Department	School of Computing
Supervisors	Michael Smyth
Project Title	**More than Human Design**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

What are the implications for design when humans are no longer at the centre of the ensemble? This project with explore the next generation of design methods that can reveal the requirements of a system that is composed of human and non-human agents.

More than Human Design acknowledges the role and interest of humans, but does not prioritise them in the view of design process that includes non-human agency. This approach attempts to work ecologically with the complex interrelations of humans and non-humans in an effort to cultivate – with others – mutually beneficial modes of cohabitation.

This research will explore how design might move beyond the dominant narratives of technological determinism, by creating theories and tools that address the growing worlds of algorithms and 'intelligent' artefacts that are impacting on design practice and to treat them as partners in a more-than-human design practice. This project will adopt a more-than-human design approach to the context of production ecosystems and in so doing will design, develop and evaluate methods for the exploration of such ensembles.

Perspective 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.

Academic qualifications

A first degree (at least a 2.1) ideally in Computing or Design with a good fundamental knowledge of Design Methods.

English language requirement

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.

Essential attributes:
- Experience of fundamental Interaction Design
- Competent in Design Methods
- Knowledge of Creative Practice
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Strong motivation, with evidence of independent research skills relevant to the project
- Good time management

Desirable attributes:

An interest in the design methods in the changing landscape of production.

Indicative Bibliography	Giaccardi, E. & Redström, J. (2020) Technology and More-Than-Human Design, Design Issues, Vol36, Number 4, Autumn 2020, 33-44.
	Nicenboim, J. et al (2020) More-than-human-design and AI: In conversation with agents, DIS' 20 Companion: Companion Publication of the 2020 ACM

	Designing Interactive Systems ConferenceJuly 2020 Pages 397–400. https://doi.org/10.1145/3393914.3395912
Enquiries	For informal enquiries about this PhD project, please contact Michael Smyth (m.smyth@napier.ac.uk)
Web page	https://www.napier.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/research-degrees/application-process