At a glance
We explore the social and biological aspects of human cognition and behavior: how learning, processing and sharing information takes place and how the interplay between the human mind and sociocultural practices affects people’s actions. Students, together with faculty, carry out interdisciplinary research right from the start, drawing on psychology, neuroscience, philosophy, mathematical modeling, linguistics and the social sciences.

Our department runs several research projects funded by the European Research Council in state-of-the-art research facilities with technology for infant studies, eye and motion tracking, music, EEG and NIRS. Our vibrant, multicultural community hosts weekly colloquium talks as well as regular conferences and workshops to exchange ideas and network with fellow researchers.

Earn a valuable degree
PhD in Cognitive Science / This research-intensive, multidisciplinary program provides specialized knowledge in the fields of social cognition, cognitive development as well as formal and biological models of perception and learning. You will receive regular supervision and practical research training in our labs, from experimental design to data analysis. You will also have the opportunity to join research groups and work closely together with faculty members.
“What has impressed me about the department is the infrastructure available to students to carry out quality research and become better scientists. Our labs are surely among the best in Europe, and we have plenty of opportunities to discuss our ideas and present them in conferences around the world. We also have fruitful collaboration with other institutions. All this makes the department a great place for those seeking a career in cognitive science.”
Elevate your research

Behavioral economics • Cognition and culture • Cognitive development • Cooperation • Computational models • Embodied cognition • Infant social cognition • Joint action • Learning and memory • Social cognitive neuroscience • Statistical learning • Visual perception

RESEARCH CENTERS

Center for Cognitive Computation • Cognitive Development Center • Social Mind Center

EXPERIMENTAL FACILITIES

Baby Lab • Child Lab • Decision-Making Lab • Music Lab • Social Mind and Body Lab • Visual Perception and Learning Lab

Spark your career

Our program equips students with skills for successful careers in academia and other research-oriented sectors, meeting the growing demand for experts in social and computational cognitive science.

6 EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL GRANTS
6 PHD STUDENTSHIPS EVERY YEAR
4:1 STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO
Fund your studies

In pursuit of our mission, we strive to attract world-class graduate talent from all over the world. This is why we offer generous financial aid available to students from any country. Doctoral scholarships include a full tuition waiver and a monthly stipend for living expenses. Learn more at www.ceu.edu/financialaid.

Apply

General admissions requirements
- Completed online application form: www.ceu.edu/apply
- Proof of English proficiency
- Letters of recommendation
- CV

Program-specific requirements
- Master’s degree in any discipline related to cognitive science
- Research proposal
49 English-language degree programs. Students and faculty from 100+ countries. 18,000+ alumni across 6 continents. Accredited in Austria, the United States and Hungary. 7:1 student/faculty ratio. Based in Vienna, the heart of Europe.