

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## Personal data

Name	Dr. Miriam Spering
Date of birth	18. Juni 1976
Place of birth	Celle (Niedersachsen)
Nationality	German

## Academic Degrees and Education

09/2003 – 09/2006	Ph.D. (Dr. rer. nat.) in Experimental Psychology with „summa cum laude“ under supervision of Prof. Karl Gegenfurtner, Ph.D., Justus-Liebig University Giessen, Germany
04/1999 – 03/2002	Studies of Psychology, Diploma in Psychology with average mark 1.0 (top 1%), Ruprecht-Karls-University Heidelberg, Germany
10/1998 – 03/1999	Studies of Psychology, University of Konstanz, Germany
10/1997 – 09/1998	Studies of Psychology, Testamur (B.Sc. equivalent) with mark “upper grade with distinction” (top 2%), Exeter University, England
10/1995 – 09/1997	Studies of Psychology, Prediploma (Vordiplom) in Psychology with average mark 1.7 (top 10%), University of Konstanz
07/1988 – 06/1995	Abitur (A-levels) with average mark 1.5 (top 2%), Kaiserin-Auguste-Viktoria Gymnasium, Celle, Germany

## Professional Experience

### Academic Positions and Research Experience

01/2008 – 12/2009	Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Psychology, New York University, USA, with a DFG individual fellowship (SP 1172/1-1)
01/2007 – 12/2007	Postdoctoral Researcher, Experimental Psychology, Justus-Liebig University Giessen, DFG Research Group “Perception and Action” (FOR 560)
09/2006 – 12/2006	Postdoctoral Researcher, Experimental Psychology, Giessen University, DFG grant for transition to Postdoc stage (“Ernte & Dank”)
01/2004 – 08/2006	Graduate Research Assistant, Experimental Psychology, Giessen University, DFG Graduate School “Neuroact” (GK 885/1)
09 – 12/2003	Graduate Research Assistant, Experimental Psychology, Giessen University, BmB+F project “ModKog” (01IBC01B)
04/2002 – 08/2003	Graduate Research Assistant, Experimental Psychology, Ruprecht-Karls-University Heidelberg, Germany
1996 – 2002	Student Research Assistant at Universities Konstanz and Heidelberg

### **International Cooperations**

- 04 – 05/2005      Visiting Graduate Researcher, Department of Psychology, New York University, New York (USA), Laboratory of Prof. Marisa Carrasco
- 04 – 05/2005      Visiting Graduate Researcher, Institut de Neurosciences Cognitives de la Méditerranée, CNRS Marseille (France), Laboratory of Prof. Guillaume Masson
- 02 – 04/2003      Visiting Graduate Researcher, Visual Perception Laboratory, University of Chicago (USA), Laboratory of Prof. Vera Maljkovic

### **Teaching Experience**

- 06/2006      Lecture “Thinking” (two 2-hr sessions), Department of Psychology, Giessen University
- 04 – 07/2004      Undergraduate seminar “Thinking and Problem Solving”, Department of Psychology, Giessen University
- 04 – 07/2003      Undergraduate seminar “Psychological Research Methods”, Department of Psychology, Heidelberg University
- 10/2002 – 02/2003      Teacher-training seminar “Thinking and Problem Solving”, College of Education, Heidelberg; undergraduate seminar “Visual Perception”, Department of Psychology, Heidelberg University
- 04 – 07/2002      Undergraduate seminar “Thinking and Problem Solving”, Department of Psychology, Heidelberg University
- 04 – 07/1997      Student teaching assistant for undergraduate seminar “Developmental Psychology”, Department of Psychology, Konstanz University

### **Professional Activities**

Ad-hoc reviewer for Journal of Neurophysiology, Journal of Experimental Psychology: HPP  
Member of student selection committee for German National Academic Foundation

### **Professional Affiliations**

American Psychological Association (APA); Vision Science Society (VSS); Society for Neuroscience (SfN); Associate Member of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychologie (DGPs); Alumni Psychologici Heidelberg

### **Awards and Fellowships**

- 01/2008      Individual fellowship (24 months) by the German Research Foundation (SP 1172/1-1)
- 10/2007      “Klaus Tschira Preis für verständliche Forschung”, granted for making the main results of the Ph.D. thesis understandable to the general public (5.000 Euro)

### **Awards and Fellowships (continued)**

- 03/2007 First place in the dissertation competition of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychologie (Section Experimental Psychology)
- 02 – 05/2003 DAAD short-term scholarship awarded for “scientific training abroad for doctoral students”
- 12/2002 “Franz Emanuel Weinert Preis” awarded for “best diploma thesis in the year 2002” by the Psychological Institute, Ruprecht-Karls University Heidelberg
- 09/1998 – 03/2002 Scholar of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation; scholarship awarded to less than 1% of students in Germany for “high academic performance, political and social commitment”
- 03/1998 – 03/2002 Scholar of the German National Academic Foundation, scholarship awarded to less than 1% of students in Germany and Switzerland for “academic excellence in the chosen field of study, and a strong sense of social responsibility”

### **Workshops and Summer Schools (selection)**

- 03/2004 Participant in the 2. fMRI Spring School „Funktionelle Magnetresonanztomographie in der Psychologischen Forschung“, Bender Institute of Neuroimaging, Giessen
- 09/2004 Participant in the 1. European Summer School on Visual Neuroscience, Rauschholzhausen, Germany
- 09/2006 Teaching assistant in the 2. European Summer School on Visual Neuroscience, Rauschholzhausen, Germany

### **Work experience (internships)**

- 09 – 12/2001 Deutsche Flugsicherung (Frankfurt a.M.): Internship in personnel selection
- 06 – 08/2001 Boston Consulting Group (Berlin): Internship in management research
- 10/2000 – 03/2001 Bertelsmann AG (Gütersloh): Internship in management development
- 02 – 04/2000 Kienbaum Management Consultants GmbH (Gummersbach): Internship in personnel selection and training
- 07 – 09/1999 GfK AG (Nürnberg): Internship in qualitative market research
- 1995 – 2001 Freelancer in editorial offices of regional newspapers in Heidelberg, Konstanz, and Erfurt

### **Special Skills and Interests**

- Language skills German (native), English (fluent), French (basic)
- Computer skills Programming in Matlab, basic knowledge in C++; experienced user of Microsoft Office, Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, SPSS, Sigmaplot, Endnote
- Other interests Violin and viola playing, member of Giessen University Symphony Orchestra; sports (running)