

Education

- starting sep 2018 **Postgraduate Training in Psychological Psychotherapy (CBT)**
 Central Institute of Mental Health (ZI) & Center of Psychological Psychotherapy (CPP) - Germany;
 3-years training in cognitive behavioural therapy to obtain the license to practice as psychological psychotherapist
- since sep 2016 **PhD Candidate**
 Central Institute of Mental Health (ZI) & Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences (GESS) - Germany; **University College London (UCL)** - United Kingdom;
Topic of Dissertation: Cognitive maps in contextualization: spatial memory and memory space in posttraumatic stress disorder.
Research Interest: Cognitive neuropsychiatry, stress related mental disorders, spatial and contextual memory, mental health in conflict regions, neuro-psychotherapy
Primary Supervisor: Professor Herta Flor, PD Dr Frauke Nees (ZI, University of Heidelberg)
Secondary Supervisor: Professor Neil Burgess, Dr John King (University College London)
- sep 2015 - sep 2016 **MSc Brain and Mind Sciences (with Distinction)**
 University College London (UCL) - United Kingdom;
Specialisation: Advanced neuroimaging, human learning & memory, current issues in cognitive sciences
Research Project: The role of spatial memory during the encoding of distressing scenes: Exploring predictions of the revised Dual Representation Theory.
Supervisor: Professor Neil Burgess, Dr James Bisby, Dr John King
- oct 2010 - mar 2015 **BSc Psychology (Very Good)** - 4-year programme, 265 ECTS-credits
 University of Konstanz - Germany, **University of Oslo (UiO)** - Norway
Specialisation: Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology.
Research Project: Evaluation of the Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) as means to reduce psychological impairment in the aftermath of the recent flood disaster in Bujumbura, Burundi.
Supervisor: Professor Thomas Elbert & Dr Anselm Crombach
- 2009 **Abitur**- distinction - 1.4
 Markgraf-Ludwig Gymnasium, Baden-Baden - Germany
Subjects included: Mathematics, English, Physics, Biology, German, History.

Professional Experience

PhD position

- since dec 2017 **Central Institute of Mental Health (ZI)** - Germany
Prof H. Flor, PD Dr. F. Nees, Institute of Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience.
Research: Spatial and contextual memory, stress related mental disorders, neural network models, mental health in conflict regions.
Activities: project planning, development of paradigm, implementing and conducting behavioral and MRI experiments (MatLAB, R, Unity).

student research assistant posts

- jan 2016 – aug 2016 **University College London** - United Kingdom
Prof N. Burgess, Dr J. King, Dr J. Bisby, Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience.
Research: Spatial Memory in PTSD and neural models of intrusive imagery in mental disorders.
Activities: project planning, development of paradigm, implementing and conducting behavioral experiments (MatLAB, SPSS, Unity).

- mar 2016 – aug 2016 **University College London** - United Kingdom, **Tōhoku University** - Japan
Prof S. Ohnuma, Field Trip to the Prefecture of Fukushima (Japan)
Research: Mental Health after natural and man-made disasters - 5 years after Fukushima.
Activities: interviews with local authorities and victims of the Tsunami and nuclear disaster.
- jun 2016 – aug 2016 **University College London** - United Kingdom
Dr Lucy Foulkes, Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience.
Research: Social Cognition and Decision Making during human adolescence.
Activities: conducting a large behavioural study.
- may 2015 – aug 2015 **University College London** - United Kingdom
Prof C. Brewin, Department for Clinical, Educational & Health Psychology.
Research: Neural model of intrusive imagery in mental disorders.
Activities: project planning, implementing and conducting behavioural experiments (MatLAB).
- sep 2014 – aug 2015 **University of Konstanz** - Germany & **Université de Lumière** - Burundi
Prof T. Elbert, Dr A. Crombach, Department of Neuropsychology and Clinical Psychology.
Research: Appetitive Aggression & Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in *African-Union Mission in Somalia* (AMISOM) soldiers, ex-combatants and victims of a natural disaster.
Activities: co-project leader, supervisor of a weekly journal club, supervision of behavioural experiments and surveys, evaluation of psychotherapeutical approaches, statistical and qualitative data analyses (SPSS).
- jan 2011 – jan 2013 **University of Konstanz** - Germany
Dr M. Bruder, Zukunfts Kolleg, Workgroup Emotion, Social and Moral Psychology.
Research: Moral decision making, embodiment effect, directed facial action.
Activities: project planning, literature reviews, implementing experiments and surveys (UniPark), recruiting participants, statistical data analysis (SPSS).

research intern posts

- sep 2014 – aug 2015 **vivo international e.V. (victim's voice; NGO)** - Germany, Burundi
Prof T. Elbert, Dr A. Crombach, Department of Clinical Psychology.
Research: Mental health in post-conflict regions - Burundi.
Activities: supervision of behavioural experiments, evaluation of the Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) in victims of a natural disaster, political violence in youths.
- sep 2013 – dec 2013 **University of Oslo (UiO)** - Norway
Dr G. Biele, Department of Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience
Research: Neuroeconomics and decision making.
Activities: fMRI data preprocessing.

clinical intern posts

- sep 2018 – sep 2019 **Central Institute for Mental Health**, Mannheim - Germany
Prof C. Schmahl, Maome Bitsch, Department of Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychotherapy.
Activities: diagnostic, psychological and neuropsychological testing, individual and group behavioural therapy sessions under supervision in dialectical behavior therapy (DBT).
- apr 2018 – sep 2018 **Prison**, Mannheim - Germany
Axel Bozzer, Psychological Unit
Activities: individual and group therapy sessions under supervision mainly with sexual offenders.

- jan 2014 – apr 2014 **Central Institute for Mental Health**, Mannheim - Germany
Prof S. Schwarz, Prof P. Kirsch, Department of Intensive Psychiatric Care & Department of Addictive Behaviour and Addiction Medicine.
Activities: diagnostic, psychological and neuropsychological testing, assisting in individual therapy sessions, conducting individual and group behavioural therapy sessions.
- mar 2013 – jun 2013 **Ahfad University for Women**, Khartoum - Sudan
Dr R. Ibrahim, Dr S. Eltayeb, Department of Psychology, Ahfad Trauma Treatment and Training Center (ATTTC).
Research: Development of a trauma counseling master programme, establishment and evaluation of Ahfad Treatment Center.
Activities: Establishment of psychometric testing library, development of counseling skills manual, individual therapy sessions under supervision.

Other Work Experience and Social Engagements

project management

- since oct 2011 **SuperFreakSociety** - founder
Aims: The project supports cultural pluralism and includes autodidactic studies, art exhibitions (photography), social entrepreneurship (Changemaker MOOC), investigative journalism.
Activities: publication of articles, draft of a socio-cultural centre, art exhibition
- since mar 2013 **Nihal Education Project**
Aims: The Sudan Education Project aims to establish the Nihal German Schools and University in Omdurman, Sudan. Project leader Dr M. Badawi, University of Konstanz.
Activities: educational work, childcare and supervision, fundraising, promotional work

educational intern posts

- may 2013 - aug 2013 **Nihal German School**, Omdurman - Sudan
Aims: High-quality education for 75 children from a low socio-economical background.
Project leader Dr M. Badawi, University of Konstanz.
Activities: educational work, supervision of project, establishment of psychological care system for children with learning difficulties and children, who experienced childhood maltreatment.

gap year

- aug 2009 - jul 2010 **Wanganui City College**, Wanganui - New Zealand
The Wanganui City College is a secondary school with a strong multi-cultural aspect.
Activities: classroom assistant (physic, maths, english, sports), photographer for the international office.

Scholarships

- sep 2017 - dec 2017 **Stipend of the State Graduate Sponsorship Programme (Landesgraduierföderung) for UK**
Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences (2100 Euro/ per month)
- sep 2016 - sep 2017 **Stipend of the State Graduate Sponsorship Programme (Landesgraduierföderung)**
Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences (1200 Euro/ per month)
- mar 2016 **Research trip to the prefecture of Fukushima (Japan) and collaboration with Tohoku University**
University College London & Tohoku University (approx. 3000-5000 Euro)
- oct 2015 **British Chamber of Commerce in Germany (BCCG) Foundation Award**
Master at University College London, travel expenses (300 Euro)
- oct 2015 - dec 2015 **German Ministry for Science, Research and Art**
Research and clinical work at the University of Konstanz, the Université de Lumière and the Croix Rouge Burundi. (750 Euro)
- aug 2013 - jan 2014 **ERASMUS, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)**
Erasmus semester at the University of Oslo (approx. 1000 Euro)
- mar 2013 - aug 2013 **PROMOS, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)**
Research and clinical work at the Ahfad University for Women in Khartoum (Sudan). (1500 Euro)

Publications

scientific

- in preparation **Siehl, S., Wicking, M., Steiger-White, F., Pohlack, S., Nees, F., Flor, H.**(in preparation). Structural and functional connectivity in a virtual cue and context conditioning paradigm in patients with posttraumatic stress disorder.
- Siehl, S.* , Sierk, A.* , Nees, F., Flor, H., Bisby, J., King, J., Burgess, N.** (in preparation). Contextualization in intrusions: Spatial Trauma Encoding Paradigm.
- Siehl, S., Wicking, M., Steiger-White, F., Pohlack, S., King, J., Burgess, N., Nees, F., Flor, H.** (in preparation). Changes in structural and functional connectivity in adults with posttraumatic stress disorder.
- Siehl, S., Lis, S., Krueger, F.** (in preparation). Neural correlates of intentions: A novel behavioural and fMRI paradigm.
- Siehl, S., Robjant, K., Crombach, A.** (in preparation). Life stories and stories of life: a systematic review and meta-analysis on the long-term efficacy of narrative exposure therapy. (pre-registered under PROSPERO)
- 2018 **Crombach, A., Siehl, S.** (2018). More than just a drop in the ocean. Impact and cultural acceptance of the Narrative Exposure Therapy in the aftermath of a natural disaster in Burundi. *BMC Psychiatry*.
- Siehl, S., King, J., Burgess, N., Flor, H., Nees, F.** (2018). Structural white matter changes in adults and children with posttraumatic stress disorder: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *NeuroImage: Clinical*, 19: 581-598.

Poster

- 2018 **Siehl, S.***, Wicking, M., Steiger-White, F., Pohlack, S., ... Nees, F., Flor, H. Neural network changes in Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. European Society for Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience, 2018, Leiden (Netherlands).
- Siehl, S.**, Wicking, M., Steiger-White, F., Pohlack, S., Winkelmann, T., Zidda, F., King, J., Burgess, N., Nees, F., Flor, H. Virtual cue and context conditioning in posttraumatic stress disorder: an fMRI study. 10th European Meeting on Human Fear Conditioning, 2018, Hensol (Wales).
- Siehl, S.**, Wicking, M., Steiger-White, F., Pohlack, S., ... Nees, F., Flor, H. Fear learning in rescue workers and patients with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: From genetic to neural network changes. FSP Translational Neuroscience Retreat, 2018, Mannheim (Germany).
- Siehl, S.***, Sierk, A.*, Nees, F., Flor, H., Bisby, J., King, J., Burgess, N. Calibrating the compass: Cognitive maps in contextualization. Spatial memory and memory space in context conditioning. 60th Conference of Experimental Psychologists, 2018, Marburg (Germany).
- 2017 **Siehl, S.**, Wicking, M., Steiger-White, F., Pohlack, S., King, J., Burgess, N., Nees, F., Flor, H. Calibrating the compass: Cognitive maps in contextualization. Spatial memory and memory space in context conditioning. 9th European Meeting on Human Fear Conditioning, 2017, Hamburg (Germany).
- 2016 **Siehl, S.**, Crombach, A. Development of parameters to evaluate evidence-based interventions in the aftermath of a natural disaster in Burundi: Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET). German-African research workshop, Psychological needs of refugees and IDPs, 2016, Nairobi (Kenya).

Languages

German (native language), English (fluent), French (fluent), Arabic (B1), Norwegian (B1)

Memberships

- since 2014 **vivo international e.V. - Germany & Burundi**
Prof T. Elbert, Dr M. Schauer; Mental Health in Post-Conflict Regions; <http://www.vivo.org>
- since 2013 **Nihal Sudan Education Project - Germany & Sudan**
Dr M. Badawi; Primary and secondary school education for sudanese children, concept for an European University in Khartoum; <http://www.sudan-education.org/startseite-willkommen/>
- since 2011 **Hatemalo - Hand in Hand für Nepal e.V. - Germany & Nepal**
Dr M. Bruder; Psychological support for orphans from North India and Nepal;
<http://www.sudan-education.org/startseite-willkommen/>

References

Please feel free to contact any of the following references in case of questions concerning my employment history or work specification.

Professor Herta Flor
PhD Supervisor

HoD Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience
Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim

+49 (0) 621 - 1703 6302
herta.flor@zi-mannheim.de

Professor Thomas Elbert
BSc Project Supervisor

HoD Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology
University of Konstanz

+49 (0) 7531 - 88 46 09
thomas.elbert@uni-konstanz.de

Professor Neil Burgess
PhD Supervisor

HoD Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience
University College London

+44 (0) 20 7679 - 1147
n.burgess@ucl.ac.uk

Dr John King
PhD Supervisor

Department of Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology
University College London

+44 (0) 20 7679 5993
john.king@ucl.ac.uk