Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

like many of my fellow applicants I am a cognitive science student currently in my third semester and the decision to study cognitive science was rather easy for me. In my younger days when I fell victim to mental illness I escaped to the world of science to deal with tragedy and loneliness. Neuroscience did not only help me to understand what was going on but my passion to research and learn about the brain was and still is of great importance when it comes to supporting my family. Being able to connect apathy with a lack of neurotransmitters or anxiety with reduced gray matter volume gave matter to a problem previously only in ones head, made it an illness rather than a mood and moreover gave it a prospect of curability. I obtained an A-level in biology and now pursue the rare occasion to gain even more knowledge in neuroscience and other most fascinating disciplines in a bachelor program.

Although the University and the institute of cognitive science have an agreement on psychology courses I would most certainly use this opportunity to additionally study the brain further since this institution is the only one among the other ERASMUS+ partnerships which offers a complete undergraduate program of neuroscience with a possibility to participate. I could take on courses like “Cell Signaling and its Applications in Therapeutics and Disease” or “Cell Regulation and Cancer” and explore and gain from a whole new level of academic research far beyond the fundamentals.

Studying a semester abroad at the University would mean having the privilege to learn from leading researchers working on devastating diseases like Alzheimer's or how fascinating aspects of the brain like emotion or decision making work. Professor, known not only for his enlightening TED talk about consciousness but also for over one-hundred scientific papers and many incredibly fascinating books, is even starring in a Netflix documentary! How inspiring is that?! Becoming acquainted with such respectable individuals and their work at countless research facilities dedicated to an interdisciplinary approach of neurological phenomena and diseases is truly an enrichment to anyone who strives to continue one's education with a master's degree for a future in academic research.

I believe to be someone of high flexibility and therefore suitable to adapt to a living beyond the familiar. Furthermore staying a semester in is a priceless experience to enrich one's personality. In addition to that I personally think an exchange of thoughts and connecting with students and locals has the potential to become the foundation for a better future beyond borders. Voluntary commitment for many years taught me a lot about socializing and discipline. Therefore if I was given this opportunity I would confidently explore and appreciate the foreign culture and respectfully represent the people of my country and the students of the University of Osnabrueck.

Thank you for considering my request to study at the