

# POSITION DESCRIPTION



## Research Fellow in Language Learning

### POSITION DETAILS

Position Title	Research Fellow in Language Learning
Classification	Academic Level B
Position Number	<b>7016232</b>
School/Office	MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour, and Development
Division	Provost

### POSITION PURPOSE

This research-intensive role requires a forward-thinking, dynamic, and innovative scholar. Responsibilities span research, scholarship, and professional practice within the discipline, with active engagement across relevant groups in the MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development and with Schools and Faculties at Western Sydney University.

This position is funded by an Australian Research Council Discovery Project Grant: "Personalising language training to the needs of learners". The successful applicant will work closely with Associate Professor Mark Antoniou, Professor Patrick Wong (Chinese University of Hong Kong) and Professor Bharath Chandrasekaran (Northwestern University).

### KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. Initiate and lead research projects using neurocognitive approaches to investigate language learning, including designing, setting up, running, and analysing experiments with diverse participants.
2. Disseminate research outcomes including publishing journal articles, public outreach presentations and participation in national and international conferences.
3. Contribute to the University's teaching program in collaboration with relevant Schools and Faculties.
4. Identify, attract, and develop quality higher degree research students.
5. Prepare and submit quality internal and external research grant proposals.
6. Participate in administration and attend meetings as required with the Institute, and across the University.

## QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

1. A doctoral qualification in cognitive psychology, linguistics, neuroscience or a related field.
2. Demonstrated experience in conducting research using models of speech perception and/or cognition, and testing those models with behavioural or neuroscience experiments. Expertise in using fNIRS is desirable.
3. Established track record of peer reviewed publications and conference presentations in relevant areas.
4. Experience in developing a network of relationships with key academic, industry and professional institutions, partners and stakeholders.
5. Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including interpersonal skills and the ability to work effectively in a team. Ability to be highly organised, meet priorities and timelines.
6. Demonstrated experience (individually or as part of a team) in writing research grant proposals.
7. Experience in the supervision of research postgraduate students is desirable.

## KEY RELATIONSHIPS

1. **This position reports to:** Associate Professor
2. **This position supervises:** n/a
3. **Key internal relationships:**
  - a. Institute Director, Institute Manager, Institute Researchers, Higher Degree Students, Honours Students, Research Assistants
  - b. Other staff within the Institute and Western Sydney University
4. **Key external relationships:**
  - a. Local Community organisations
  - b. Partner institutions

## CHALLENGES

- *Navigating competing priorities across a variety of tasks while maintaining scientific integrity.*
- *Delivering high quality research through successful grant outcomes, peer-reviewed research outputs and Higher Degree Research candidate completions*
- *Supporting and contributing to the strategic direction of the Institute*

## UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS

The University expects that all employees are aware of, and comply with legislation and Western's policies and procedures relevant to the position, including but not limited to:

- Code of Conduct
- Work Health and Safety and Wellbeing Management System
- Enterprise Agreement or Award
- Anti-discrimination principles, Equal Employment Opportunity and staff and student equity.

**Approved by: Prof Deborah Sweeney**

**Date: 24 February 2026**