain's resilience to dyslexia, through increased interhemispheric connectivity. Specifically, we will examine whether bilingual experience and its effects on the brain's architecture and connectivity can help mitigate genetic susceptibility to dyslexia. To achieve this objective, we will test bilingual children with and without a family history of dyslexia, both cross-sectionally and longitudinally, using behavioural and neuroimaging techniques, including MEG and MRI.

Job description:

- Designing and implementing longitudinal studies in children with or without (family risk of) dyslexia using neuroimaging (MEG and MRI) and behavioural methods
- Analysing MEG recordings and MRI data
- Writing research papers under the supervision of the PI, aiming to publish at top-tier journals
- Dissemination of results at international scientific conferences
- Assisting in the supervision of predoctoral students and research assistants
- Candidates selected for this role may also be appointed to teach within the BCBL Master in cognitive neuroscience of language (https://www.bcbl.eu/en/study-with-us/masters-cognitive-neuroscience-language), subject to further evaluation and approval by the department.

PI and research group:

Marie Lallier, Ikerbasque Research Professor and leader of the Educational Neuroscience and Developmental Disorders group, will supervise the researcher's work and tasks. The successful candidate will join a dynamic and vibrant research team composed of predoctoral, postdoctoral, and senior researchers collaborating on the BIBALANCE project. The group has extensive experience in clinical and educational neurocognitive science research and employs a wide range of behavioural and neuroimaging techniques (e.g., EEG, MEG), as well as diverse experimental designs (e.g., longitudinal, training-based, and single-case studies) involving young populations with or without developmental language disorders. The team is also strongly committed to the societal impact of science, actively engaging in the transfer of scientific knowledge to society by working closely with clinicians and educators and fostering dialogue between scientists and the broader community. The project will be carried out in close collaboration with researchers from the Brain Rhythms and Cognition group and the Neurobiology of Language Research Group at the BCBL.

CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Required skills:

- Background in cognitive neuroscience, linguistics, experimental psychology, or related fields.
- Proven ability to conduct independent research, including leadership and supervision of junior researchers.
- Excellent communication skills in English.
- Excellent programming skills (e.g., MATLAB, Python)
- Extensive experience and methodological expertise in MEG
- Robust statistical analysis skills

Desirable skills:

- Technical skills related to the manipulation of auditory stimuli (e.g., Praat)

- Good communication skills and ability to collaborate in interdisciplinary environments
- Experience with research projects young children with developmental disorders
- Knowledge of Spanish

WORKING CONDITIONS

Salary: 30,000-32,000€/year gross depending on career stage

Entitlements and other benefits: https://www.bcbl.eu/en/join-us/what-is-like-to-work-bcbl

Training opportunities and Career development plan:
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OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

Language policy
- The corporative language at the Center is English
- The center provides initial level Spanish and Basque lessons to all the international staff members
- The interview will be conducted entirely in English

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submission of the application and documentation:
To submit your application, please follow this link: applying for "Postdoctoral Researcher Position - ERC Consolidator Grant - BIBALANCE" and attach the following documentation:
- A curriculum vitae
- A statement outlining research interests and motivation to apply for the position (max 2 pages)
- Two letters of recommendation

Application process timeline:
1. Deadline for application: 30/06/2025
2. Evaluation by committee: 1/07/2025 – 15/07/2025
3. Interviews: 16/07/2025-25/07/2025
4. Final decision: 28/07/2025
5. Feedback to all applicants: 30/07/2025
6. Work contract start date: 01/09/2025

Contact details for enquiries: hr@bcbl.eu

Marie Lallier is also very happy to have informal chats about the project and the position with prospective candidates: m.lallier@bcbl.eu

NEUROFEEDBACK RESEARCH ENGINEER POSITION – ERC CONSOLIDATOR GRANT - BIBALANCE

At the BCBL- Basque Center on Cognition Brain and Language (San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain) www.bcbl.eu

INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITION

- Position: Neurofeedback Research Engineer
- Researcher Profile: Research Engineer (R2 - PhD holders or equivalent who are not yet fully independent)
- Number of vacancies: 1
- Project: ERC Consolidator Grant - BIBALANCE: Early bilingualism boosts the brain's resilience to dyslexia.
- Location: Spain > Donostia-San Sebastián
- Research Field: Biomedical Engineering
- Type of contract/Duration of Contract: Temporary: 1 year
- Job Status: Full-time
- Hours per week: 35
- Starting date: 1st of September 2025
- Ending date: 30th of June 2025

Information about the project:
The Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language (BCBL) is offering an Engineer position within the BIBALANCE project, recently funded by the European Research Council (ERC). The project aims to investigate the impact of early bilingualism on the brain's resilience to dyslexia. Specifically, we aim to determine whether highly efficient interhemispheric connectivity during speech processing could enhance the phonological and reading skills of children with and without dyslexia. The expected results of this project should have a significant impact on all the levels of translational research in contributing to identifying mechanisms that can be trained to foster cognitive strategies subtending learning how to read, and learning, more broadly.

Job description:
The present project will focus on the design and implementation of a cutting-edge neurofeedback intervention using electroencephalography (EEG) focused on boosting interhemispheric connectivity during speech processing. The neurofeedback pipeline will be based on the real time analysis of the responses evoked by speech stimuli in the left and right hemispheres through EEG. The candidate will be in charge of developing pipelines and scripts in relation to the neurofeedback protocol.

PI and research group:
Marie Lallier, Ikerbasque Research Professor and leader of the Educational Neuroscience and Developmental Disorders group, will supervise the work and tasks together with Dr. Mikel Lizarazu from the Brain Rhythm research group of the BCBL.
The successful candidate will join a dynamic and vibrant research team composed of predoctoral, postdoctoral, and senior researchers collaborating on the BIBALANCE project. The group has extensive experience in clinical and educational neurocognitive science research and employs a wide range of behavioural and neuroimaging techniques (e.g., EEG, MEG), as well as diverse experimental designs (e.g., longitudinal, training-based, and single-case studies) involving young populations with or without developmental language disorders. The team is also strongly committed to the societal impact of science, actively engaging in the transfer of scientific knowledge to society by working closely with clinicians and educators and fostering dialogue between scientists and the broader community.

CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Requirements:
• Excellent programming skills
• Experience in software development and prototypes design
• Excellent signal processing analysis skills (EEG/BCI)
• Experience with the design of neurofeedback devices and protocols
• Excellent communication skills in English

Desirable skills:
• Good command of Spanish and Basque
• Willingness to work with children
• Familiarity with statistical analysis

WORKING CONDITIONS

Salary: Gross salary € 30.000

Entitlements and other benefits: https://www.bcbl.eu/en/join-us/what-is-like-to-work-bcbl

Training opportunities and Career development plan:
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Personal Career Development Plan which includes:

(1) Training through individually personalized research projects under senior supervision
(2) Exchanging knowledge with the scientific community and the general public
(3) Network-wide training in theory and methods
(4) Complementary training courses
(5) Involvement in proposal writing, task coordination
(6) Development of skills for the organization of training and scientific events
BCBL seeks to foster an environment where all talents can flourish, regardless of gender, age, cultural background, nationality or impairments. If you have any questions relating to accessibility or support contact us.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

Language policy

- The corporative language at the Center is English but the national language will be an asset for this particular position
- The center provides initial level Spanish and Basque lessons to all the international staff members
- The interview will be conducted entirely in English

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submission of the application and documentation:
To submit your application, please follow this link: applying for "Neurofeedback Research Engineer - ERC Consolidator Grant - BIBALANCE" and attach the following documentation:

- A curriculum vitae
- A statement outlining research interests and motivation to apply for the position
- Two letters of recommendation

Learn more about the BCBL's OTM-R policy

Timeline:

1. Deadline for application: 30/06/2015
2. Evaluation by committee: 1/07/2025 – 15/07/2025
3. Interviews: 16/07/2025-25/07/2025
4. Final decision: 28/07/2025
5. Feedback to all applicants: 30/07/2025
6. Work contract start date: 01/09/2025

Contact details for enquiries: hr@bcbl.eu

Marie Lallier s also very happy to have informal chats about the project and the position with prospective candidates: m.lallier@bcbl.eu

Other

Sign Language Grammars, Parsing Models, & the Brain (Interdisciplinary Workshop)

Date: 06-Nov-2025 - 07-Nov-2025
Location: Leipzig, Germany
Contact: Patrick C. Trettenbrein
Contact Email: trettenbrein@cbs.mpg.de
Meeting URL: https://sign-language-grammars-parsers-brain.github.io

Background

The world's different sign languages offer a unique perspective on the human capacity for language and their rigorous scientific study within linguistics since the 60s of the past century has provided a multitude of novel insights. Some of these have significantly and lastingly changed how we conceptualize and investigate our species' faculty of language: We now understand language as a seemingly universal and modality-independent capacity.

Just like in research on spoken language, the relationship between theoretical descriptions of different phenomena in sign languages and how they may apply or relate to phenomena usually studied by psychologists and neuroscientists is not straightforward. However, we nevertheless believe that any serious experimental investigation of (sign) language should be grounded in a well-motivated theoretical framework provided by linguistics as the scientific study of grammar.

Goal

The goal of this workshop is to bring together sign language researchers of different theoretical persuasions with practitioners in psycho- and neurolinguistics of sign language to jointly determine:

- To what extent are current theoretical approaches themselves accurate or need to be expanded to capture phenomena of the visuo-spatial modality of sign languages?
- How do different formal descriptions and theoretical approaches relate and are relevant to psycho- and neurolinguistic studies of sign language processing and language processing in general?
- In this context, we also explicitly invite contributions dealing with similar issues in research on spoken language that adopt a multimodal perspective on speech or integrate speech and gesture.

Key Questions

Topics that are of particular interest for discussion at the workshop are:

- What impact has research on the grammar (in a broad sense) of sign languages had on how we look at and study spoken languages and conceptualise the human language capactiy and its neurocognitive basis?
- How can seemingly modality-specific phenomena of sign languages (e.g., the impact of iconicity) be accounted for theoretically and what is the impact of such “enlarged” theoretical accounts on the psycho- and neurolinguistics of sign language (e.g., algorithmic accounts aiming to create parsing models that account for sign language processing)?
- How can non-manual components of sign languages best be accounted for and integrated in theories of grammar, what is their linguistic and neurocognitive status, and how can we integrate them in theories of (sign) language processing?
- What, if anything, can psycho- and neurolinguistic studies on sign languages feed back into our theoretical understanding of grammar (of sign languages, but also language in general)?

Invited Presenters

To get the discussion going our workshop will feature invited presentations by leading researchers in the study of sign language grammars, parsing models, and the neural basis of sign language processing. The invited presenters will also participate in the scheduled round-table session as discussants.

The following Invited Presenters have confirmed their participation:

- Carlo Cecchetto
- David Corina
- Karen Emmorey
- Vadim Kimmelman
- Rachel I. Mayberry
- Marloes Oomen

Call for Papers

Call for papers in International Sign (IS): https://s.gwdg.de/ZZsMdS

Besides the contributions by our invited speakers, we invite contributions from the scientific community for which we have generously allocated time slots in the prelimninary Workshop Programme. Accordingly, we currently have an open Call for Papers and are looking forward to reciving your submissions.

The workshop will feature a select number of on-stage presentations, but will also include a poster session. Notice that we particularly encourage submissions from junior researchers (advanced master’s or PhD students, as well as early post-docs).

Visit the Call for Papers page to learn more about the requirements and deadlines for abstract submission: https://sign-language-grammars-parsers-brain.github.io/call-for-papers/

Connect with us to get the latest membership updates and announcements.

Society for the Neurobiology of Language |**www.neurolang.org**