Faculty mentor: Jamil Zaki

Research supervisor(s) (name, position, email): Alison Mattek, postdoc, amattek@stanford.edu

Project topic(s): Understanding the dynamics of emotion communication in facial expressions: What facial gestures do people use to communicate emotion? How does the brain identify those cues and integrate them with the broader context?

Brief description of scientific issues:

Dyadic social interactions involve one person expressing themselves (target) and another person interpreting those expressions (observer). We are currently working with a large set of video narratives, where targets tell an emotional story from their life. We are now in the process of collecting data from human observers, in order to understand how they interpret the expressions made by the target.

Skills required:

Microsoft excel, communication skills

Skills to be learned:

-How to design an experiment
-how to collect data in the lab
-how to collect data online
-how to look at data
-basic video editing

Contact person (with email): Alison Mattek, amattek@stanford.edu