Lifestyle Brain Interaction

Open application for internship positions

At the Lifestyle Brain Interaction research group we believe in cross functional teamwork. We do not expect everyone to be good at everything, but we join forces to make a solid impact to the world. If you feel sparked by the topic of Lifestyle Brain Interaction, and you want to gain work experience in the Neuroscientific field, we invite you to chart your course in areas such as research assistance, administration, data processing, statistical analysis, project management, scientific and public writing, and social media content creation.

Tell us where your passions lie, what skills you bring to the table, and what you aspire to learn. Depending on the current ongoing projects and availability for supervision, positions may or may not be available. However, feel free to reach out to us at any time.

To apply, please submit your resume (including list of gradings), cover letter (including your motivation but also practicalities about your availability), and any relevant portfolio showcasing your experience to e.a.g.dekeyster@fsw.leidenuniv.nl. In non-holiday periods, you can expect a reply within 2 weeks. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The Lifestyle Brain Interaction research group

At the Lifestyle Brain Interaction group, we investigate the effect of lifestyle on the brain in health and disease across lifespan. Our research delves into the dynamic interplay of various lifestyle factors, with a special focus on nutrition. Focus areas are: metabolic psychiatry, cognitive performance, and healthy aging.

Besides conducting research, we are also driven by a broader purpose to bridge the gap between the knowledge cultivated by researchers and its accessibility to the wider world. We firmly believe that every individual has the right to access the insights that science offers. We want to empower the general public to harness the knowledge that empowers them to make informed choices.
Internship Possibilities

Depending on the current status of our ongoing projects and the time we have to offer you supervision, there will/will not be positions available. Examples of internships we have fostered in the past are listed below.

**Research assistant:** As a RA you are involved in the execution of one of our studies. Some examples of activities you could be involved in: recruitment of participants, communication with participants during the study, program questionnaires in Qualtrics, program cognitive tests in OpenSesame, follow-up on payment of participants, help with ethical approval, debrief participants after the study, etc.

**Grant support:** Help the researchers with the paperwork to apply for funding. You get the chance to join meetings, take notes, learn about the projects. You will be asked to keep track of the grant requirements and advice the researchers how they can stay in line with the requirements.

**Data analyst:** We have completed data collection for multiple studies and are currently in the process of preparing research papers to publish the results. To ensure the highest level of data accuracy and independent statistical analysis, we are seeking an individual to clean up the data and conduct independent statistical analysis.

**Study communication:** We have completed data collection for the study UL-F001 entitled “The effect of prolonged fasting on cognitive functioning” in which we investigate the effect of 72 hours not eating on multiple cognitive parameters, measured via questionnaires and a cognitive task switching task. You will be asked to create a captivating communication package to disseminate the study findings to both participants and partners.

**Social Media manager:** You will be entrusted with creating a strategic roadmap for our social media presence. This strategy will cover the form, frequency, and content of our future social media posts. By aligning our messaging with our research goals, you will help us connect with our target audience effectively.

**Social Media content creator:** We use our social media channels to bring information from scientific papers to the large public. We primarily utilize LinkedIn and Instagram, but we recognize the need to enhance our content creation efforts on these platforms. You will be reading scientific papers and translate these into social media posts for a larger audience. You will have the chance to dive into topics of your particular interest, linked to Lifestyle Brain Interaction.

**Crowd funding:** In order to sustain our vital research and communication endeavors, securing a budget is essential. Therefore, we are eager to explore crowdfunding opportunities as a means of supporting the research initiatives at LBI. As an intern student you can help with process mapping (what is the best way to set up a crowd funding action) or set-up a real action for a specific study.
Why Join Us?

- Impactful Work: At LBI Research Group, your efforts will directly contribute to important research.
- Collaborative Environment: Our team values collaboration, and you'll have the opportunity to work with experts in the field of nutritional health and neuroscience.
- Personal Growth: This role offers continuous learning opportunities and a chance to expand your skills.
- Flexibility: In terms of working hours, on site or remotely.

Application procedure

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Hiring manager

Dr. Eline Dekeyster  
Assistant Professor Cognitive Neuroscience  
Head of the Lifestyle Brain Interaction research group