

PD DR. XENIA SCHMALZ

CURRENT POSITION

Technische Universität Dresden

October 2025 – March 2026

Deputy Professor (Vertretungsprofessur)
Chair of General Psychology

Universität zu Köln

April 2025 – current

Principal Investigator
Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München (LMU Clinic)

January 2019 – March 2025

Principal Investigator
Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)

University of Trento, Italy

February 2021 – September 2021

Visiting professor

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München, Germany

May 2017 – December 2018

Post-doctoral researcher (wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin)

Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy

March 2015 – March 2017

Post-doctoral researcher

Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia PhD
candidate

September 2011 – December 2014

QUALIFICATIONS

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

July 2023

Habilitation at the Faculty of Psychology and Pedagogy

University of Sheffield

August 2016 – May 2017

Graduate Certificate in Statistics
Part-time distance education

Macquarie University

September 2011 – December 2014

PhD in Human Cognition and Brain Science

Topic: "Methodological and theoretical issues in cross-linguistic reading research"

Advisors: Dr. Eva Marinus, Prof. Anne Castles, Prof. Max Coltheart

Awarded: 17th of September, 2015

Australian National University

February 2007 – June 2011

Bachelor of Science (Psychology) (Honours)

SELECTED AWARDS AND GRANTS

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG): As Principal Investigator 2025–2028
Systematising theories.

Awarded to X. Schmalz (351,000 Eur)

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG): As Principal Investigator 2024

Funding support for the International Meeting on Quantifying Orthographic-Semantic Regularities across Languages.

Awarded to X. Schmalz (12,000 Eur)

European Society for Cognitive Psychology 2024

Funding support for the International Meeting on Quantifying Orthographic-Semantic Regularities across Languages.

Awarded to X. Schmalz on behalf of the German Word Nerd Network (4,000 Eur)

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG): As Principal Investigator Cognitive 2022–2025
processes while reading across languages.

Awarded to X. Schmalz (620,750 Eur)

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG): As Principal Investigator 2022–2024

Additional funding for integrating a Scholar at Risk into an ongoing project (140,500 Euro)

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG): As Principal Investigator 2021–

Towards falsifiable theories in psychological sciences. 2024

Awarded to X. Schmalz & Prof. Moritz Heene (226,460 Eur)

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG): As Principal Investigator 2019–2021

Neurocognitive processes underlying the learning of letter-sound correspondences.

Awarded to X. Schmalz (221,203 Eur)

Friedrich Baur Stiftung

Neuronale Phasenkopplung während der Sprachverarbeitung bei typischer und atypischer Leseentwicklung [Neural phase coupling during language processing in typical and atypical reading acquisition]. Awarded to S. Bakos, **X. Schmalz**, K. Moll, & G. Schulte-Körne (6,000 Eur)

Förderung für Forschung und Lehre (FöFoLe): As Principal Investigator 2019–2020

Cognitive processing of written morphemes and syllables in children with and without developmental dyslexia.

Awarded to X. Schmalz (51,803 Eur)

Stifterverband, Wikimedia, Volkswagenstiftung: As Principal Investigator 2018–2019

Fellow-Programm “Freies Wissen”: Effects of complexity and unpredictability on reading acquisition: Behavioural and computational studies. Awarded to X. Schmalz (5,000 Eur)

Università degli Studi di Padova 2015–2016

What is orthographic depth? Behavioural and computational studies.

Awarded to C. Mulatti, A. Castles, M. Coltheart, **X. Schmalz**, & E. Marinus (42,500 Eur)

Macquarie University

2012-2014

Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (MQRES).

Awarded to X. Schmalz (58,195 AUD)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Einführung in den Förderschwerpunkt Lernen*April – July 2025*

Lectures in cognitive psychology for education students, course held in collaboration with J.Prof. Benjamin Gagl

Open Science workshops*2016 – present*

Workshop at diverse events and conferences on the topic of open science, ca. twice per year, duration between 45 minutes and 2 days

Guest lectures*2021 - 2023*

Guest lectures in General Psychology,
Introduction to Psycholinguistics at the University of Trento

Advanced statistics for PhD students*February 2021 & February 2022*

Department of Psychology and Cognitive Science, University of Trento
Tasks: Developing the course material, delivering the lectures

Research methods in clinical psychology*September 2019 – February 2020*

Course taught as part of a Masters in Learning Sciences
Psychology Department of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich
Tasks: Developing the course material, delivering the lectures

Introduction to R*December 2018*

Workshop given at my department seminar to provide
an open-access, flexible alternative to SPSS

Cognitive Processes I*January – June 2014*

Bachelor-level course
Department of Psychology, Macquarie University
Tasks: Leading tutorials, marking assignments and exams
Course convenor: Prof. Sachiko Kinoshita

Reading development and dyslexia*various*

Guest lectures on this topic given at the Bachelor and Masters level at the
University of Padova, Italy (2015, 2016) and at the University of Groningen, The Netherlands
(2021)

ONGOING PHD SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

PhD supervision

Ms. Tatiana Logvinenko

August 2022 – present

Topic: Falsifiability of theories in psychological sciences

Ms. Yi Leung

September 2021 – present

Topic: Falsifiability of theories in psychological sciences

Other supervision of research students

Co-ordination of student research project for Masters of Learning

2020-present

Science programme

Supervision and co-supervision of 3 further doctoral students

at LMU Klinik 2019-2025 Supervision of 7 masters theses of Learning Sciences

2019 - present

Co-supervision of masters thesis in statistics

2020-2021

(co-supervisor: Prof. Anne-Laure Boulesteix)

Supervision of 2 masters and 4 bachelor students at Padova University (Italy)

2015-2017