Research Activity
Investigating similarity and assumed similarity between people

Brief description of the research project:
Researchers have been interested in the similarity between social interaction partners, for instance friends, romantic partners, or roommates. In addition, some studies have also suggested that next to actual similarity between social interaction partners, people also assume some non-existing similarity between themselves and their partners with regard to some, but not all personality characteristics (e.g., Lee et al., 2009; Paunonen & Hong, 2013; Selhout, Denissen, Branje, & Meeus, 2009). This project aims to provide novel insights into this research stream.

Students work and learning process:
Students will (a) read and discuss the literature of the field, (b) participate in the planning of experiments/studies to further examine similarity and assumed similarity between people, (c) setup experiments/studies, (d) run experiments/studies, (e) participate in analyzing data and discussing results, and, potentially, (f) participate in writing manuscripts.

Expectations:
Students can expect to participate in and contribute to an “entire” research process under the supervision of an experienced researcher. That is, students will actually take part in each step of a (small) research project.
The researcher expects the students to actively contribute to the research project, e.g., by discussing study ideas, recruiting participants, running experiments/studies, analyzing data.

Tasks:
See above: Students will have to perform different tasks reflecting different research activities.
Requirements:
Students can either be at the BA or the MA level. Students should be interested in personality psychology in general and models of basic personality structure (in line with the trait approach) in particular. Overall, up to five students can participate in the project.

ECTS:
Students can gain 10 ECTS points when participating in the project. To this end, students have to work for 120h in the project, to read a curriculum of 600 pages, and to write a report of 8 pages at the end of the project.

Publications:
It is possible for students to be part of a publication based on this project (if there will be a publication out of this project).

Contact Details:
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