

**Faculty Name: Thomas Preuss, PhD**

**Location:** 626 HN

**Phone:** 212-396 6358

**E-mail:** tpreuss@hunter.cuny.edu

**Website:** <http://urban.hunter.cuny.edu/~preuss/>

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Department of Psychology  
Master Programs in Psychology  
Hunter College of the City University of New York  
695 Park Avenue • New York, NY 10065

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### **Faculty Research Area**

#### **General Area of Research**

Neural basis of decision-making and sensorimotor integration

#### **Description of Current Research**

We investigate how the sensory and social environment modifies distinct brain circuits to produce adaptive behavioral changes. Therefore we study neuroethological aspects of the escape behavior in various fish species. Current projects focus on (i) understanding the mechanisms by which social status influences sensory processing and decision-making in African cichlid fish and (ii) the principles that underlie multimodal integration of visual and auditory sensory stimuli in a naturalistic context.

### **Requirements and Benefits for Student**

#### **Essential and Desirable Background Knowledge and Skills**

Background in biology, neuroscience and animal behavior

#### **Expected Responsibilities**

Performing behavioral observations (ethogram) and behavioral experiments.

#### **Expected Benefits**

You will learn about fish biology, neuroethology, behavioral experimentation, data analysis and presentation.