

EFPSA European Summer School 2016

Supervisor's Guidelines

Introduction

The European Federation of Psychology Students' Association (EFPSA) is currently accepting applications from PhD and PostDoc researchers to join us at the annual EFPSA European Summer School (ESS). The ESS revolves around the concept of supplying early research experience to psychology students and each year, at least six Supervisors are accepted in order to lead small groups of psychology students who are studying for either their Bachelors or Masters. These groups will subsequently carry out a 12-month research project based on the Supervisor's topic of interest.

The scientific theme for the upcoming ESS is '*Cognition & Behaviour: Changing Patterns.*' We particularly welcome feasible research projects on topics relating to the theme - for example possible topics include health behaviour, consumer behaviour, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy research, communication strategies, cognitive training, special populations etc. However, any idea related to this year's scientific theme is encouraged. Should you require confirmation on the relevance of your suggested topic, please do not hesitate to contact us with a short description of your proposed project before you apply.

General information

The ESS is a platform for psychology students to gain early research experience by conducting cross-cultural research in a specific field related to the annual theme. It has been an annual EFPSA event organised each summer since 2007. The ESS includes lectures and seminars from professionals and established academics in the field and at least six research groups led by PhD or PostDoc supervisors.

Becoming an ESS Supervisor provides you with a unique opportunity for both academic and personal development. Supervisors are given the chance to lead a group of (typically) six talented and motivated European psychology students who are studying for either their Bachelors or Masters in designing and conducting a cross-cultural research project of their choosing related to the theme of the ESS, this year: *Cognition & Behaviour: Changing Patterns.*

These guidelines contain detailed information on how to apply as a Supervisor and what the role encompasses. In order to apply, you will need to complete the following two steps -

- Complete the supervisor application form
- Send us your Academic CV (please note that this should include your publications, presentations etc. too)

Please note that candidates will be invited to a Skype interview during the week with the Senior Coordinator, Scientific Affairs Responsible, the Events Officer and the Vice President of EFPSA to discuss specifics of research proposals and other details after the call closes.

As a Supervisor, you will attend the annual summer school – hosted this year between 17th – 24th July 2016, in Turkey. Please note that supervisors are required to arrive in Turkey **one day earlier** – 16th July 2016 during the day.

At the ESS, you can expect an exciting and fulfilling week. You will be spending several hours during each day of the summer school leading your research group. Though the time is yours to use as you wish, we expect that you will keep in mind an opportunity to discuss the literature, theory and objectives of the study. You and your group will also have to decide upon an appropriate design for the project, with an appreciation for the difficulties of cross-cultural research (at an appropriate level suitable to the experience of your group). Please note, whilst we do encourage Supervisors to be prepared for leading discussions, we discourage any form of lectures being held during the group time (except on the first day, where you will provide a specific introduction to the topic to your group).

You will work, present and reside alongside (at least) five other Supervisors as well as the invited speakers during the summer school. You will be supported by the ESS organisational team, JRP Research Responsible and JRP Advisors. This support will not, however, account for the responsibilities that are expected from the position of a Supervisor, nor will the organisers intervene with your group work (apart from various scientific and managerial checks). Supervisors will stay at the venue together with the organisational team, lecturers and participants. Your accommodation and meals will be covered during the ESS.

For more comprehensive descriptions of what it is like being an ESS Supervisor, please find PhD testimonials on our website.

Main responsibilities of an ESS Supervisor

- To supervise, direct and support a group of six psychology students conducting a cross-cultural research project through to its completion (generally 12 months)
- To plan for and run research group sessions during the summer school
- To supply methodological and technical knowledge on the research project from the outset
- To continue to work on the study after the ESS - oversee data collection and analysis
- To ensure the research project culminates in a written dissemination
- To keep in regular contact with the JRP Research Responsible and the JRP Advisors

Criteria for Supervisors

- You should be able to obtain the required documentation (e.g., visa) for Turkey

- You must have completed research training in psychology and be currently completing (or having recently completed) a PhD
- You must be at least second year of your PhD or a PostDoc researcher in psychology
- Your current department must have an ethical review committee to ensure your project meets university guidelines (neither EFPSA nor any of its services may provide this)
- You must have a strong command of English (written and spoken)

Requirements

- Attendance at the ESS and preferably the JRPC
- Willingness to commit to the proposed research projects for the entire duration of the programme
- Openness toward cultural diversity, student development and extracurricular activity
- Capacity to work effectively and efficiently across a range of changing circumstances

Research Proposal & Topic Requirements

We ask that as part of your application you provide an outline of the project you propose to run with your group. Please follow the headings within the application form in order to provide all the necessary information. Keep in mind that the project should be able to run under the assumption of no available funding. Students might be able to request funding from their universities but for many students these opportunities are limited, therefore, costs should be kept to a minimum.

To assist you with the research proposal, a checklist is provided below. Please make sure you have addressed all the issues mentioned in the checklist in your research proposal.

Checklist for topic and method requirements

- Behavioural change is a central aspect of the project
- A clear and relevant research question has been formulated
- A clear description of the student's involvement in the research design and process has been described
- The approach to answering the research question has been addressed, with acknowledgement to the limitations that may be faced within the programme
- A clear and reasonable target population that the group would be able to recruit within a certain time (+/- 6 months)
- There are suggestions regarding the recruitment of participants, methodology and instruments that will be used

For further questions or additional information, please contact ess@efpsa.org.