

Department	School of Computing
Supervisors	Pritam Chita, Peter Cruickshank
Project Title	Organisational Learning and Agile Coaching
<p>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</p> <p>There are currently many agile coaches and those tasked with mentoring remits within the IT function. Little is known about the involvement and role of agile coaches regards the adoption and deployment of agile methods (Stray et al, 2020) with inconsistent approaches and varying successes (Theobald et al, 2020). This implies that organisations are missing the opportunity to learn from successes and failures in the coaching process.</p> <p>This project will research how organisations facilitate the learning of agile methods in information systems projects using agile coaches. It will examine leadership issues in agile software delivery, agile coach selection, coaching activity and analyse how organisations evaluate the results of their agile methods adoption/improvement endeavours, and the factors shaping the contribution of the agile coach to project success and wider learning of lessons.</p> <p>Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact the Supervisor before submitting their applications. Applications should make it clear the project you are applying for and the name of the supervisors.</p> <p>Academic qualifications</p> <p>A first degree (at least a 2.1) ideally in a information system or science subject with a good fundamental knowledge of knowledge management or organisational learning.</p> <p>English language requirement</p> <p>IELTS score must be at least 6.5 (with not less than 6.0 in each of the four components). Other, equivalent qualifications will be accepted. Full details of the University's policy are available online.</p> <p>Essential attributes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of fundamental knowledge management and project management academic literature and issues • Competent in qualitative research techniques such as interviewing, document analysis and focus groups • Knowledge of agile project delivery approaches. • Good written and oral communication skills • Strong motivation, with evidence of independent research skills relevant to the project • Good time management <p>Desirable attributes:</p> <p>Software Delivery background would be helpful.</p>	
Indicative Bibliography	<p>Stray, V., Memon, B. & Paruch, L. (2020) A Systematic Literature Review on Agile Coaching and the Role of the Agile Coach. International Conference on Product-Focused Software Process Improvement. (pp. 3-19). Springer Cham.</p> <p>Chita, P., Cruickshank, P., Smith, C., & Richards, K. (2020, June). Agile implementation and expansive learning: Identifying contradictions and their</p>

	<p>resolution using an activity theory perspective. In <i>International Conference on Agile Software Development</i> (pp. 3-19). Springer, Cham.</p> <p>Theobald, S., Prenner, N., Krieg, A., & Schneider, K. (2020, November). Agile leadership and agile management on organizational level-a systematic literature review. In <i>International Conference on Product-Focused Software Process Improvement</i> (pp. 20-36). Springer, Cham.</p>
Enquiries	For informal enquiries about this PhD project, please contact Pritam Chita p.chita@napier.ac.uk
Web page	https://www.napier.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/research-degrees/application-process