

RESEARCH SPECIALIST: DECISION NEUROSCIENCE AND PSYCHOPATHOLOGY LAB AT UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH (PIs: ALEX DOMBROVSKI AND VANESSA BROWN)

The candidate will work on several NIH-supported lines of research provided to our lab, which works in close collaboration with Michael Hallquist's Developmental Personality Neuroscience Laboratory at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. The candidate's primary responsibility will be to assist with the design, implementation, and administration of research protocols focusing on personality, psychopathology, neuroscience, and computational modeling, including a multi-site R01 study and two longitudinal R01 studies focused on fMRI and EMA methods. One focus of this position will be to implement a NIMH-funded K23 study which assesses how aversive uncertainty learning is altered in anxiety and affects anxious avoidance and incorporates behavioral and ecological assessment, computational modeling, and neuroimaging. Candidates will also be expected to contribute to other lab projects that use reinforcement learning theory to examine decision-making processes involved in suicide, depression, anxiety, and borderline personality disorder.

Responsibilities for the current position include, but are not limited to, assistance with research design and protocols, data collection, data management, participant recruitment and retention, lab administration, and analysis of behavioral and neuroimaging data. The ideal candidate will have strong quantitative skills, programming experience, some experience in psychology or neuroscience research, and an interest in cognitive neuroscience as it pertains to psychopathology.

The following skills are preferred: programming (R, Matlab, Bash or similar); fMRI processing and analysis (FSL, AFNI, SPM); experience with psychopathology and behavioral assessment. The lab environment is collaborative, and staff have the opportunity to acquire a variety of technical skills, as well as a rich theoretical foundation. Successful lab members get support with independent data projects.

Education

Required: BA/BS in neuroscience, psychology, engineering, economics, statistics, math, or any relevant science field.

Given the extensive training required, a 2- or 3-year commitment is strongly preferred. To apply, please submit a CV, cover letter that describes research interests, and a list of three references to ***Amy Lu (glu@pitt.edu)***. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the positions have been filled. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy or any other characteristic protected by law. All applicants must have documentation available showing work eligibility status for full-time employment in the United States for the next 2-3 year period.