

Expectations of Students

The Wellcome Trust funded Neural Dynamics PhD programme trains postgraduate students in world-class neuroscience combining computational and experimental or clinical approaches.

By accepting a place on the Neural Dynamics programme you have agreed to:

- Abide by University of Bristol regulations:
www.bristol.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/after-you-apply/policies/
- Abide by Wellcome Trust policies:
wellcome.ac.uk/funding/guidance/pages?tid=1141
- Prioritize your own well-being and health.
- Arrange regular meetings with your supervisors - including joint meetings with your experimental and computational supervisors.
- Discuss PhD progress committee outcomes with your supervisors.
- Participate in Neural Dynamics cohort activities including the forum, tutorials and retreat, You should alert the Neural Dynamics administration (Elaine.Sparey@bristol.ac.uk) as soon as possible if you are unable to attend.
- Monitor your studentship budget in liaison with your supervisors.
- Contribute to the Neural Dynamics community through, for example, helping organise activities and events such as the annual retreat and public engagement.
- Communicate your scientific work through presentations, publication in journals and, where suitable, through the use of preprint servers like [bioRxiv](https://www.biorxiv.org/) and sites such as [figshare](https://www.figshare.com/) and [zenodo](https://www.zenodo.org/) which host and doi posters and slides.
- Engage in open and reproducible science, maintaining computer code on open repositories, such as [github](https://github.com/) and data, with appropriate metadata, on data repositories such as data.bris.ac.uk; where suitable studies should be preregistered.
- Submit your thesis within four years of starting the programme.
- Keep your [orcid](https://orcid.org/) up to date and keep us posted of your future career.

Last but not least, if you have any concerns or worries, whatever they might be, please speak to your supervisors, programme directors, progress committee or postgraduate tutor. We are there to support you and will give you confidential help and advice.

For general tips on navigating the challenges of a PhD see:

www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-07332-x

Expectations of Supervisors

The Wellcome Trust funded Neural Dynamics PhD programme trains postgraduate students in world-class neuroscience combining computation and experimental or clinical approaches.

It is the responsibility of the primary supervisor to cascade this document and other relevant Neural Dynamics communications to the rest of the supervisory team.

In accepting a student for a project rotation the supervisory team will agree to:

- Have regular meetings with the student throughout their rotation project.
- Provide help and feedback to students on writing reports and other documents as part of their progression.
- Be mindful of the students wellbeing. See:
www.bristol.ac.uk/students/wellbeing

If your rotation project is selected by the student for their PhD studies then additionally:

- Encourage the student to attend Neural Dynamics programme activities and ensure where possible that research and other activities do not interfere with attendance.
- Meet regularly with the student.
- Ensure joint experimental and computational supervisor meetings take place on a regular basis; typically, at least once every two months.
- Encourage and support students in their career development, including applying for prizes and fellowship opportunities.
- Encourage the students to communicate their scientific results through presentations, publication in journals and, where suitable, through the use of preprint servers and other repositories for scientific outputs such as posters, data and computer code.
- Support the student in practicing open and reproducible science.
- Complete STARs feedback forms and act on PhD progress committee recommendations.
- Keep student project costs within budget.
- Ensure that the project remains within Neural Dynamics remit.
www.bristol.ac.uk/neural-dynamics/
- Ensure the student submits their thesis within four years.

Note: Change in supervisors/project direction will need to be approved by the Programme Management team.

Alert the Programme Management team at the earliest date if any of the following occurs:

- Significant change in project direction
- Change in supervisor
- Progression issues
- Any interruption of studies or wellbeing issues

As a supervisor on the programme you are also expected to participate in Neural Dynamics events such as the forum and retreats, and also be willing to assist with other programme related activities such as the summer school; recruitment; progression committees and student report assessments. All staff involved in recruitment should have carried out the appropriate training:
www.bristol.ac.uk/hr/resourcing/resources/training.html

Supervisors on the Neural Dynamics programme should also:

- Abide by the terms and conditions of the Wellcome Trust:
wellcome.ac.uk/funding/guidance/pages?tid=1141
- Conform to University requirements of supervision
www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/pg/pgrcode/section5/
- Be aware of university policies on unconscious bias and equality and diversity:
www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/equality/training/unconscious-bias/
www.bristol.ac.uk/hr/resourcing/additionalguidance/equality/