

**Department of Psychology** [www.psychology.hu-berlin.de](http://www.psychology.hu-berlin.de)  
 Wolfgang Köhler-Haus · Rudower Chaussee 18 · 12489 Berlin · Germany

The Department is part of the Natural Science Campus Adlershof at the southeast border of Berlin (30 min from Central Station with line S9). It has a tradition of using experimental and (in some areas) neurophysiological methods. There are strong interdisciplinary ties to the Departments of Medicine (particularly Psychiatry, Neurology, Psychosomatics), Computer Science, Mathematics, Geography, Linguistics, and Engineering. Research facilities include EEG, eye-tracking, pupillometry, TMS neuronavigation, reaction time, and video labs. An outpatient clinic supplies diagnostic and treatment services and also supports research and teaching. The affiliated *artop* Institute offers applied research in the areas of human resources, organization, and software usability.

## Facts and Figures

- 10 tenured and 3 junior professors (2008)
- Research associates: 56 (28 Post-Docs)
- Doctoral students: 130 (45 with office space)
- Students: 759 (module-based Diploma), 73 (BA/MA)
- Degrees awarded in 2007:
  - Diploma: 99
  - Doctoral degrees: 10
  - Habilitations: 2
- 3rd party funding (spent) in 2007: 1.438.350 €

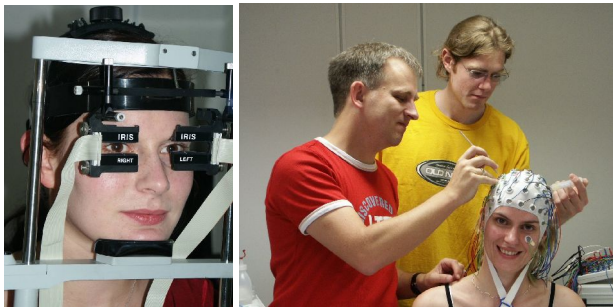
Research and teaching are organized according to the following three domains:

## Cognitive and Neuropsychology

Basic cognitive and neuroscience research is conducted on motor preparation, language processing, cognitive plasticity, interaction of cognition and emotion and face recognition. A DFG<sup>1</sup>-funded research group on [Conflicts as Signals in Cognitive Systems](#) is at the core of the newly established *Interdisciplinary Wolfgang Köhler Centre for the Study of Conflicts in Intelligent Systems*. Research for instance aims at the following questions:

- Role of emotions in solving cognitive conflicts
- Conflict as a trigger for strategy optimization in skill acquisition
- How are temporal aspects of events represented in and retrieved from semantic memory?

Labs: [Frensch](#), [Kathmann](#), [Schmiedek](#), [Sommer](#), [van der Meer](#)



## Clinical and Personality Psychology

Current research has a focus on obsessive-compulsive and anxiety disorders, schizophrenic disorders, and processes of normal and pathological aging. The development of personality differences and personality disorders is studied longitudinally with a focus on the interaction between personality and social relationships. Examples for research projects involve:

- Implicit representations of personality<sup>1</sup>
- Performance monitoring during learning and decision-making in patients with obsessive-compulsive disorder<sup>2</sup>
- Action control in patients with schizophrenia or obsessive-compulsive disorder.

Labs: [Asendorpf](#), [Denissen](#), [Fydrich](#), [Kathmann](#)

<sup>1</sup> German Research Foundation; <sup>2</sup> Federal Ministry of Education and Research; <sup>3</sup> Hans-Böckler Foundation; Pictures: Clinical lab / Neuro-physiological lab / Group lab / Department building

## Work, Engineering, and Organizational Psychology

Research concentrates on the interactions between persons, technical systems, and organizations. The goal is to analyze, create, and evaluate work and learning processes of individuals, groups, and organizations. The theoretical foundation of this enterprise is provided by cognitive and social psychological theories. Our methodology is based on both experimental and field assessments. Research themes encompass:

- Conditions of innovation processes, e.g. participation<sup>3</sup>
- New methods for interaction and group processes
- Transfer research: diagnostics and man-machine interaction, e.g., with focus on age-differentiated work systems<sup>1</sup>

Labs: [Krause](#), [Schindler](#), [Scholl](#), [Wandke](#), [Ziegler](#)



## Teaching and Doctoral Programs

The Department offers a module-based teaching program with a Diploma degree in Psychology. After elaborating the basics of the discipline, students turn to applied psychology and, in addition, elect one of the three aforementioned research and teaching domains as their focus. Since 2007, a special psychotherapy program is offered to postgraduate students aiming for federal psychotherapist licensure (Approbation). The Department contributes to several doctoral programs including:

- [Berlin School of Mind and Brain](#) (funded by the Excellence initiative)
- International Max Planck Research School *The Life Course: Evolutionary and Ontogenetic Dynamics* ([LIFE](#))
- [Neuropsychiatry and Psychology of Aging](#)
- [Perspectives on Urban Ecology](#)
- [PROMETEI](#) (Design of Human-Machine Interaction)
- Berlin-Potsdam doctoral studies program in Work and Organizational Psychology

## Partners and Research Networks

Local collaborations involve the other Berlin and Potsdam universities, the [Max Planck Institute for Human Development](#), and the *Interdisciplinary Centers* of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Socrates contracts provide the basis for a student exchange with 17 European psychology departments. Numerous research cooperations exist with departments inside and outside of Germany.

