SCDELAB@GMAIL.COM
HTTPS://RUTVIK.ORG

Two Postdoctoral Positions

Department of Psychology
University of South Carolina

Postdoctoral Fellows in Cognitive Neuroscience of Semantics and Aphasia. Two post-doctoral research positions are available in the laboratory of Dr. Rutvik Desai at the University of South Carolina, Department of Psychology. The lab focuses on cognitive neuroscience of language and neural representation of concepts using neuroimaging, brain stimulation, patient studies, lesion-deficit mapping, and neuroAI. Excellent facilities for fMRI, TMS, HD-tDCS, EEG, and eye tracking are available, which have been recently augmented by a new 7T and a second 3T scanner. The Fellows will have exciting opportunities to pursue collaborative projects at the Institute for Mind and Brain, Brain Health Center, and the Aphasia Lab. Opportunities to work on large multi-modal neuroimaging datasets that includes fMRI, for examining neural representations of concepts using LLMs, examining language processing in stroke aphasia, and collaborations with computer scientists to develop cutting-edge methods to examine the relationship between language models and the brain, are available.

Position One: Candidates with a PhD in any of the cognitive sciences (e.g., Psychology, Neuroscience, Computer Science) are welcome to apply. A research background in cognitive neuroscience/cognitive science relevant to semantic or language processing is expected. Expertise with fMRI analysis (one or more of AFNI/SPM/FSL and MVPA) is most desirable. Experience in one or more of brain stimulation (TMS or HD-tDCS), lesion-symptom mapping, LLMs, deep learning and other machine learning methods, along with skills in programming and statistics (e.g., Python, Matlab, R), are positives.

Position Two: Candidates with a PhD in Speech-Language Pathology, Psychology, or a closely related field are welcome to apply. Experience in working with participants with aphasia is expected. Familiarity in working with older adults and those with cognitive decline is also a positive, along with a familiarity with neuroimaging and/or brain stimulation methods.

For both positions, a promising publication record is desirable. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Applications should include a CV, brief statement of research experience and interests, and names of three referees (who will be asked for a reference letter if necessary; actual letters are not required initially). Expected starting date is May 2027 but is flexible. Applications should be sent to rutvik@sc.edu and will be assessed as they arrive.

The University of South Carolina is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation or veteran status.