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## THEMENVORSCHLAG FÜR EINE MASTERARBEIT

<b>Thema</b>	<b>What does it take to become a surgeon? Personality traits, skills and lifestyle of successful surgeons as perceived by novices and experienced surgeons</b>
<b>Beschreibung</b>	<p>Common stereotypes about surgeons include a dominant personality, a bit of arrogance and a hard working person who spends most of his/her days at the hospital. Beyond stereotypes, how surgeons and their job demands are perceived may have important implications. First, it may be a predictor of career choice for medical students. For example, students may fear that choosing a career in surgery requires a willingness to belittle others or would have a negative impact on their family life because of the long work hours. Previous research typically showed that especially for women, conciliation between work and family life is a key factor in their career choices. Second, the perception of what it takes to become a surgeon is also of importance in the selection process of future surgeons. Recruiters who are convinced that surgery requires high leadership and communication skills may test or explore job applicants' non-technical skills as well and prefer a student who can communicate well to a student who shows poor communication skills.</p> <p>Therefore, it is crucial to: (1) identify the stereotypes and perceptions about surgeons and surgery in medical students who are about to make a career choice and more experienced surgeons and (2) to compare to what extent there is a convergence between the perceptions of both groups (medical students and experienced surgeons) to identify potential erroneous perceptions in students.</p> <p>The project aims to develop a questionnaire to assess the stereotypes and perceptions about surgeons and surgery. To do so the tasks will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• review the literature on personality traits, skills and lifestyles of surgeons</li> <li>• review the literature on assessment of stereotypes and job skills via questionnaires</li> <li>• develop items to assess these aspects via a questionnaire</li> </ul> <p>Master students will work in this interdisciplinary project with the department of visceral surgery and medicine of the Inselspital and medical students of Bern University.</p>
<b>Anforderungen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thesis can be written in English, German or French</li> <li>• Interest in the work and organizational psychology field</li> <li>• Interest in the medical field</li> <li>• Interest in research with questionnaires</li> <li>• Independent literature search (including retrieving and synthesizing literature in English)</li> <li>• Good knowledge of SPSS to be used for data analysis</li> <li>• Good knowledge of Qualtrics or motivation to learn</li> </ul>
<b>Anzahl Studierende</b>	1
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<b>Beginn</b>	ab sofort
<b>Literatur</b>	<p>Azari, D. P., Frasier, L. L., Quamme, S. R. P., Greenberg, C. C., Pugh, C. M., Greenberg, J. A., &amp; Radwin, R. G. (2019). Modeling surgical technical skill using expert assessment for automated computer rating. <i>Annals of Surgery</i>, 269(3), 574–581. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1097/SLA.0000000000002478">https://doi.org/10.1097/SLA.0000000000002478</a></p> <p>Seelandt, J. C., Kaderli, R. M., Tschan, F., &amp; Businger, A. P. (2014). The surgeon's perspective: Promoting and discouraging factors for choosing a career in surgery as perceived by surgeons. <i>PLoS One</i>, 9(7):e102756. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0102756">https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0102756</a></p>