**UQ Summer or Winter 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.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project title:** | **Imitation Learning in Infancy** |
| **Hours of engagement & delivery mode** | 4 positions available 36 hours per weekOffered Remotely or Hybrid (on campus and remotely)  |
| **Description:** | Human life is characterised by imitation. We copy those around us constantly, both consciously and unconsciously, to connect with others and to learn from them. Imitation is so prevalent in human behaviour that some have labelled us “Homo Imitans”. That said, what factors may play an important role in the emergence and development of this social capacity during infancy? Many have argued that manual self-observation (i.e., an infant observing their own actions) and caregiver imitation (i.e., caregiver imitating their child’s gestures) are crucial mechanisms for the development of infants’ own imitative capacity. However, there has been limited observational data to address this question until now. This project has successfully collected this data across the first 7 months of life during a large-scale longitudinal project on neonatal and early imitation. As a scholar, you will take a leading role in coding and processing either 1) manual self-observation or 2) caregiver imitation observational data for this project.  |
| **Expected learning outcomes and deliverables:** | Scholars will gain skills in behavioural coding and data processing. |
| **Suitable for:** | This project is open to applications from 3rd and 4th year students with a background in Psychology. There will be a total of 4 positions available.  |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr. Sumeet Farwaha  |
| **Further info:** | Contact details:s.farwaha@uq.edu.au |