

# ESS 2012: Research Supervisor application pack

We are currently accepting applications from Ph.D. students to fill six Research Supervisor positions. We will accept valid applications on a rolling basis until February 29th. Positions will be filled as suitable applicants are found, or the deadline reached, the application procedure will end – so applying early is advised. We particularly encourage applicants from the host of ESS 2012, Portugal, to apply, as well as those outside Europe.

This information pack contains detailed information on how to apply as a Research Supervisor. You will then need to complete the following three steps:

- Send us a completed **research proposal** (max.400 words)
- Send us a short **statement of motivation** (max.300 words)
- Send us a copy of your **CV** though please limit your activities/experience to two pages (no limit for publications/presentations)

Please note candidates may be invited to a Skype meeting with a member of the ESS team and the Director of Research to discuss specifics of research proposals and any other outstanding details.

## What is an ESS Research Supervisor?

Becoming an ESS Research Supervisor provides you a unique opportunity for academic and personal development. Supervisors are given the chance to lead a group of six bright, young undergraduate European psychology students in designing and conducting a cross-cultural research project of your own choosing related to the theme of the ESS, this year *The Biased Brain: Research in Decision Making*.

As a Supervisor you will of course attend the annual summer school – being hosted this July in Portugal. There you can expect an exciting and fulfilling week unlike any conference or workshop you have been to before. There you will spend several hours each day of the summer school with your research group. Though the time is yours to use as you wish, we expect that you will spend time discussing the literature, theory, and objectives of the study. You and your team will also have to produce an appropriate design for the project, with an appreciation for the difficulties of cross-cultural research and the junior level of some members of your team.

You will work, present and live alongside five other Ph.D. supervisors as well as the invited speakers during the summer school. You will be fully supported both by the ESS organisational team, and the Director of Research, an experienced and qualified researcher who has been working with the ESS for some time.

For more colourful descriptions of what it is like being an ESS Research Supervisor, please find Ph.D. testimonials on our website.

*Please read on for more detailed information regarding the application procedure and expectations of Research Supervisors.*

Naturally we only look to recruit the most dedicated and suitably experienced Ph.D.'s (either students or graduates) to join us. The ESS expects a lot from its students, but it also places a large responsibility on the shoulders of research group supervisors. Supervisors who drop out of their commitment in the months subsequent to the ESS not only miss out on opportunities for themselves, but also take them away from their students. For this reason, we clearly outline the expectations Supervisors are expected to fulfil throughout their involvement with the ESS and YRP. Please read them carefully and ensure you are willing to commit yourself to the position.

## Expectations of ESS Research Supervisors

- To supervise, direct and support a group of six psychology students conducting a cross-cultural research project through to its completion (generally 13 months)
- To plan for and run research group sessions during the summer school
- To supply methodological and technical expertise on the research project from the outset
- To continue work on the study after the ESS: oversee data collection and analysis
- To ensure the research project culminates in a written dissemination

## What we look for in Research Supervisors

We are looking to recruit six determined, resilient and motivated persons with the skills and ability to lead an effective working team of six European students. Research Supervisors should be willing to commit to research projects. Strong written and spoken English is an imperative. We are particular keen on candidates who displaying an openness to cultural diversity, student development and extracurricular activity. Given the multicultural nature of the ESS, as well as the constraints imposed by long-distance collaboration after the summer school, candidates are encouraged to display the capacity to work effectively and efficiently across a range of changing circumstances.

## Criteria for Research Supervisors

- *You must be a citizen of, or hold a valid study/work visa for, a country within the Council of Europe (Exceptions apply in case of non-European candidates)*
- *You must be in your second or further year of Ph.D. study*
- *You must communicate fluently in English (written and spoken)*

## Research Proposals

As our website explains, the ESS revolves around the concept of supplying early research experience to undergraduate psychology students. The principal manner in which we go about this is through placing students in small research groups, each led by a Ph.D. We ask that as part of your application you provide an outline of the project you propose to run with your group (word limit 400 words). Please include the most necessary literature and theory, details of the methodological approach (type of study or research method), and overall research questions that the project seeks to answer. The theme of this year's summer school

is *The Biased Brain: Research in Decision Making* – so please base your proposals around concepts or fields which are connected to this theme.

## Statement of Motivation

As well as your CV and the research proposal we ask that you submit a short statement of motivation outlining your personal reasons for wanting to become a part of the ESS. You may wish to include how you heard about the opportunity, and how the position will affect your own research. You may also state what you want to gain from and bring to the summer school (word limit 300 words). This statement should be included as the text for your application email, but please also attach a copy.

**Note:** You may notice that we request relatively short texts for your application. Please follow the stated limits or we will be unable to judge your application fairly. Everyone is held to the same criteria, so you are advised to include only the most relevant information – ignoring these guidelines will reduce your chances of being selected.

## Submission

Once you have completed all steps outlined above, please submit (1) your CV; and (2) your research proposal together **WITH** your statement of motivation as PDFs.

Send both PDFs to us at [summerschool@efpsa.org](mailto:summerschool@efpsa.org)

We will accept valid applications on a rolling basis until February 29th. Once positions have been filled, or the deadline reached, the application procedure will end.

All questions **AND** completed applications should be directed to the ESS team at [summerschool@efpsa.org](mailto:summerschool@efpsa.org)

Good luck with your applications.

Kind regards,

The ESS team