Research ethics approval form

All students conducting research activity that involves human participants or the use of data, collected from human participants, may be required to gain ethical approval before commencing their research. Please answer all relevant questions and note that your form may be returned if incomplete.

For further support and guidance please see your Unit Tutor “**Rawan Baniyounes**”.

Before completing this form, we advise that you discuss your proposed research fully with your Unit Tutor “**Rawan Baniyounes**”. Please complete this form in good time before your research project is due to commence.

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| **Section One: Basic details** | | | |
| Project title: Big Data Evolving at Pearson | | | |
| Student Details: | | | |
| Student Name: Yazan Atary | | | |
| Student ID: **22034818** | | | |
| Program: **Cloud Computing Research Project** | | | |
| School: LTUC | | | |
| Start date: | 11/12/2023 | End date: | 20/1/2024 |

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| **Section Two: Project summary** | | |
| Please select all research methods that you plan to use as part of your project: | | |
| Interviews |  |  |
| Questionnaires |  |  |
| Observations |  |  |
| Use of Personal Records |  |  |
| Data Analysis |  |  |
| Action Research |  |  |
| Focus Groups |  |  |
| Other (please specify) | | |

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| **Section Three: Participants** | |
| Will your research involve human participants? | * Yes  * No |
| Who are the participants? Tick all that apply | |

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| * Ages 12–16 | * Young people aged 17–18 | * Adults |
| How will participants be recruited (identified and approached)? | | |
| Identifying participants | Communication with participants | Informed consent |
| Describe the process you will use to inform participants about what you are doing: | | |
| Participant Information Sheet | Consent Form | Q&A Sessions |
| How will you obtain consent from participants? Will this be written? How will it be made clear to participants that they may withdraw consent to participate at any time? | | |
| Written consent Clarification on withdrawal Explain Accessible language | | |
| **Studies involving questionnaires**: Will participants be given the option of omitting questions they do not wish to answer? | | * Yes  * No |
| If No, please explain why below and ensure that you cover any ethical issues arising from this: | | |
|  | | |
| **Studies involving observation:** Confirm whether participants will be asked for their informed consent to be approved. | | * Yes  * No |
| **Will you debrief participants at the end of their participation?** (e.g. give them a brief explanation of the study) | | * Yes  * No |
| **Will participants be given information about the findings of your study?** (This could be a summary of your findings generally) | | * Yes  * No |

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| **Section Four: Data storage and security** | |
| Confirm that all personal data will be stored and processed in compliance with the Data Protection Act (1998) | * Yes  * No |
| Who will have access to the data and personal information? | |
| **During the research, only the research team will have access to the data to maintain confidentiality.** | |
| Where will the data be stored? | |
| The data will be stored securely on encrypted servers or secure cloud storage, and can only be accessed by authorized members of the research team. | |
| Will mobile devices, such as USB storage and laptops, be used? | * Yes * No |
| If yes, please provide further details: | |
|  | |
| **After the research** | |
| **Where will the data be stored?** | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Secure cloud storage | |
| **How long will the data and records be kept, and in what format?** | |
| Data and records will be retained for a period that complies with ethical guidelines and corporate policies, usually up to 5 years. They will be stored in digital formats such as encrypted files or secure databases. After this period, the data will be securely disposed of or anonymized for long-term studies. | |
| Will the data be kept for use by other researchers? | * Yes * No |
| If yes, please provide further details: | |
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| Section Five: Ethical issues |
| Are there any particular features of your proposed work which may raise ethical concerns? If so, please outline how you will deal with these: |
| Strict adherence to privacy laws and guidelines  Clear and informed consent procedures  Strong data encryption and secure storage |
| It is important that you demonstrate your awareness of potential risks that may arise as a result of your research. Please consider/address all issues that may apply. Ethical concerns may include, but are not limited to the following:   * informed consent * potentially vulnerable participants * sensitive topics * risks to participants and/or researchers * confidentiality/anonymity * disclosures/limits to confidentiality * data storage and security, both during and after the research (including transfer, sharing, encryption, protection) * reporting * dissemination and use of your findings. |
| Informed consent: Ensure clear and informed consent from all participants, with a particular focus on understanding and voluntary participation.  Vulnerable participants: Identify and provide additional safeguards for potentially vulnerable participants.  Sensitive topics: Handle sensitive topics with care, ensuring participants' comfort and privacy.  Risks to participants/researchers: assess and minimize any risks, and provide support when necessary.  Confidentiality/Anonymity: Maintaining strict confidentiality and anonymity of participants.  Disclosures/Confidentiality Limits: Clearly report any confidentiality restrictions.  Data storage and security: Implement robust data security measures during and after research, including encryption and secure storage practices.  Reporting: Ensure transparent and accurate reporting on research findings.  Dissemination and use of results: Plan for ethical dissemination and apply results, taking into account the broader impact. |

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| **Section Six: Declaration** | | |
| I have read, understood and will abide by the [insert name of college/centre] Research Ethics Policy: | | * Yes  * No |
| I have discussed the ethical issues relating to my research with my tutor: | | * Yes  * No |
| Student Name(s): | | Date: |
| Yazan Atary | | 1/20/2024 |
| Please submit your completed form to: | Rawan Baniyounes | |

**March 2022**

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