# fMRI Information

## Purpose of the study

- This study will use functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to research how the human brain perceives and recognizes visual images, such as simple patterns, colors, movement, faces, objects, or scenes. We are interested in understanding how the human visual system processes visual information to enable our ability to see, understand and navigate our visual world.
- The fMRI study will take place at the 7-Tesla scanner at Vanderbilt University Institute of Imaging Science.
- You may choose to withdraw from the study at any time.

## Study Set up

- This study has 2 parts: a behavioral and fMRI session.
- You will first do a behavioral session and based on performance, see if you qualify to be in the fMRI session.

## What the participant will do

- Lying in an MRI scanner performing visual tasks- Images may include simple shapes, lines, moving or flashing patterns, letters, words, pictures of faces, objects, or scenes
- Lie still in the scanner for periods of time.
    - You must be fully awake, relaxed, and alert, especially when performing visual tasks.
    - Regular breaks of one to two minutes will be provided between each fMRI task (typically 4 to 6 minutes), where you can rest and relax.

## Criteria

*Medical/health*

- Above the age of 18.
- Do not require glasses to read* (contact lenses are fine, as these can be worn in the scanner)

    *If this is the only criterion that you do not fit, please get in touch. We may be able to fit you with scanner-safe goggles, provided we have your prescription and that you do not suffer from astigmatism.

- Do not suffer from severe astigmatism.
- Are not pregnant.
    - Although there is no known risk to an unborn child, you will not be allowed to participate in this MRI study if there is any possibility you are pregnant. If you are a female of childbearing potential, sexually active and not using any birth control methods, you must be excluded. In addition, women must not breast feed while in this study.
- Have no history of neurological disorders.

- Are not currently on any medication that affects the nervous system.
- Do not have any metal in the body, and can remove any piercings for a scan session.

*Behavioral*

- Able to lie still for long periods.
- Can remain alert and attentive for sustained periods of time.
- Do not suffer from claustrophobia.

## Duration of study

- Each fMRI session will last up to 2.5 hours. This includes about 30 minutes of set-up time before and after the study.
- Most studies require only 1 session, but some studies are multi-session studies. You will receive compensation for each fMRI session you take part in.

## Compensation

- Payment of $30/hour, $70 for a full fMRI session.
- Payment of $15/hour for behavioral session.
- Upon request, you can receive a 3D digital model of your brain that you can get 3D printed or laser etched on your own accord (we do not provide these services).
- On rare occasions, the 3D model may fail to generate, if so we can still send you 2D images of your brain.

## Common concerns

### Safety

- Claustrophobia - The MRI scanner is a small space that may lead to feelings of anxiety in some people.
- MRI is a common and safely used procedure in many hospitals.
- There are no known long-term physical risks associated with fMRI studies.
- An MRI scanner is a very powerful magnet, so to ensure participant safety you will need to complete a detailed screening form that asks about previous exposure to metal fragments or any metallic items that may be inside your body.

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## Link to sign up for study:

Click HERE to sign up for our study on SONA