

Social touch experiences and social cognition in adults

Master's thesis project

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People use touch to communicate and bond with each other. However, there is substantial variability in how often people engage in touch and how much they enjoy it. Is enjoyment of social touch linked to understanding others' mental states? Are childhood experiences with social touch associated with social cognition in adulthood?

We are looking for two motivated Master's students to join us in exploring these topics in the **summer semester 2026**.

What we offer:

- Close supervision in English
- Opportunity to get involved in data collection with adult participants
- Potential co-authorship on a scientific article, subject to meeting authorship contribution guidelines

Requirements:

- Study of psychology/neuroscience/cognitive science/related field
- Advanced German and English skills
- Reliability in meeting deadlines and commitments

Interested? Please send an email with your CV, short motivation letter and a Transcript of Records to: alicja.brzozowska@univie.ac.at