Miller Lab: Frequently Asked Questions

Who are we?
http://mindbrain.ucdavis.edu/labs/Miller/people

What are the requirements?
Please refer to the flier at
http://mindbrain.ucdavis.edu/labs/Miller/participate

Do I have to meet ALL of the requirements?
Some requirements are not necessary for behavioral studies. For example, having more than a few metal fillings will not affect your ability to perform a behavioral task. However, you must meet all requirements to participate in any EEG or fMRI study.

Where does the study take place?
Our studies typically take place at both the Center for Mind and Brain (CMB) in Davis, CA and at the Imaging Research Center (IRC) in Sacramento, CA.

Center for Mind and Brain
267 Cousteau Pl.
Davis, CA 95616

Imaging Research Center
4701 X Street Sacramento, CA 95817

Can the Miller Lab provide transportation?
It is your responsibility to get to the CMB or IRC. However, we can provide transportation between the two.

How long will the study take?
As mentioned on the flier, this depends on the study. Studies can range anywhere from 30 minutes to 6.5 hours. A typical behavioral study takes about an hour while an fMRI study often takes 4-5 hours spread out over a few days.

When can I participate?
We do our best to work around your schedule. We prefer to schedule experiments during the regular business week, but we can make night and weekend appointments if necessary. Please contact us directly to set up a time.

Who can participate?
Anyone fitting the criteria on the flyer can participate. They do not have to be a UCD student or affiliate.
What is the general recruitment procedure?
  1) Contact via e-mail or phone
     a. Please include your phone number and the best time to contact you in your e-mail.
  2) Setup a ~15minute phone interview
     a. The phone interview is informal and confidential. We just want to ask you a few questions related to the requirements on the flier.
  3) Setup a meeting at the CMB (time may vary, typically ~1hr.)
     a. We go over some final paper work, have you sign a few documents (i.e. consent form, payment form, etc.) and then introduce you to the task.
  4) Setup a time to do the experiment (time will vary, typically 4hrs for an fMRI experiment)
     a. This includes drive time and setup.

Are there any known health risks associated with fMRI?
Not to our knowledge. This is covered in the consent form as well.

Are there any side effects associated with fMRI?
Some subjects experience a short period of mild dizziness (~5seconds) when entering or exiting the scanner. You may experience mild nerve stimulation which feels like a small twitch or tickle.

How many metal fillings can I have?
Less than 5, with no more than 3 in the top jaw.

Do tooth colored fillings have metal in them?
No.

What about Crowns/Caps?
No more than 3 METAL crowns/caps total, with no more than 2 in the top jaw.

What about METAL dental bridges and plates?
Dental bridges, plates and retainers must be removed during the scan. If any of these are permanently fixed to your mouth, we cannot let you participate in an fMRI study.

What is “good vision”?
This depends on the study. Please ask for details.

Can I wear contacts/glasses while in the fMRI scanner?
You can wear CLEAR contacts, but not glasses or colored contacts. If you need your glasses to see objects ~10ft. away, please let us know and we will see if the IRC has a scanner-compatible pair of glasses that will meet your needs.

What makes English a “first language”?
You must have heard English from infancy.
What about piercings?
They must be removed for fMRI studies.

What do I, the subject, get out of this?
- You get $15.00/hr for all time spent at the CMB, IRC or traveling between the two.
- You get a picture of your brain.
- You help us further human understanding of speech.

If you still have questions, please feel free to e-mail us at millerlab_subjects01@yahoo.com or call Chris Bishop at (530) 297-4426.