Summer School for Early-Career Researchers, 21st PSPS Congress 2026

Basic Information:

Registration is available at the following link: Applications for the Summer School – 21st PSPS Congress 2026

Priority in the recruitment process is given to PSPS members.

Dates:
September 15–16
Tuesday (9:30 AM – 5:30 PM) – Wednesday (9:30 AM – 5:30 PM)

Venue:
Multidisciplinary Research Centre
ul. Marii Konopnickiej 1
05-092 Dziekanów Leśny

Fee:
The participation fee is 200 PLN and covers attendance in the workshops as well as lunch on both days. The organizers do not provide accommodation for participants.

Programme:
The programme includes two workshops conducted in English. The remaining workshops will be delivered in Polish, with the possibility of switching to English if English-speaking students register.

On the first day, one full-day workshop and two parallel shorter workshops are planned. The same structure is scheduled for the second day of the event.

NOTE! Participants are required to bring their own laptop to the workshops.

Polish Social Psychological Society

Table of contents

Polish Social Psychological Society

Schedule

Time	Title	Instructors	Room
September 15, tuesday			
9:30 - 13:00	Workshop 1: From Brain Signals to Markers of Emotion and Cognitive Processes: An Introduction to Electroencephalography	Stanisław Adamczyk, PhD candidate, UJ	
14:00 - 17:00	Workshop 2: Science Popularization: Best Practices	Dominika Bulska, PhD, UW SWPS	
9:30 - 17:30	Workshop 3: Mixed Methods in Text Analysis: From Dictionaries to BERT	Bartłomiej Nowak, PhD candidate, UKSW	
Lunch (September 15 and 16): 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM			
September 16, wednesday			
9:30 - 13:00	Workshop 4: How Artificial Intelligence Makes Decisions: An Introduction to Decision Trees	dr hab. Agnieszka Szymańska, UKSW	
14:00 - 17:00	Warsztat 5: Dyadic Data Analyses with the Actor-Partner Interdependence Model	Kay Brauer, PhD, Martin Luther University	
9:30 - 17:30	Workshop 6: Longitudinal Data Analysis Methods	Maciej Górski, PhD candidate, UW, PAN Wojciech Podsiadłowski, PhD candidate, UW	

Program szkoły letniej

September 15, 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM – Workshop 1: From Brain Signals to Markers of Emotion and Cognitive Processes: An Introduction to Electroencephalography

When used with appropriate methodological caution, electroencephalography (EEG) provides unique insights into the neural correlates of perception, attention, and emotion. EEG records brain activity at a temporal resolution of up to a thousand times per second, allowing researchers to observe extremely brief neural events that cannot be captured using other methods.

However, interpreting EEG results requires particular care. The method has limitations in precisely localizing the sources of recorded activity and is susceptible to various artifacts, including muscle activity. Moreover, EEG typically captures correlates of cognitive processes—sometimes only partially understood—rather than the processes themselves. Awareness of these limitations is essential to avoid drawing premature conclusions.

During my workshop, I will discuss these issues in an accessible way to help you build a foundational understanding of EEG. The introduction will be combined with examples from social neuroscience, offering ideas on how EEG can be applied in your own research. Topics will include: signal preprocessing, event-related potentials (ERPs), spectral analysis, connectivity analysis, source localization, and statistical evaluation of EEG data.

The workshop will include both a lecture component and practical exercises, allowing you to experience some of the challenges involved in working with brain signals. The final part of the workshop will be fully dedicated to your questions regarding EEG and its potential applications in your research.

Workshop 1 – Instructor:

Stanisław Adamczyk, PhD Candidate
Brain Research Center, Jagiellonian University, Poland
Doctoral School in Social Sciences, Jagiellonian University, Poland

SWPS University, Poland

fot. Karina Szymczuk

September 15, 2:00 PM – 5:30 PM – Workshop 2: Science Popularization: Best Practices

How can we effectively communicate scientific research findings? What tools should we use to do it well? Does the way we communicate science depend on the medium we choose? And finally, why is it worth sharing research results with broader audiences? These and other questions will be addressed during a practical workshop dedicated to the communication and dissemination of scientific findings.

Workshop 2 – Instructor:

Dr. Dominika Bulska

University of Warsaw, Poland

September 15, 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM - Workshop 3: Mixed Methods in Text Analysis: From Dictionaries to BERT

This workshop provides a structured introduction to mixed methods research, with a strong emphasis on computational text analysis in the social sciences. The workshop is designed to guide participants from foundational quantitative text-analytic techniques to state-of-the-art BERT-based topic modeling, illustrating how different methodological approaches can be meaningfully combined within a mixed methods framework. In Part 1, participants will be introduced to basic dictionary-based and descriptive approaches to text analysis. This section covers simple word-frequency analyses, keyword extraction, and dictionary-based measures (e.g., thematic categories, psychological lexicons), as well as sentiment analysis. The goal of this part is to demonstrate what kinds of insights can be obtained using transparent, rule-based methods, and to discuss their strengths and limitations, particularly in cross-cultural and multilingual research contexts. In Part 2, the workshop transitions to advanced topic modeling using BERT-based embeddings. Participants will learn how transformer models represent semantic meaning in text and how these representations can be used to identify latent thematic structures in short and noisy textual data. The session focuses on practical implementation of BERT-based topic models, interpretation of topics, and strategies for evaluating their coherence and stability. In Part 3, the workshop integrates these techniques within a mixed methods research framework. Participants will learn how to combine quantitative topic modeling results with qualitative interpretation, theory-driven coding, and hypothesis testing. Special attention is given to how topic models can be used to generate hypotheses, enrich quantitative models, and support theory development rather than replace traditional qualitative analysis (English only).

Workshop 3 - Instructor

Bartłomiej Nowak, PhD Candidate

Institute of Psychology, Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski University in Warsaw

September 16, 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM - Workshop 4: How Artificial Intelligence Makes Decisions: An Introduction to Decision Trees

The workshop focuses on decision trees as one of the fundamental and most interpretable approaches used in contemporary artificial intelligence and machine learning systems. Decision trees constitute an important starting point for understanding how AI models make decisions based on data and how the process of automated inference operates.

During the workshop, the concept of decision trees will be discussed in the context of artificial intelligence, including their structure, underlying logic, and role in building predictive models. Particular emphasis will be placed on model interpretability and the possibility of tracing the decision-making process, which is crucial both in scientific research and in the responsible application of AI. Participants will become familiar with the general principles of training decision-based models as well as with typical challenges related to their practical use.

The workshop has an introductory character and focuses on understanding the ideas underlying the use of decision trees in AI systems, without requiring prior technical background or knowledge of specific algorithms.

The workshop is intended for participants interested in artificial intelligence, data analysis, and interpretable decision-making models, especially those who wish to gain a better understanding of how AI “makes decisions”.

Workshop 4 - Instructor:

Agnieszka Szymańska, PhD; DSc, Associate Professor

Institute of Psychology, Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski University in Warsaw

September 16, 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM - Workshop 5: Dyadic Data Analyses with the Actor-Partner Interdependence Model (English only)

The study of dyads (e.g., romantic couples, parent-child, colleague, supervisor-employee, teacher-student, therapist-client dyads) is gaining increasing popularity in research on the analysis of social relationships. The evaluation of datasets characterized by pairwise interdependence among dyad members requires specialized analytical approaches. The Actor-Partner Interdependence Model (APIM, Cook & Kenny, 2005) is the state-of-the-art method for dyadic data analysis. The APIM enables the computation of relationships between predictor and outcome variables at intrapersonal and interpersonal levels (actor and partner effects) while taking dyadic interdependence into account. In this workshop, I will provide a theoretical introduction and practical insights into APIM analyses. This includes computing a standard APIM analysis on the basis of an example data set with the freely available demo version of Mplus. The aim of this workshop is to provide participants with a basic understanding of setting up, computing, and interpreting a standard APIM analysis of a dyadic data set.

Workshop 5 - Instructor:

Kay Brauer, PhD

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany

September 16, 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM - Workshop 6: Longitudinal Data Analysis Methods

The workshop focuses on applying longitudinal data analysis methods to participants' research projects, with particular emphasis on research in the field of social psychology. The workshop is primarily application-oriented. Successive methods will be presented along with examples of implementation in RStudio and interpretation of results, and their selection will be tailored to the knowledge and needs of the group. Next, participants will work on real data in RStudio, deepening their knowledge of selected techniques depending on their level of advancement and interests. After completing the workshop, participants will be able to conduct and interpret basic longitudinal analyses.

Workshop 6 - Instructor:

Maciej Górski, PhD Candidate

Faculty of Psychology, University of Warsaw

Institute of Psychology, Polish Academy of Sciences

Wojciech Podsiadłowski, PhD Candidate

Institute for Social Studies, University of Warsaw