

Ethical Approval Form: Human Research Projects

Please word-process this form, handwritten applications will not be accepted



This form must be completed for each piece of research activity whether conducted by academic staff, research staff, graduate students or undergraduates. The completed form must be approved by the designated authority within the Faculty.

Please complete all sections. If a section is not applicable, write N/A.

1 Name of Applicant	Liam Mason	
	Department:	Faculty: Computer Science
2 Position in the University	Student MComp	
3 Role in relation to this research	Researcher	
4 Brief statement of main Research Question	Investigating how balance affects interactions between video game participants,	
5 Brief Description of Project	To evaluate the user's response when being put in a Game Master position with a specifically created game that has a balanced and imbalanced version. The Game will be Vr.	
	Approximate Start Date: 27/08/16	Approximate End Date: 24/04/17
6 Name of Principal Investigator or Supervisor	Andy Cowe	
	Email address: acowe@lincoln.ac.uk	Telephone: 01522 83 7318
7 Names of other researchers or student investigators involved	None.	
8 Location(s) at which project is to be carried out	University of Lincoln, MHT Building	

9 Statement of the ethical issues involved and how they are to be addressed –including a risk assessment of the project based on the vulnerability of participants, the extent to which it is likely to be harmful and whether there will be significant discomfort.

(This will normally cover such issues as whether the risks/adverse effects associated with the project have been dealt with and whether the benefits of research outweigh the risks)

The evaluation that will be carried out on the project will not be controversial or pose any immediate ethical threat. However, below are a list of issues that may arise and the steps that I have taken to minimise any problems.

1) Informed Consent Participants should at all times be made aware of the study they are entering into and give their consent to be involved in the study. This extends to, but is not limited to: the purpose of the evaluation, the content of the evaluation and the outcome of the evaluation. The importance of each of the above elements shall be reiterated at every stage of the evaluation, from start to finish allowing any person to choose whether they wish to participate. Formal consent shall be obtained through the completion of a consent form, sent to the participants along with a letter detailing the evaluation which will be taking place.

2) Privacy & Confidentiality Protecting the privacy of the participants is important to the study, as it allows the participants to speak freely and openly about the subject without feeling that their comments will be attributed to them. To ensure that they feel their privacy is being maintained, I shall over the course of my correspondence with the participants and focus group highlight that this study is confidential and anything they do say will be taken on that basis. This will be particularly important during the introduction and conclusion of the focus group itself. It is also important that any confidential information about the participant e.g. their age, address and telephone shall be held only by the person carrying out the evaluation and destroyed once the research data has been collected and concluded.

3) The Right to Withdraw During the evaluation participants may disclose information that they may otherwise not, in different circumstances. Therefore, they should be given the option to withdraw any comments or entirely from the study at any time – this shall be highlighted repeatedly throughout the study.

4) Risk & Adverse Effects I do not expect this study to create any risk or adverse effects to the researcher and any participants that agree to take part.

Ethical Approval From Other Bodies

10 Does this research require the approval of an external body ?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If "Yes", please state which body:-

11 Has ethical approval already been obtained from that body ?

Yes ☐ **Please append documentary evidence to this form.**

No ☐

If “No”, please state why not:-

Please note that any such approvals must be obtained and documented before the project begins.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

I hereby request ethical approval for the research as described above.

I certify that I have read the University's ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR CONDUCTING RESEARCH WITH HUMANS AND OTHER ANIMALS.

Liam Mason

11/10/16

Applicant Signature

Date

LIAM MASON

PRINT NAME

FOR COMPLETION BY THE CHAIR OF THE FACULTY RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Please select ONE of A, B, C or D below:

☐ A. The Faculty Research Committee gives ethical approval to this research.

☐ B. The Faculty Research Committee gives conditional ethical approval to this research.

12 Please state the condition (inc.
date by which condition must be
satisfied if applicable)

☐ C. The Faculty Research Committee cannot give ethical approval to this research but refers the application to the University Research Ethics Committee for higher level consideration.

13 Please state the reason

☐ D. The Faculty Research Committee cannot give ethical approval to this research and recommends that the research should not proceed.

14 Please state the reason

Signature of Chair of Faculty Research Committee (or nominee)

Signed

Date