

# Junior Researcher Programme

## jSchool 2018: Italy

8<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> July

Apply via our [website](#)

### The 2018 jSchool Italy

The jSchool offers the chance to gain valuable experience in designing intercultural research in small groups under supervision of early-career researchers. It provides a platform for psychology students to conduct research in an international setting and in their field of interest, with the aim to publish in scientific journals.

The jSchool includes lectures and seminars from experts in the field, and six research groups led by Research Supervisors. The final day of the jSchool marks the beginning of student enrolment into the Junior Researcher Programme.

### Why become a Research Supervisor?

Becoming a Research Supervisor in the Junior Researcher Programme is a unique opportunity for academic and personal development. Supervisors are given the chance to lead a group of six talented and motivated undergraduate and post-graduate psychology students in designing and conducting a cross-cultural research project of their choosing related to the theme: *Communication: The psychology of information*.

### Expectations of a Research Supervisor

- ✓ We are looking to recruit six determined, resilient, and motivated researchers with the skills and ability to supervise, direct, and support a group of six international psychology students to complete a cross-cultural research project (generally 13 months)
- ✓ To plan for and run research group sessions during the summer school
- ✓ To supply methodological and technical expertise on the research project from the outset
- ✓ To continue working on the study after the jSchool, oversee all aspects of the project, and attend the JRP Conference in the following year
- ✓ To ensure that the research project culminates in a written dissemination, at minimum, a protocol paper for our partner journal.

**Research Supervisors must be willing to commit to their proposed research projects for the duration of the programme. The programme starts with the jSchool in July 2018 and ends with the JRP Conference in August 2019.**



### jSchool Information

#### Where

Siena, Italy

#### When

8<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> July 2018

#### Contact

researchofficer@pscholars.org

### Supervisors Information

#### Eligibility

- You must be in your second or further year of PhD study or in the first three years of postdoctoral research.
- You must be able to communicate fluently in English (written and spoken).
- You must have studied and continue to be primarily working in psychology.

#### Key information

Six Research Supervisors are selected to lead small groups of Bachelor- and Master-level psychology students. These groups will then develop and carry out a 13-month research project based on the Supervisor's area of work.

#### How to Apply

Read the [application guidance form](#) and complete the [application form](#).

Curriculum vitae should be maximum two pages on qualifications and experience, plus publication page(s) (if necessary).

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a Skype interview on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

## Life at jSchool 2018 in Italy

During the summer school you will work, present, and reside alongside five other Supervisors as well as the organising team and invited speakers. You will be supported by the jSchool organising team and the JRP Research Officer and Director, who both have experience in research and the programme. This support will not, however, account for the responsibilities that are expected from the position of a Supervisor nor will organisers intervene with your group work (apart from various scientific and managerial checks).

At the jSchool, you can expect an exciting and fulfilling week unlike any conference or workshop. You will spend several hours each day working with your research group. Whilst you are free to manage your own team, we expect you to lead discussions of literature, theory, and objectives of the study. Your team is expected to produce the study design and action plan for the project to be presented on the final day of the jSchool.

## jSchool 2018 Italy Project Proposal

Typically, jSchool projects should be considered pilot studies on topics relating to the general research theme: *Communication: The psychology of information*. We have outlined some potential example projects below, though other ideas are very welcome as these are meant only as idea-generators. The general focus should relate to the science of communication, delivering information to change attitudes and behaviour, public engagement, and wider relevant impacts.

1. How do social norms, values, and ideology relate to the spread of misinformation?
2. Is the public understanding of science influenced by the physical appearance of the scientist?
3. Improving team communication to resolve conflict in the workplace
4. How do neuroscientific explanations of psychopathy relate to public judgements of morality?
5. Increasing perceptions of similarity to improve pupil-teacher interactions in multicultural classrooms

If the project you have in mind does not directly relate to any of the mentioned research areas, you can still apply, provided that it meets the requirements outlined in the guidance document available on the website.

## Checklist for topic and method requirements

- ✓ A clear and relevant research question should be formulated.
- ✓ Description of how students can be actively involved in the research design and process.
- ✓ Feasibility of the project: It should be described how the research question can be answered within the programme's frame
- ✓ The target population should be reasonable to recruit within a certain time (+/- 6 months).
- ✓ Suggestions for recruitment of participants, methodology, and instruments should be provided.

## jSchool Theme

Communication:  
The psychology of information

*We are thrilled to hold the 2018 jSchool in Italy. Aligning with high-impact areas identified by major public organisations, for 2018-19, we will host projects that aim to identify and address communication challenges in the mechanisms connecting science, industry, government, and the public.*

*Our main question will be: How can we improve communication to truly make a difference in people's lives? Where can we, as psychologists, provide novel and tangible insights on the public engagement with science, conflict resolution, the building of effective relationships across governments, industries, teams, and individuals?*

*In order to meet these objectives, the jSchool will focus on how psychology can contribute to overcoming external barriers and potential setbacks to foster successful exchange of information.*

*The 2018 jSchool is intended to be the starting point of an agenda that would establish a milestone in training young psychologists to translate evidence and research to real-world impact outcomes.*

*Dr Kai Ruggeri  
University of Cambridge,  
Director of Junior Researcher Programme*