**UQ Summer Research Project Description - 2026**

*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:** | **Motor Decisions under Temporal Uncertainty and Choice Demands** |
| **Hours of engagement & delivery mode** | Hours of engagement: 25-35 hours per week for 6 weeks (12 Jan – 20 Feb 2026).  Projects are offered on-site at the UQ St Lucia campus |
| **Description:** | *Please insert a project description to give applicants a comprehensive overview of the project.*  Everyday actions unfold in uncertain environments: knowing *when* a signal will appear, *which* action to take, or *whether* a cue can be trusted. This project involves experimental research with human participants, examining how the motor system plans and prepares voluntary movements under different kinds of uncertainty. Scholars will recruit and test adult participants using computer-based tasks to assess how temporal expectancy, choice demands, and cue reliability shape motor decisions. The project can be tailored to focus on a single research question or broadened to include multiple factors, depending on the scholar’s interests and ongoing projects in the lab. The aim is to better understand how the brain integrates different sources of uncertainty, with the goal of generating new insights into the mechanisms that enable human action to remain flexible and adaptive. |
| **Expected learning outcomes and deliverables:** | *Please highlight what applicants can expect to gain/learn from participating in the project, and what they will be expected to complete as a part of the project.*  This project will provide scholars with valuable hands-on experience in behavioural testing and data collection. Depending on individual interests and the project’s scope, there may also be opportunities to work with neuroimaging or brain stimulation methods and to develop some basic computational analysis skills. Scholars will learn how to set up and administer experiments, including participant recruitment and testing, and will gain practical experience in conducting research and collaborating with cognitive neuroscience researchers. |
| **Suitable for:** | *Please highlight any particular qualities that individual supervisors are looking for in applicants to assist with the selection process.*  This project is suited to students with a background in psychology who are interested in cognitive neuroscience and experimental research. Preference will be given to students in their 3rd or 4th year, although exceptional 2nd-year students will also be considered. |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr Sam Armstrong |
| **Further info:** | Students interested in applying for this project are encouraged to contact Dr Sam Armstrong via email before submitting their application.  Email: samuel.armstrong@uq.edu.au |