

Dr. Michael Gaebler

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Experience

since 03/2018	Max Planck Institute for Cognitive & Brain Sciences , Leipzig <i>Group Leader, Mind-Body-Emotion Group, Dept. of Neurology</i> 01/2021-08/2022: 3 months full- & 16 months part-time paternal leave 03/2018-02/2019: 12 months part-time paternal leave
07/2015-02/2018	Universität Leipzig <i>Postdoc, Leipzig Research Centre for Civilization Diseases</i> 08/2017-02/2018: 3 months full- & 4 months part-time paternal leave
03/2014-06/2015	Max Planck Institute for Cognitive & Brain Sciences , Leipzig <i>Postdoctoral Researcher, Dept. of Neurology</i>
11/2013-12/2013	Korea University , Seoul <i>Visiting Researcher, Dept. of Brain & Cognitive Engineering</i>
03/2010-09/2013	Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin <i>Doctoral Researcher, Dept. of Psychiatry & Psychotherapy</i>
03/2009-12/2009	Volunteering and travelling around the world
02/2009	Roland Berger Strategy Consultants , Berlin & Copenhagen
10/2001-07/2002	Studium Generale, Leibniz Kolleg Tübingen
08/2000-07/2001	Civilian Community Service, Hospital Diakonissenanstalt Flensburg

Appointments

since 10/2024	COST-Action "An evolutionary view to understanding affective states across species (AFFECT-EVO)" <i>Member of the management committee</i>
since 03/2024	International Max Planck Research School on Cognitive Neuroimaging <i>Faculty member</i>
since 2020	Innovationsfond of the Gemeinsamer Bundesausschuss (G-BA) <i>Member of the expert pool</i>
since 2018	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Dept. of Psychology <i>Member of the ethics committee</i>

Education

- Oct 2013 Dr. rer. nat. (PhD), **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**
"Physiology of emotional & self-related processing in social anxiety disorder"
Grade: *magna cum laude* | Dept. of Psychology
- Nov 2008 Master of Science (with distinction), **University College London**
Grade: 1.0 | Field of study: Dual Masters Brain and Mind Sciences
- Sept 2007 Diplôme Interuniversitaire, **École Normale Supérieure & Université Paris VI**
Grade: *mention bien* | Field of study: Dual Masters Brain and Mind Sciences
- Sept 2006 Bachelor of Science, **Universität Osnabrück**
Grade: *excellent* | Field of study: Cognitive Science
- July 2005 Exchange year, **McGill University**, Montreal
GPA: 3.61/4.0 | Field of study: Cognitive and Neuroscience
- July 2000 A-levels (Abitur), **Scheffold Gymnasium**, Schwäbisch Gmünd

Grants as (co-)PI

- 2025-2028 [DFG-funded project "Examining the mechanisms that integrate cardiorespiratory interoception with active sensing \(INTACT\)"](#)
- 2023-2026 [DFG-funded project "Increasing eyewitness identification accuracy in lineups using 3D interactive virtual reality \(3DIL\)"](#)
- 2023-2026 [BMBF-funded project "Technology-assisted motor rehabilitation for patients with Rett Syndrome \(TeMoRett\)"](#)
- 2023-2026 [BMBF-funded project "Objective & hybrid assessment of cognitive & fatigue-associated Post-COVID symptoms with multimodal tools \(EPSILON\)"](#)
- 2021-2025 Project ["Neurocognitively-guided modelling of virtual humans for enhanced realism in immersive media \(NEUROHUM\)"](#), funded by the [Max Planck Society-Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft](#) collaboration
- 2021-2022 [BMBF-funded project "Mobile immersive virtual reality for a sensitive digital diagnostics of spatial neglect \(3DIA\)"](#)
- 2020 EU-funded project, ([XR4ALL](#) initiative). ["Exite-O-Meter: A Unity plugin to include bodily signals in XR development & evaluation"](#)
- 2017-2021 [BMBF-funded project "Virtual worlds for digital diagnostics & cognitive rehabilitation \(VRha\)"](#)

Grants as collaborator

- 2024-28 COST-Action “An evolutionary view to understanding affective states across species (AFFECT-EVO)” (Main proposer: T. Smulders, Newcastle University)
- 2022-24 BBSRC International Partnership: “ManyFaces - int. network of face researchers” (PI: L. DeBruine, University of Glasgow)
- 2023-28 ANII - MPG Research Group at Universidad de la República, Montevideo, Uruguay: “Brain-body basis of social conflict approach-avoidance in depression & health” (PI: V. Gradin)
- 2023 Internationalization grant at Università di Torino, Italy: “Minimally invasive & continuous rating of affective experience in immersive VR” (PI: S. Carletto)

Scholarships and prizes

- 2024 Award for excellent teaching 2024, Dept. of Education & Psychology, Freie Universität Berlin
- 2019 “Best demo” award for [project VReha](#) at the [International Conference on Virtual Rehabilitation \(ICVR\)](#), Tel Aviv.
- 2013/14 Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin - Postdoc Scholarship
- 2013 Poster prize at [Emotions: Nature, Recognition, Culture](#), Bochum.
- 2010-14 Travel grants (e.g., Barbara Wengeler or GSK Foundation)
- 2006-8 University College London - Tuition Fee Scholarship
- 2007/8 German Academic Exchange Service - Graduate Scholarship
- 2004/5 CREPUQ - Tuition Fee Scholarship for McGill University

Service to the profession

Reviewer or selection committee

Journals (selection)

Trends in Cognitive Sciences, Psychophysiology, Psychological Medicine, Trends in Neurosciences, NeuroImage, Translational Psychiatry, BMC Psychology, Anxiety, Stress & Coping, Learning & Memory, Frontiers in Human Neuroscience, PLOS ONE, Consciousness & Cognition, Psychopathology, Current Trends in Psychological Science, Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences

Conferences

Organization for Human Brain Mapping, MindBrainBody Symposium, Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Neurorehabilitation (DGNR), International Conference on Disability, Virtual Reality & Associated Technologies (ICDVRAT)

Prizes

XR Research Awards 2021

Graduate schools

Berlin School of Mind and Brain, Einstein Center for Neurosciences Berlin, International Max Planck Research School on Neuroscience of Communication, Max Planck School of Cognition

Dissertations reviewer & thesis advisory committee

Dr. Madis Vasser (University of Tartu, Estonia; 12/2020), Dr. Nicolai Wolpert (Ecole Normale Supérieure Paris, France; 06/2021), Dr. Tim Möller (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin; 11/2024), Dr. Suvi Karjalainen (Jyväskylä University, Finland; 01/2025), Maria Azanova (University of Leipzig; ongoing); Tydings McClary (International Max Planck Research School LIFE; ongoing)

Grants and grant agencies

Swiss National Science Foundation, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), National Science Center Poland, BioTechMed Graz, European Research Council, Austrian Science Fund

Membership

Academic societies

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychologie (DGPs) - Fachgruppe Biologische Psychologie & Neuropsychologie and Interest Group Open & Reproducible Research, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychophysiologie & ihre Anwendung (DGPA), Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM), Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR)

(Co-)Supervision - doctoral and postdoctoral researchers

ongoing	Dr. Aleksandra Piejka (Postdoc): <i>Loneliness and interpersonal distance perception</i>
ongoing	Alexandros Kastrinogiannis (Postdoc): <i>Face identification in 3D interactive lineups</i>
ongoing	Mia Neubauer (MD): <i>Differentiation of neuropsychological Post-COVID symptoms using heart rate variability</i>
ongoing	Agata Patyczek (PhD): <i>Arousal, stress, and other affective states over the lifespan</i>
ongoing	Elias Reinwarth (PhD): <i>Psychophysiology of affective states during motor learning</i>
ongoing	Anthony Ciston (PhD): <i>Videobased assessment of cardiorespiratory activity</i>
ongoing	Antonin Fourcade (PhD): <i>Multi-modal affective computing in naturalistic settings</i>
ongoing	Felix Klotzsche (PhD): <i>Assessing human cognition in immersive setups</i>
ongoing	Marta Gerosa (PhD): <i>The influence of heart-brain interactions on the sense of agency</i>
2023-25	Dr. Sam Verschooren (Postdoc): <i>External, internal, interoceptive attention</i>
2025	Simon Hofmann (PhD): <i>Explainable deep learning models for human neuroimaging</i>
2025	Marie Uhlig (PhD): <i>Brain changes after psychosocial stress and their relation to other stress markers</i>
2021	Janis Reinelt (MD): <i>Mind-brain-body interactions after acute psychosocial stress</i>
2021	Stella Kunzendorf (MD): <i>The psychophysiology of heart-brain-interactions: how active information sampling is modulated across the cardiac cycle</i>
2021	Deniz Kumral (PhD): <i>Variability in heart and brain activity across the adult lifespan</i>
2019	Johanna Grosse Rueschkamp (PhD): <i>Short-term changes in positive affective experiences and their relation to interindividual differences in subjective well-being</i>
2017-19	Dr. Johanne Tromp (Postdoc): <i>Immersive virtual reality for cognitive testing & training</i>
2018	Anne Rohner (MD): <i>Consequences of chronic and acute stress on the heart rate variability of men and postmenopausal women of the same age.</i>
2017	Anne Schrimpf (PhD): <i>Weight-related stigmatization & its impact on behavioral adaptations, affect, & parasympathetic activity during social information processing – a cross-cultural comparison</i>

(Co-)Supervision - students

ongoing	Can Bolat (MSc Cognitive Neuroscience, Freie Universität Berlin)
2025	Marta Vardzieli (MSc Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
2024	Emilia Hildebrand (BSc Medical Engineering, Ernst-Abbe-Hochschule Jena)
2024	Lucy Roellecke (MSc Cognitive Neuroscience, Free University Berlin)
2024	Benjamin Dupré (MSc Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
2023	Agata Patyczek (MSc Cognitive Science, University of Vienna)
2023	Elias Reinwarth (MSc Cognitive Science, University of Vienna)
2020	Alex Masurovsky (MSc Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
2019	Annemarie Scholz (BSc Psychology, Universität Potsdam)
2018	Simon Hofmann (MSc Cognitive Science, Universiteit van Amsterdam)
2017	Felix Klotzsche (MSc Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
2017	Alberto Mariola (MSc Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
2016	Rebecca Jost (BSc Psychology, Fernuniversität Hagen)
ongoing	17 lab rotations or internships and 12 student assistantships

Scientific collaborations (selection)

- Peter Eisert, Marcel Brass, Sven Ohl (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
- Carsten Finke, Angela Kaindl, Moritz Queisner (Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin)
- Klaus-Robert Müller, Sebastian Möller (Berlin Institute of Technology)
- Anna Hilsmann, Sebastian Bosse, Paul Chojecki (Fraunhofer Heinrich Hertz Institute)
- Felix Biessmann, Kristian Hildebrand (Berliner Hochschule für Technik)
- Guido Hesselmann (Psychologische Hochschule Berlin)
- Heather Flowe, Melissa Colloff (Birmingham University, UK)
- Anna Bobak (University of Stirling, UK)
- Stephen Lindsay (University of Victoria, Canada)
- Julian König (Universität Köln)
- Daniel S. Quintana (Oslo University)
- Bigna Lenggenhager (Universität Konstanz)
- Christian A. Kell (Goethe University Frankfurt)
- Gaetano Valenza (University of Pisa)
- Victoria Gradin (Universidad de la Republica, Montevideo, Uruguay)
- Alex Galvez Pol (University of the Balearic Islands, Palma de Mallorca, Spain)
- Sara Carletto, Francesca Malandrone (Università di Torino, Italy)

Publications

Full list on [google scholar](#)