**UQ Summer Research Project Description**

Please use this template to create a description of each research project, eligibility requirements and expected deliverables. Project details can then be uploaded to each faculty, school, institute, and centre webpage prior to the launch of the program.

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| **Project title:** | **Does task change our perception of *face pareidolia*?** |
| **Project duration, hours of engagement & delivery mode** | How many positions would you like to offer? One Six weeks with the hours of engagement approximately 25hrs per week. Applicant could complete some aspects of the project remotely but would be expected to be on campus to attend week meetings with their supervisor and weekly lab meetings, in addition to any necessary laboratory hours.  |
| **Description:** | As social primates, we are hypersensitive to faces and face-like patterns in the environment. Sometimes we even see faces where none exist, like on a piece of burnt toast or on the trunk of a tree. This phenomenon is known as face pareidolia and it is a very common visual illusion that we share with newborn infants and monkeys. In this project we are interested in whether the participant’s task changes their behavioural and neural response to face pareidolia. This is a key question within the field of systems neuroscience and visual cognition with important clinical implications down the track. |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | Scholars will gain valuable experience in a research active environment, working on a cutting-edge topic that is also fun and accessible. Scholars will be involved in the initial stages of a large-scale project that will ultimately combine brain and behavioural data. More specifically, scholars will be expected to help collect and curate stimuli, set up behavioural experiments and collect pilot data. |
| **Suitable for:** | This project is open to applications from students with a keen interest in visual cognition, social neuroscience and systems neuroscience. Coding experience with matlab or python is desirable though not necessary. Students who have (or will have) completed NEUR2020, NEUR3192 or NEUR3302 are strongly encouraged to apply. 3rd and 4th year students only (except in rare circumstances) |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Associate Professor Jess Taubert |
| **Further info:** | Students considering applying for this project are encouraged to contact Jess Taubert via email prior to submitting their application Email j.taubert@uq.edu.au |