

CMP6200 Individual Undergraduate Project 2024 - 2025

A1 - Proposal

University Artifically Intelligent Assistant



Course: Computer & Data Science Student Name: Lewis Higgins Student Number: 22133848 Supervisor Name: Dr. Atif Azad

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Introduction

1.1 Background and Rationale

With artificial intelligence (AI) becoming increasingly more powerful and useful in recent years, in some cases even surpassing humans in areas like language and image recognition (Giattino et al., 2023). It is therefore essential that higher education institutions take advantage of it and ensure to keep up-to-date with its developments in the interest of academic integrity, which was also stated in the Higher Education Policy Report dated 28 March 2024 - "Higher education will have to adopt, adapt, collaborate and lead to take advantage of AI while managing the risks" (HEPI, 2024).

This project aims to leverage recent technical developments in natural language processing (NLP) to create a digital assistant for university life that students can use to gain information on topics such as university policies and locations on campus. This is because attending university for the first time is a daunting and stressful experience for many, often due to it being a new and unfamiliar environment where students have full independence unlike their previous educational settings, which could possibly lead to declines in academic performance and social activity. Some students may not wish to speak with newer people who they don't know about university topics for fear of ridicule or embarrassment, and would benefit from a digital companion to help them to become acquainted with their new environment without the perceived risk of social judgement.

1.2 Key Themes/Topics

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Aims and Objectives

2.1 Project Aim

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2.2 Project Objectives

Project Planning

3.1 Initial Project Plan

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3.2 Resources

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3.3 Risk Assessments

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Project Review and Methodology

- 4.1 Critique of Past Similar Projects
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- 4.2 Literature Search Methodology
- 4.3 Initial Literature Search Results
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Bibliography

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