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 Emilia Sobolewska (Email: e.sobolewska@napier.ac.uk)
- 2ND SUPERVISOR: Dr Carl Strathearn

Subject Group: Applied Informatics

Research Areas: Human-Computer Interaction, Human-Robot Interaction

Project Title: Designing and Personalisation of Social Robots

Project description:
With the rapid development of humanoid social robots, and mixed reactions towards them from the general public (Sobolewska, Vanderschantz, Bitcon, 2021), it becomes imperative to provide prospective users with machines that are not only efficient and effective in their tasks, but also provide excellent User Experience, with desirable design and pleasurable interactions. Having acknowledged differences in preferences, circumstances of use and behaviours the researchers started to look into personalisation as an important aspect of future human-robot relationships (Terakli et.al., 2023). The project concerns designing and personalisation of Social Robots according to diverse audiences, contexts, and across a spectrum of activities.

Candidate characteristics

Education:

Minimum 2:1 degree in Human-Computer Interaction, Human-Robot Interaction

Subject knowledge:

Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology or User Experience

Essential attributes:

- Interpersonal skills
- Communication skills
- Writing skills