
DIVISION OF COGNITIVE SCIENCES

Masters in Cognitive Sciences: Cognition and the Mind

In Rijeka, 29 August 2025

SELECTION PROCESS REPORT FOR ADMISSION TO THE MASTERS IN COGNITIVE SCIENCES: COGNITION AND THE MIND (Exceptional Application Deadline) for enrolment in October 2025 (academic year 2025/2026)

The Selection Committee for admission of students to the *Masters in Cognitive Sciences: Cognition and the Mind* in the academic year 2025/2026 was composed of:

1. Ljerka Ostojić,
2. Edward Legg,
3. Petra Anić,
4. Zdenka Brzović
5. Sandra Arbula.

The call for applications was advertised on the Faculty's homepage, as well as the homepage of the Masters programme. The last call was open from 16 June 2025 to 20 August 2025.

The Selection Committee stated that 6 applications were received by the application deadline:

1. Renat Saitov – Russia, undergraduate degree in Engineering Physics,
2. Ximena Ureña-Bermúdez – Costa Rica, undergraduate degree in Chemistry,
3. Salaheddin Haij Chehade – Lebanon, undergraduate degree in Psychology,
4. Aysu Asan – Turkey, undergraduate degree in Psychology,
5. Mariia Liushneskaia – Russia, undergraduate degree in Psychological-pedagogical support for continuing education,
6. Kenneta Denkey – Ghana, undergraduate degree in Medical Laboratory Science.

A check of the application documentation (*1st Step of the Selection Process*) revealed that all candidates satisfied the formal criteria of the call.

The Selection Committee, Sandra Arbula, Petra Anić, Edward Legg, and Ljerka Ostojić, assessed the applications (*2nd Step of the Selection Process*). Based on the structured motivational letter the following candidates were shortlisted and invited to the selection interview (no ranking):

- Renat Saitov,
- Ximena Ureña-Bermúdez,
- Salaheddin Haij Chehade,
- Aysu Asan,
- Mariia Liushneskaia.

All candidates were informed of the outcome of the 1st and 2nd step of the Selection Process over email, with successful candidates being invited to the selection interview, on 25 August 2025.

The Selection Committee (Sandra Arbula, Edward Legg, Ljerka Ostojić) conducted online interviews over Teams (*3rd step of the Selection Process*) on 28 August for all candidates. At each interview, all three members of the Selection Committee were present, each asking one question and leading

the discussion with the candidate. Based on the results of the 2nd and 3rd steps of the Selection Process, the Selection Committee recommends that four (4) candidates be offered admission.

1. *Mariia Liushneskaia,*
2. *Ximena Ureña-Bermúdez,*
3. *Aysu Asan,*
4. *Salaheddin Haij Chegade**

**Candidate will receive an offer for admission in 2026.*

The following candidate did not satisfy the criteria for admission during the interview (3rd step of the Selection Process):

- *Renat Saitov* (the programme's outcomes do not align with the candidate's aims. Answers to research proposal and research methods question clear but slow and do not showcase ability to think through proposal and methods and engage in discussion).