School of Computing, Engineering, and the Built Environment
Edinburgh Napier University

PHD STUDENT PROJECT

Application instructions:
Detailed instructions are available at:
https://www.napier.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/doctoral-college/how-to-apply

Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the Director of Studies (see details below) to discuss the project and their suitability for it.

Project details

Supervisory Team:

- DIRECTOR OF STUDY: Dr Jamy Li (Email: j.li3@napier.ac.uk)
- 2ND SUPERVISOR: tbc

Subject Group: Applied Informatics

Research Areas: Communication & Media Studies/Computer Science

Project Title: People Supervising Robots and A.I. Systems

Project description:

Ensuring that robots and A.I. systems help rather than cause harm to people is a key problem amid growing technology use and capabilities. This project's goal is to aid development of safe robots and A.I. systems. The proposed research questions addressed are: (1) how do principles of social science, interaction design and human factors engineering apply to people supervising robots and A.I. systems that may have greater capabilities or knowledge than their human supervisors? and (2) how do factors like application area, error types, demographics and learning curves affect people supervising robots and A.I. systems? The PhD student will have access to socially assistive robots (Nao, Pepper), a modern design lab, study facilities and co-authored research publication opportunities.

Candidate characteristics

Education:

A second-class honours degree, or a distinction at master level, or equivalent achievements ideally in Psychology, Communication, Sociology, Computer Science, Human-Computer Interaction, Human-Robot Interaction, Artificial Intelligence, Human Factors Engineering.

Subject knowledge:

Systems design and user centred information systems

Essential attributes:

- Strong communication and writing skills.