**SECTION A: Project Definition**

**FOR UNDERGRADUATE & TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE ONLY**

**Complete the following table with full and relevant information relating to your research.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Student Name | Jessica Clara Fealy |
| Student Number | 18024092 |
| Student E-mail Address (please use University e-mail) | 18024092@students.southwales.ac.uk |
| Name of Principal Project Supervisor | Simon Payne |
| Project Title | C# Secure Chat Server |
| Briefly describe the project, being sure to identify any aspects that are relevant to the Ethical Evaluation in Section B.  NOTE: A project determined to be High Risk will need to include additional information in Section B to fully-specify the risks and mitigations. | To research, design, and developed a C# chat server using secure programming principles that utilises industry standard libraries, encryption methodologies, and other pre-existing technologies. |
| Please add an explanation of your study in plain English, with particular focus on any parts of your study which involve human participants. No more than 100 words. This is to help the Faculty Research Ethics Committee (FREC) to understand the project. | Creating a chat server.  Questionnaire friends, family, and fellow students about the functionality of the security and features of the chat server.  Questionnaire people in industry. |

**SECTION B: Ethical Evaluation**

**FOR UNDERGRADUATE & TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE ONLY**

Consider the following points to determine the level of ethical risk your research presents:

1. Involves those who are considered vulnerable such as:

* Children under 16.
* Adults with learning difficulties.

Unless in an accredited setting, accompanied by a carer or professional with a duty of care.

1. Involves those who are considered highly vulnerable such as:

* Adults or children with diagnosed mental illness/terminal illness/dementia/in a residential care home.
* Adults or children in emergency situations.
* Adults or children with limited capacity to consent

1. Involves those who are “dependent” on others (such as teacher or lecturer to student). Unless in an accredited setting associated with normal working conditions or routines and within normal operating hours, such as a cultural institution, pre-school, school, or youth club where the research is carried out as part of professional practice such as curriculum development.
2. Requires full NHS ethical approval via the Integrated Research Application System.
3. Requires a Human Tissue Act license.
4. Involves “covert” procedures as in covert observation studies.
5. Involves anything considered “sensitive”. For example, does not carry a risk of those involved disclosing information which compromises the research (e.g., illegal activities; activities where moral opinion may differ, potential professional misconduct – work errors).
6. Induces significant psychological stress or anxiety, or produce humiliation or cause more than fleeting harm / negative consequences beyond the risks encountered in the normal life of the participants (and where the potential for fleeting “harm” is clearly detailed in the participant information sheet). If in doubt regarding definition of the above terminology please contact the research governance office.
7. Involves administration of drugs, placebos or other substances (such as food substances or vitamins) as part of this study.
8. Involves invasive procedures (not limited to blood sampling, collection of biological samples, or passing current through a participant’s body, etc.).
9. Offers any financial inducements to participate in the study.
10. Intends to recruit serving prisoners or serving young offenders via Her Majesty’s Prison & Probation Service.

For your course, there may be specific requirements in **addition** to these, depending on the nature of the subject and how your project is assessed. You must also complete those requirements.

If **none** of the 12 points above apply, then the research can be considered **Low Risk**, *unless your course identifies additional criteria relevant to your subject that would render it High Risk*. This Section is then signed off by yourself and your supervisor, and held on file for review by FREC.

If **any** of the 12 points applies, then the research is considered **High Risk** and students must bring the matter to the attention of their research supervisor immediately. **Research cannot then commence until mitigations for the risk are agreed by FREC**. Seek advice from your Supervisor, who can help you identify mitigations of the risk or redesign as a Low Risk project.

**All students must complete the section below, in collaboration with their supervisor.**

Please strike through the statement that **does not** apply.

1. An ethics review has been completed, and the project has been identified as Low Risk.
2. ~~An ethics review has been completed, and a High Risk was identified. I agree to explain how they may be mitigated below, and agree to abide by any conditions identified at this stage, by my Project Supervisor, the School or the Faculty. I understand that High Risk projects can only proceed with approval from the Faculty Research Ethics Committee.~~

|  |
| --- |
| Issues: (Include as much information as possible to help FREC members to understand the issues. Extend onto additional pages as necessary.) |
| Proposed mitigations: (Include as much information as possible to help FREC members to understand the mitigations. Extend onto additional pages as necessary.) |
| Student’s Signature: Jessica Clara Fealy  Date: 19/10/2021 |
| **Supervisor’s statement:** I have ensured due diligence and accountable decision making by the student. I have sought appropriate advice where required to support my judgment in this.  Supervisor’s Signature: Simon Payne  Date: 19/10/2021 |
| **Any false or mis-represented information contributing to this Ethical Evaluation, including attempting to pass off a High Risk project as a Low Risk project, is subject to the Student Misconduct Regulations and may also have legal repercussions.** |

Both signatures are **required** for all projects, both Low Risk and High Risk.