

APPLICATION FOR RESEARCH ETHICS APPROVAL

Version 4 - FINAL – 27/01/15

All researchers should be familiar with the University's Research Ethics Policy and associated procedures, available [here](#). No element of a research project which falls under the scope of the Policy should begin before written approval has been given.

All research projects are subject to ethics approval. This form enables researchers to either:

- 1) declare a project out of scope. The form incorporates a short cut for this.
- 2) provide more detail on ethical considerations. Research ethics approval is required for research projects that:
 - directly involve people in research activities, through their physical participation, eg. interviews, questionnaires, surveys, observational research, requiring the active or passive involvement of a person;
 - indirectly involve people in the research activities, through their provision of or access to personal data and/or tissue
 - involves people on behalf of others (eg. legal guardians of children and the psychologically or physically impaired and supervisors of people under controlled environments (eg. prisoners, school pupils).

There are special arrangements for research in the health and when it involves animals, and guidance should be sought direct from the Committee in these cases.

Convening an event, such as a conference or workshop, only requires research ethics approval where research takes place, eg. leading to an identifiable research output, and only that specific part of the event where the research is taking place.

Please note that all events (seminars, conference, workshops, etc) should be discussed with your Director of Department taking into consideration any professional ethics or reputational concerns.

IF YOU ARE UNSURE, YOU SHOULD ASSUME RESEARCH ETHICS APPLIES. IN THIS CASE SEEK GUIDANCE FROM THE COMMITTEE BEFORE CONTINUING.

Part A – Overview of the project							
1	Title of the project	Does a player's perception of AI complexity in games affect their experience during gameplay?					
2	Briefly summarise the project's aims, objectives and methodology	It aims to discover whether a player's involvement/immersion in a game is affected by the complexity of the AI system present.					
3	Start and end dates	10 th September 2018 – 7 th May 2019					
4	Principal Investigator	Title: Mr Name: James Collins Department: Games Academy					
5	Other key investigators	Title	Name	Post	Role in project	Organisation	Department
		Dr	Edward Powley	Associate Professor	Supervisor	Falmouth University	Games Academy
Part B – Does the project require research ethics approval?							
6a	Does any part of the project constitute research, ie. a process of investigation leading to new insights, effectively shared (eg. identifiable research output)?	Yes					
	If you answer No to this question please provide a rationale here (max 100 words)						
6b	Does your research involve participants of any type, ie. humans or animals, directly or indirectly? Review the questions in Part C as a guide	Yes					
Part C – Details of the research							
7	Give a brief reflection/overview of the ethics issues in this project.	I will supply a test game that the participant must play with a varying complexity AI systems and then ask them to complete a survey based on their experience.					
8	Who will the participants be? Identify specifically any vulnerable groups or individuals and address any special measures you intend to take to accommodate them	University Students.					
9	How will participants be recruited and how many will be involved?	70					

10	What will participants be asked to do?	Play a game with varying complexity AI systems and then complete a survey based on their experience.
11	What potential risks to the interests of participants do you foresee and what steps will you take to minimise those risks? A participant's interests include their physical and psychological well-being, their commercial interests; and their rights of privacy and reputation	<i>Computer use, Setup equipment properly. Seating posture.</i>
12	Will you be obtaining personal information from any of the participants? E.g. name, personal opinions, address, recorded images or audio, date of birth, notes and observations.	No Survey results will be anonymous. Participants age, gender and course of study will also be recorded but will not be tied to a specific survey response.
13	What potential risks to yourself or other members of the research team do you foresee and what steps will you take to minimise those risks? Eg. does your research raise issues of personal safety for you or others involved in the project, especially if taking place outside working hours or off University premises	No
14	What potential risks to the environment do you foresee and what steps will you take to minimise those risks, eg. does your research involve plants or soil	No
15	Will payments or in-kind contributions be made to participants?	NO
16	If the project is to receive financial support (real or in-kind) from outside the University, please give details, including any restrictions that have been imposed upon the conduct of the research. Please discuss this with RIO. Financial propriety, protection of	None

	commercial rights and reputation are important for you, the University and other third parties (eg. sponsors, participants etc.)	
17	Will any restrictions be placed on the publication of results?	No
18a	Declaration of Principal Investigator if activity is out of scope	<p>I confirm that the form is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and it does not fall under the scope of the Research Ethics Policy.</p> <p>Signature: <i>J. [Signature]</i></p> <p>Date: 30/11/2018</p>
18b	Declaration of Principal Investigator if activity is in scope	<p>I confirm my responsibility to deliver the project in accordance with the University's Research Ethics Policy and Guidelines on Good Research Practice and, where externally funded, with the terms and conditions of the research funder. In signing this form I am also confirming that:</p> <p>a) The form is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.</p> <p>b) There is no potential material interest that may, or may appear to, impair the independence and objectivity of researchers conducting this project.</p> <p>c) I undertake to conduct the project as set out in the application unless deviation is agreed by the University and to comply with any conditions.</p> <p>d) I agree to keep all ethics issues in the project under review and to re-submit a new application for ethics approval should any new issue arise or significant change occurs.</p> <p>e) I understand and accept that the ethical propriety of this project may be monitored by the University.</p> <p>f) I have included the following documents:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An information sheet (compulsory)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A consent form (compulsory)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy of the full proposal/application (compulsory)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other relevant information</p> <p>Signature: <i>J. [Signature]</i></p> <p>Date: 30/11/2018</p>

19	Support from Director of Department	<p>I have reviewed the project with the applicant and confirm it either does not fall under the scope of the Research Ethics Policy or I support it.</p> <p>Full Name:</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Date:</p>
20	REC use only	