

MASTER 2 Fundamental and Clinical Neurosciences

Internship proposal 2026-2027

(internship from January to June 2027)

Host laboratory: Centre de Recherche en Neurosciences de Lyon (CRNL), CH Le Vinatier, 95 bd Pinel, 69500 Bron

Host team: Neuropop (<https://www.crnl.fr/fr/equipe/neuropop>)

Internship supervisors: Camille FERDENZI, CNRS researcher, camille.ferdenzi@cns.fr

Project title: Influence of body odors on physiological responses to social stimuli

Project summary: This internship proposal is a follow-up to the ANR Biodor-IN project, which aimed to better understand the role of human biological odors in human attractiveness. In this project, we collected explicit and implicit responses to three different categories of social stimuli: pictures of faces presented on a computer screen, and real persons presented in a virtual reality environment either in a neutral or in a dating context. Our aim was to investigate the effect of odor condition (body odors, perfume, no odor) on these responses. We are now looking for a motivated Master's student to analyze the recordings of respiratory, cardiac, and electrodermal activity recorded in these experiments, and to relate them to perceptual ratings of social and olfactory stimuli. The internship offers hands-on experience in psychophysiology, data analysis, and sensory science.

3-5 recent publications:

Brémond Bostoen V, Richard Ortegón S, Barthès N, Buatois B, Nicolè F, Steyer D, Dormont L, Ferdenzi C (2025). ABOV: A novel system of direct headspace skin sampling to study human body odor. *Journal of Chemical Ecology*, 51, 31.

Loos HM, Schaal B, Pause BM, Smeets MAM, Ferdenzi C, Roberts SC, de Groot J, Lübke KT, Croy I, Freiherr J, Bensafi M, Hummel T, Havlíček J (2025). Past, present and future of human chemical communication. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 20, 20–44.

Ferdenzi C, Fournel A, Baldovini N, Poupon D, Ligout D, Thévenet M, Bouet R, Bensafi M (2024). Influence of the human body odor compound HMHA on face perception. *Perception*, 53, 180-96.

Richard Ortegón S, Carlos O, Robert-Hazotte A, Lelgouarch A, Desoche C, Kawabata Duncan K, Tagai K, Fournel A, Bensafi M, Race B, Ferdenzi C (2023). Investigating the human chemical communication of positive emotions using a virtual reality-based mood induction. *Physiology & Behavior*, 264, 114147.

Richard Ortegón S, Fournel A, Carlos O, Kawabata Duncan K, Hirabayashi K, Tagai K, Abriat A, Bensafi M, Race B, Ferdenzi C. (2022). And I'm feeling good: effect of emotional sweat and perfume on others' physiology, verbal responses, and creativity. *Chemical Senses*, bjac012.