**Source:** Information about the Vice Chancellor

**Metadata:** Vice Chancellor, Professor Edward Peck

**Text:**

Edward William Peck CBE is vice-chancellor of Nottingham Trent University. He was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2021 New Year Honours for services to higher education. Professor Peck was raised in Skelmersdale in Lancashire and attended Ormskirk Grammar School. He was only the second member of his family to attend university. He graduated from the University of Bristol with a BA in Philosophy in 1981, the first step in his lifelong engagement with further and higher education. His second was a Diploma in Personnel Management at what was then Bristol Polytechnic where he learnt to appreciate the career benefits of vocational education and which led to him being recruited onto the National Health Service (NHS) graduate management training scheme in 1982. Over the next few years he studied for a Diploma in Health Services Management through a correspondence course (the distance learning of its day) and a part-time Masters in Social Policy and Administration at the University of Nottingham. It was his first substantive job in the NHS – based at Mapperley Hospital – that brought him to Nottingham, and after a number of senior posts in Newcastle he joined the Centre for Mental Health Services Development in 1992 based at King’s College London, becoming Director in 1994. In October 2002, Professor Peck moved to the University of Birmingham as Director of the Health Services Management Centre and subsequently became Head of the School of Public Policy in 2006. He was appointed Head of the College of Social Sciences in January 2008. He joined Nottingham Trent University as Vice-Chancellor on 1 August 2014, since when, as The Sunday Times Good University Guide put it recently, the University “is enjoying a period of unprecedented success”. It was this same guide’s Modern University of the Year in 2018, the Times Higher Education University of the Year in 2017, and The Guardian University of the Year in 2019. Beyond the University, Professor Peck is a Trustee of the Universities and Colleges Employers Association (UCEA) and Deputy Chair of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). He was a member of the Post-18 Fees and Funding – aka Augar – Review and is an elected member of the Board of Universities UK. He is also a member of the Nottingham Growth Board as well as the Board of the Midlands Development Corporation. In July 2020 he was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences. Professor Peck was made a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2021 New Year Honours List for Services to Higher Education. In June 2022, Higher Education and Further Education Minister Michelle Donelan announced that the Department for Education (DfE) appointed Professor Peck as its first Student Support Champion.

**Source:** Head of Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University

**Metadata:** Information about Professor Ahmad Lotfi, who is the Head of Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University

**Text:**

Ahmad Lotfi is a Professor of Computational Intelligence and Head of Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University, where he is also leading Computational Intelligence and Applications (CIA) research group. He is also a Visiting Professor at Tokyo Metropolitan University. Professor Ahmad Lotfi received his BSc. and MTech. in control systems from Isfahan University of Technology, Iran and Indian Institute of Technology, India respectively. He received his PhD degree in Learning Fuzzy Systems from University of Queensland, Australia in 1995. Professor Ahmad Lotfi joined Nottingham Trent University in December 2000 as a lecturer and was promoted to a Reader and Professor in 2011 and 2015 respectively. He has acted as the Postgraduate Research Tutor for SST from 2007 until 2019. He also leads the Computational Intelligence and Applications research group.

Professor Ahmad Lotfi's research interest is mainly in the area of computational intelligence, ambient intelligence, robotics and machine learning. Specific areas of interest include learning fuzzy systems, evolutionary fuzzy systems, neuro computing, data mining, sensors network, smart homes, intelligent environments and intelligent mobile robot navigation strategies. His works have been recognised internationally for significant contributions to the application of computational intelligence techniques in condition monitoring, control systems and intelligent environments. My strong communications and decision-making skills with a “make-it-happen” capability have helped me to meet targeted research objectives. Furthermore, my extensive background in the supervision and teaching of undergraduate and research students and the development of research programs in the theory and application of computational intelligence has helped me to contribute to the field of research. His current research focuses on the identification of progressive changes in behaviour of elderly people suffering from Dementia or any other cognitive impairments. Accurate identification of progressive changes through utilisation of unobtrusive sensor network and/or robotics platform will enable carers (formal and informal) to intervene when deemed necessary.

**Source:** DeputyHead of Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University

**Metadata:** Information about Dr. Joanna Hartley, who is the Deputy Head of the Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University

**Text:**

The Deputy Head of the Computer Science department at Nottingham Trent University is Dr. Joanna Hartley. Dr. Hartley is a specialist in Higher Education. In particular, her strengths and interests include the student experience, student engagement and support for all students. Dr Hartley is currently leading one of the School's Success for All themes - Transitions. The group's aim is to develop projects that will increase progression and attainment of groups of undergraduate students who underperform. Dr Hartley was awarded a BSc (Hons) Mathematics from University of Durham in 1991. She joined Nottingham Trent University in 1992 as a research assistant in the area of mathematical modelling of real-time systems and transputers. This led to her being awarded a PhD in 1996. Her thesis title was “Parallel Algorithms for Fuzzy Data Processing with Application to Water Systems”. In 1995, she became a lecturer in the Department of Computing and Technology at Nottingham Trent University, and has remained at the institution. During this time, she has held a number of different posts, including Principal lecturer (2013 - 2021) and Acting Head of Department in 2017/18. She is currently Deputy Head of the Department of Computer Science (since 2021).

**Source:** Course Managers in the Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University

**Metadata:** Information about the Course Managers in the Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University

**Text:**

The Undergraduate Courses Manager at Nottingham Trent University is Dr. Peter Fitzgerald, who is a Principal Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr. Peter Fitzgerald is a Principal Lecturer for Student and Academic Experience at Nottingham Trent University, Dr FitzGerald is the Module Leader for BSc Information and Database Engineering and MSc Advanced Software Engineering. He also teaches subjects on other BSc and MSc modules, including Object-Oriented Analysis and Design.

The Postgraduate Courses Manager at Nottingham Trent University is Dr. Taha Osman, who is also a Principal Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr. Osman’s research interests include: semantic web open linked data knowledge engineering intelligent information retrieval and multi-agent systems. Building on a strong research track record in intelligent multi-agent systems, Dr Osman started exploring the utilisation of the semantic web technology in the intelligent composition of Web services. The application of semantic technologies in Dr Osman's research further expanded to intelligent information retrieval and knowledge management, which culminated in the collaboration with the Press Association – the UK's prime multimedia content and news provider, where Dr Osman's research team helped the company to develop a semantic-based image indexing and retrieval system that improves the accuracy and recall of PA Photos images search engine.

The Degree Apprenticeship Courses Manager at Nottingham Trent University is Dr. Beverley Cook, who is a Principal Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Her roles include Business Lead Manager, Apprenticeship Courses Manager, Employability Lead and Knowledge Exchange/Practice lead. Her teaching specialisms are mobile application development and professional development. Dr. Cook is a long standing member of the BCS Nottingham and Derby branch and is the current chair of this branch.

**Source:** Staff Information

**Metadata:** Information about the staff members who work at the Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University

**Text:**

Dr. Jordan J. Bird is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University and is the Deputy Co-ordinator for B11 REF unit of assessment. His research aligns with the Computational Intelligence and Applications Research Group (CIA). Dr. Bird received his BSc Computer Science degree in 2014, graduating from Aston University (Birmingham, UK) with a First Class Honours. Following his bachelor's degree, Jordan was then awarded a scholarship to read for a PhD. In 2021 he was awarded the PhD in Computer Science following the examination of his thesis, *"A Socially Interactive Multimodal Human-robot Interaction Framework Through Studies On Machine And Deep Learning"*. After completing his PhD, Dr. Bird became a Research Fellow at Nottingham Trent University, and was appointed as the Robotics Lab lead in April 2022. In May 2023, Dr. Bird was appointed as a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science. In 2024, Dr. Bird was appointed as the Deputy Coordinator for B11 (Computer Science and Informatics) REF, and subsequently appointed to the steering committee of the Centre for Computer Science and Informatics (CIRC). Dr. Bird serves as a PhD Guidance Committee Member at the West University of Timișoara, Romania, and is a grant reviewer for AI Singapore (as an international expert) and a grant reviewer for the UKRI Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). Dr. Bird's expertise includes natural language processing, multimodal AI, and human-computer interaction. He is currently developing advanced systems, such as life-sized holographic interfaces and machine learning models for classifying educational literature. His work often incorporates interdisciplinary collaborations with linguistics, history, and education specialists, furthering the use of AI to enhance learning experiences and cultural heritage preservation. As a researcher, Dr. Bird has a track record of successful funding, including a British Council grant for AI-powered inclusive education and departmental support for projects like ROBIN, an AI-driven holographic guide for university events. His dedication to research-informed teaching is evident in his innovative module designs and supervision of projects that prepare students for emerging AI-driven industries.

Dr. Farhad Fassihi Tash is a senior lecturer at the Computer Science Department of the Nottingham Trent University. Farhad is a member of Computing & Informatic Research Centre (CIRC) and Computational Intelligence and Applications Research (CIA) Groups within the department. He is the chair of Systems Council Chapter and Systematic Innovation Special Interest Group of the IEEE UK & Ireland. He is a certified authorised lead assessor of Ethics of AI systems based on the IEEE Standards Association’s “CertifAIEd” programme for assessment and certification of Artificially Intelligent solutions and has been a member of the international panel of experts tasked with the review of the CertifAIEd framework in 2023. He is currently contributing to the development of a systematic framework for assessment of safety of Agentic AI solutions as part of an independent international group of experts. Following his first degree in Electronics Engineering, Dr Fassihi Tash received his MSc and PhD in Computer Aided Engineering from the NTU in 1989 and 1993 respectively. Upon completion of his PhD, Farhad continued his academic engagement at the Manufacturing Engineering Department of the NTU as Research Fellow / Senior Research Fellow until 1998 before leaving the university to pursue new challenges in industry. Farhad established new enterprises in the field of IT & Communication, developing innovative ICT, solutions that won awards for innovation and excellence from the EU and the UK Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport for his company’s solutions. Since 2020 he has returned to academic life, working at the Computer Science Department of the NTU, teaching in UG and PG courses as well as conducting research. Dr. Fassihi Tash is: Chair of the Systems Council IEEE UK & Ireland, Chair of the Systematic Innovation Special Interest Group, and Member of international expert panels in developing assessment framework for Ethical and Safe Agentic AI solutions.

Dr. Salisu Yahaya is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Salisu Wada Yahaya received a B.Sc. degree in Computer Science from Nasarawa State University Keffi. He also received an MSc. in Cybernetics and Communication from Nottingham Trent University (NTU), where he is currently studying for a PhD in Computer Science. Before his current role, Salisu worked as a system administrator, a sessional tutor at Nottingham Trent International College and a part-time lecturer at Nottingham Trent University. He is a Member of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society. Salisu's research interest is in the application of computational intelligence for human activity recognition, behaviour modelling and abnormality detection.

Dr. Doratha Vinkemeier is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. She is currently module leader for Applied Maths and Graphics. Her research interests include Machine Learning, Theoretical Computer Science, Computer Vision, and Affective Computing.

Andy Burton is currently a research fellow in the field of inclusion, accessibility, and technologies. My current role enables me to research innovations to enhance social inclusion in fields of education and advanced information technology.

Nicholas (Nick) Shopland is a Research Fellow in the Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. His research focuses on human-computer interaction, virtual reality, and the development of adaptive learning systems, particularly for individuals with disabilities. Nick Shopland has contributed to projects aimed at improving accessibility and personalization in higher education for students with disabilities in the Indian subcontinent. He has also been involved in the design and evaluation of virtual travel training environments for people with learning disabilities, enhancing their independence and mobility. Nicholas Shopland’s recent work includes the development of biofeedback-driven, self-guided virtual reality exposure therapy systems that utilize machine learning to detect arousal states from multimodal data. This research aims to create more effective therapeutic interventions for individuals experiencing anxiety-related disorders. Shopland's interdisciplinary approach combines computer science, psychology, and education to develop innovative solutions that address real-world challenges, particularly in the realm of accessibility and personalized learning.

Sean Haddick is an Academic Associate with the Department of Computer Science. He is currenting teaching Level 4 Foundations of Computing and Technology, Computer Science Programming, Computer Science Technology and Systems Technology, and Level 6 Serious Games, in addition to supporting Final Year Project and Masters Major Project students.

Matthew Harris is an academic associate with the department of computer science at Nottingham trent university. He has experience in developing software for Virtual Reality applications and is currently pursuing a PhD in the role of Technology/Virtual Reality in treating loneliness. Matthew has taught on the following modules: Level 4 Foundation of Computing and Technology, Level 4 Computer Science Programming, Level 5 Games Programming, Level 6 Serious Games, and Level 6 Advanced Analysis and Design. Matthew has also supported Level 6 Final Year Project students. Matthew was awarded a BSc (Hons) in Computer Science from NTU in 2019.

Jake Street is an academic associate with the department of computer science at Nottingham Trent University. Jake is currently supporting the Systems Analysis and Design (Level 4) and Professional Development (Level 4) modules. Jake's PhD research is focused on analysing the social engineering threats that vulnerable users (children) face online. The research is aiming to identify, and possibly synthesise, effective technical and non-technical solutions to these threats children face online.

Dr. Arshad Sher is a Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Arshad received his BS Computer Science degree in 2017, graduating from COMSATS University, Islamabad, Pakistan. Following his bachelor's degree, Arshad was then awarded a AberDoc and Presidents scholarships for a PhD at Aberystwyth University, Wales, UK. In 2023 he was awarded the PhD in Computer Science following the examination of his thesis, "Automatic human gait analysis using a smartphone ". Arshad worked as an associate lecturer at Aberystwyth University. Now working as a Lecturer at Nottingham Trent University. His research interests mainly involve Machine Learning (ML), Human Gait Analysis and Activities Recognition in Controlled and Free-living Conditions.

Steven Lamber is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. He is the Course Leader for the BSc (Hons) Digital and Technology Solutions Professional (Software Engineering) Degree Apprenticeship. Steven started his career as an apprentice electrical and electronic engineer in 1995, following his apprenticeship he worked in several network and software development roles as well as managing the IT infrastructure for a large national company before moving into education in 2003. Steven has taught various Computer Science subjects in both FE and HE at several institutions. Steven has a wide range of interests within computing covering the development of software and databases through to computer networks. He also has an interest in how technology can be applied to enhance both teaching and learning.

Dr. Nuno Amalio is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Nuno specialises in software engineering, more specifically in the areas of software modeling, design and formal methods. His research interests lie in the fields of model-driven development, visual languages, formal methods, formal verification, formal semantics, requirements engineering, empirical software engineering and cyber-security.

Dr. David Funchall is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr Funchall teaches IT Management to undergraduate and postgraduate levels. He contributes to the development of practice-based pedagogy in academic programmes within the subject area; in addition to engaging in relevant commercial, consultancy and professional activities. Dr Funchall currently teaches the Professional Development for Industry; Systems Analysis and Design; Final Year Projects modules. He has a passion for sharing knowledge and expertise through training & professional development initiatives in addition to serving as a mentor for master's and doctoral students. Dr Funchall has over 25 years of experience establishing high-performance governance, services, and project management frameworks for organisations across all industries and legislative government. Dave is able to spur significant enterprise growth and profitability by developing and implementing customised solutions, IT systems, strategic plans, and organizational strategies to transform operations. Dr Funchall is a business consultant for government and private sector organisations in industries such as banking, mining, construction, military R&D, manufacturing, telecommunications, tertiary and service delivery. Dr Funchall has: established a robust governance structure and training programs for the Project Management Office (PMO) and continue to direct all operations. Instituted and continue to cultivate a results-oriented organisational culture of continuous learning, innovation, and evaluation. established the Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) committee and served as Chairman, spearheading initiatives and annual performance plans that are instrumental in driving organisational success.

Dr Andreas Oikonomou is a Senior Lecturer at Nottingham Trent University where he teaches Computer Science, Human-Computer Interaction and Project Management. r Oikonomou's research interests and previous work include Serious Games, Interactive Technologies, Biomedical Computing and Artificial Intelligence. For the latter, with particular emphasis on its integration with hardware platforms such as robots and intelligent devices.

Dr Abdallah Naser is a lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr Abdallah Naser received his BSc in Computer Engineering from Cyprus International University with High-Honour and his MSc in Information Security and Biometrics with Distinction from the University of Kent, UK. His PhD thesis is entitled “Privacy-preserving Human Behaviour Monitoring Through Thermal Vision”, which extends on his research output conducted as part of his PhD study at Nottingham Trent University. Dr Abdallah Naser was granted a patent for inventing a new way to secure online accounts using concepts of pattern recognition from the Palestinian patent office. Furthermore, he has led and developed several technical solutions for different sectors. Dr Abdallah's current research focuses on computational intelligence, sensor signal processing, and image processing towards enabling privacy-preserving human-centred applications.

Dr. Adnan Kiani is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science. Dr. Adnan is an experienced academic, a Fellow of Advance Higher Education UK (FHEA) , Member of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and Certified Professional Engineer (PE) from Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC). Dr. Adnan received both his PhD and MSc degrees from Brunel University, London, and his BE in Electrical Engineering from NUST, Pakistan. During his PhD, Dr. Adnan worked on EU-FP6 Enable project for large scale deployment of Mobile IPv6. Throughout his academic career, he has won grants, published extensively in high-impact journals, presented his work in international conferences and contributed to edited books. Dr. Adnan is actively involved in collaborative research involving international partners.

Alicia Falcon Caro is a lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Alicia is a researcher at the Cognitive Computing and Brain Informatics Research Group (CCBI). Her research interests are in signal processing, machine learning, adaptive learning and biomedical engineering applications.

Dr. Kayode (Kay) Owa is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. He is a Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy, (FHEA-UK), a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Professional association, and a Member of the British Computer Society, (MBCS-UK).

Dr. Peter Blanchfield is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Peter works in computer games applications for therapeutic purposes and educational computer games.

Dr. David Adama is a Lecturer with the Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University, where he is the course leader for the Data Scientist Degree Apprenticeship and also a member of the Computational Intelligence and Applications (CIA) research group. David received his BEng (Hons) degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering and MSc in Engineering (Cybernetics and Communication) from UAM and Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom, respectively. He received his PhD degree in Computational Intelligence for his research on fuzzy transfer learning in human activity recognition from Nottingham Trent University. Prior to his current role, David has held other positions including researcher in human activity recognition and data scientist roles. He also worked as a software developer in computational intelligence at Nottingham Trent University in which he was part of the Si-Elegans EU-FP7 project. David also worked as part-time lecturer in teaching various computer science related subjects in higher education at different institutions. David's area of research is in applications of artificial intelligence, machine learning, deep learning and transfer learning, in developing systems for human-robot interaction, human behaviour monitoring and recognition, independent assisted living and computer vision.

Magdalena Williams is a Lecturer and Academic Placement Manager with the Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Magdalena Williams spent six years lecturing English for Academic Purposes at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland where she mainly taught postgraduate students and PhD candidates. She was also responsible for material development and curriculum design. In 2018, 2019 and 2020 she was contracted by the University of Nottingham to be a pre-sessional tutor of Academic Purposes in the School of English Language Education supporting international students with their academic language development. Magdalena Williams joined Nottingham Trent University in 2018 as an English for Academic Purposes Lecturer in the Nottingham Language Centre (now NILIC). She moved to the Department of Computer Science in 2021.

Dr. Thomas Johnson is a Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science within the School of Science and Technology and researcher in the Pervasive Computing Research Laboratory.

Dr. Nemitari Ajienka is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. His teaching experience spans across the areas of software engineering, relational and non-relational databases, cybersecurity, information security, object-oriented programming, distributed systems and machine learning at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. He is research active in the areas of software engineering and maintenance. Dr. Nemitari Ajienka’s research interests include software maintenance and evolution, empirical software engineering, software quality and metrics, mining software repositories, program comprehension, source code analysis, software visualisation, text mining, blockchain smart contracts (documentation, resource consumption, design patterns and security) and human factors that influence software developer productivity and quality.

Rob Pearce is the Specialist IT Systems Manager at the Department of Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. He is a specialist IT resource management: high performance computing, robotics, isolated networks and mobile laboratories. Managing a Specialist IT Systems Support team and supporting NTU's ambitious agenda for delivering innovative, industry-focused courses. He runs a small team of technical experts who support the advanced computing requirements for the Department's staff and students. Experienced in IT support, complex systems, telecommunications engineering, Internet technology, sustainability and IT services in business. Student Mentoring and support. Areas of Interest: Projects including web development (CSS, HTML, JavaScript, Databases, Servers) or electronics (circuit construction, PCB creation, fault-finding, conventional and surface mount technology). Renewable technology projects and sustainability in Information technology. Sports performance monitoring, intelligent chatbots. Virtual/Augmented reality.

Dr. Evtim Peytchev: Associate Professor - Dr Peytchev is the Module Leader for Systems Software and Wireless and Mobile Communications. He also teaches on the modules Software Design and Implementation; Mobile Networking; Enterprise Computing; and Computer Architecture. Dr Peytchev is a member of the Intelligent Simulation, Modelling and Networking Research Group (ISMN). Dr Peytchev’s areas of research interest include the traffic simulation and modelling; mobile ad-hoc networks; ad-hoc network architecture; and mobile networking. Traffic simulation and modelling: The application of mathematical models for traffic simulation and modelling. Uncertainties for producing accurate real-time predictions of the traffic flow. Mobile ad-hoc networks: MANET mobile ad-hoc networks applied to the urban and motorway traffic. Design and implantation of urban traffic information systems based on ad-hoc wireless networking. Ad-hoc network architecture: Introducing new ad-hoc network architectures for intelligent mobile nodes and investigating their characteristics. Identifying the range of traffic information that can be collaboratively extracted and generated by the pier-to-pier communication. Mobile networking: Assessing the feasibility of using new Mobile TCP / IP (MTCP / IP) stack for delivering web-services in mobile ad-hoc network based environment. Designing new feature based location dependent services on the move.

Dr Philip Woodall is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science and specialises in data management and data quality. He has extensive experience working with international public and private organisations from various sectors, including transport, utilities, e-commerce, public sector, manufacturing, and aerospace, to improve their data management and data quality practices. He is author of “Total Information Risk Management: Maximizing the Value of Data and Information Assets”, and has published numerous academic articles in leading international journals and conferences. He is an editor of The International Journal of Information Quality. Philip spent a decade at the University of Cambridge where he led various data management research projects. He has also worked in the software industry, and gained his Ph.D. in Computer Science from Keele University.

Dr. Pratik Vyas is a research-informed Senior Lecturer of Information Technology (User experience and Data Visualisation) in the School of Science & Technology. Pratik is part of Interactive Systems Research Group and has established research contributions in Open Design, Human-Computer Interaction and Co-design. His expertise is in data visualization skills for decision support, design skills for User experience (UX) and design management during web development SDLC, skills that he honed working as Business Analyst for many years. He works with British Council, UKRI and Erasmus+ projects and covers topics of accessibility, usability and industry readiness in higher education through better user experience. He is principle investigator for British council funded 'Value added course' project.

**Source:** Course Leaders in Computer Science

**Metadata:** Course Leaders in Computer Science

**Text:**

If the open day guests require more information about a course, our course leaders are here and happy to help with any questions that they may have. A list of the course leaders are provided below:

Dr. Ismahane Cheheb: course leader for Computer Science BSc (Hons) and the final year tutor for computer science students. Dr. Ismahane Cheheb is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Ismahane received her BSc in Mathematics and Informatics and MSc in Software Engineering from the University of Science and Technology Houari Boumediene (USTHB), Algiers, Algeria. Ismahane also holds a PhD in Artificial Intelligence from the University of Northumbria at Newcastle, where she also held the position of research fellow in Digital Forensics between 2020 and 2022.

Dr. Thomas Hughes-Roberts: course leader for MSc Computer Science. Dr Thomas-Hughes Roberts is a Principal Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr Hughes-Roberts is a member of the Interactive Systems Research Group, and his research interests include: Serious Games, Virtual and Augmented Reality, and Assistive Technology. Building a track record in assistive technology, Dr Hughes-Roberts has worked on a number of projects that aim to reduce barriers of access to education. These included the Horizon 2020 Project “No One Left Behind” which examined the use of digital game making in promoting inclusive teaching and learning and the Lifelong Learning Programme project EduRob which used educational robotics to enhance cognitive development. Dr Hughes-Roberts’ current research examines the use of VR technology to provide experiential learning for complex social situations. This has been applied within radiotherapy education to simulate a range of patient interactions student may experience while on placement providing a preparatory tool.

Dr Simon Schofield: first year tutor for Computer Science BSc (Hons). Dr. Simon Schofield is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Simon Schofield's main areas of interest are computer graphics and gaming. He is particularly interested in the overlap between computing, programming and creativity. Whilst at Cambridge University's Department of Architecture, Simon created the award-winning Piranesi Interactive Rendering system, used by architects worldwide. Then, while working at the Slade School of Fine Art, UCL, he won a Bafta Interactive for a music-based game. Dr Schofield is active in the production of bespoke, high resolution artworks suitable for architectural contexts. He has a thriving art practice, with work shown internationally. His work is represented by the Mark Jason Gallery London, and he has recently shown large scale artworks at the Millennium Museum Sheffield and the Museum of Arts and Design, New York. He is a Champion of Academic Enterprise, investigating a new academic provision for the Centre for Contemporary Play. Dr Schofield’s current research and practice at NTU involves the production of highly detailed Fine Art images using generative and data-driven approaches. For this, he writes his own software. He has shown his work internationally and is represented by the London-based gallery TAG Fine Arts.

Dr. Peter Fitzgerald: year 2 or second year tutor for Computer Science BSc (Hons). Dr. Peter Fitzgerald is a Principal Lecturer for Student and Academic Experience at Nottingham Trent University, Dr FitzGerald is the Module Leader for BSc Information and Database Engineering and MSc Advanced Software Engineering. He also teaches subjects on other BSc and MSc modules, including Object-Oriented Analysis and Design.

James Lewis: course leader for Computer Science (Games Technology) BSc (Hons). James Lewis is a senior lecturer in computer science at Nottingham Trent University. James is specialised in Game technologies with a particular focus upon The Unreal Engine, Unity, 3DS and Blender. He teaches games and VR development for PC & Mobile, Utilising the HTC Vive Pro, Oculus Rift, Oculus Go and Gear VR platforms

Dr. Azi Meskaran: course leader for Software Engineering BSc (Hons). Dr. Azi Meskaran is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. She previously held the position of a Lecturer at the Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation in Malaysia from 2018 to 2021. During her tenure, she significantly advanced her expertise in Information Security, research methodologies, and statistical analysis, particularly utilising tools such as Amos and SPSS. Her academic background includes a PhD in Information Security from the University of Teknology Malaysia and a Master of Software Engineering from the University Putra Malaysia.

Dr. Rob Ranson: course leader for Computing BSc (Hons). Dr. Ranson is a Principal Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University and Undergraduate Course Manager of Information Technology Clusters. His initial research focused on photoluminescent characterisation of phosphor based materials. This included extensive work in the field of sputtering phosphor based materials to produce thin film materials for use in high temperature environment, and then the subsequent characterisation of laser induced luminescent properties for use within sensor development for high temperature environments. Over more recent years, he has assisted with the supervision of PhD students in the field of robotic based learning of human activities.

Dr. Neil Sculthorpe: course leader for MSc Software Engineering. Dr. Sculthorpe is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. His teaching includes leading the Software Engineering and Advanced Software Engineering modules at undergraduate level, and the Fundamentals of Software Programming module at postgraduate level. Neil’s research field is Programming Languages, and his specific research interests include Functional Programming, Operational Semantics, Denotational Semantics, Type Systems, Equational Reasoning, Program Transformation, Functional Reactive Programming, Domain-Specific Languages and Continuations.

Dr Arifur (Arif) Rahman is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Computer Science. Here at Nottingham Trent University, Dr M. Arifur Rahman is working as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science. Before taking this position, he was an Associate Lecturer at the Department of Computer Science, University of Reading, UK. He also worked as a Post Doctoral Research Fellow in the Interactive Systems Research Groups (ISRG), Department of Computer Science, lead by Prof. David Brown and Co-lead by Dr Mufti Mahmud. Earlier, Dr Rahman served as an Associate Professor in the Department of Physics at Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh, from December 2019, where he started as a Lecturer in June 2006. Meanwhile, Dr Rahman completed his PhD in Computer Science from the Department of Computer Science, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK. At The University of Sheffield, he worked as a Demonstrator from 2012 to 2017. He completed his Masters degree in Human Language Technology and Interfaces (HLTI) from the Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science at The University of Trento, Italy. Dr Rahman received his B.Sc. (Honors) degree from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh. For his academic excellence, he was awarded two gold medals, one from the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and another from the President of Bangladesh. He is a life member of the Bangladesh Electronics Society. Dr Rahman has authored two books and a number of journal articles and conference papers.

Dr. Jun He is an Associate Professor within the Department of Computer Science, School of Science and Technology. He is also the Module Leader of Foundations of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Practical Machine Learning Methods for Data Mining and Work-Based Project. Dr. Jun He attended Wuhan University in China where he received his BSc and MSc degrees in Mathematics and was awarded his PhD degree in Computer Science. He has held previous positions in the United Kingdom at University of Birmingham and Aberystwyth University. In China, he has also held positions at Harbin Institute of Technology and Beijing Jiaotong University. He is also an honorary staff with the Department of Computer Science at Aberystwyth University.

Professor Paul Evans is a Royal Society Wolfson Fellow and Distinguished Professor of Applied Imaging Science and Head of the Imaging Science Group. Paul has generated and maintains a portfolio of international patents in the field of 3-dimensional X-ray imaging and materials identification. His work combines the two primary but discrete fields of radiography and crystallography. He leads research in multiparameter X-ray imaging employing novel diffraction and absorption techniques. Paul is the Principal Investigator for a $5 million programme of research to develop next generation security scanners. Paul’s research, including five journal papers, and two case studies with twelve underpinning journal papers was included in NTU’s REF 2021 submission to the Engineering Unit of Assessment where 98% of research submitted was either world-leading or internationally excellent in terms of quality.

Dr Tawfik Al-Hadhrami is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science Department, Nottingham Trent University. He is a Fellow of Higher Education Academy, Full Member of EPSRC Peer Review College, and Member of NCSC ICS COI. He is a member of Cyber security Research Group (CSRG) and Interactive Systems Research Group (ISRG) under the Centre for Computer Science and Informatics (CIRC). Dr Al-Hadhrami received his BSc in Control Systems and Computer Engineering from University of Technology, Baghdad, Iraq, MSc in Information Technology/ Applied Systems from Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, PhD in Wireless Communication and Protocols from University of the West of Scotland, Glasgow, UK.

Dr Joao Filipe Ferreira is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science and a researcher at the Computational Intelligence and Applications Research Group (CIA). He is Course Leader for the MSc in Cybernetics and Communications. He is the Strand Leader for the undergraduate modules Foundations of Computers & Technologies (COMP10082, Technologies strand), and Module Leader for the undergraduate module Computer Technologies & Maths (ITEC10261, also Technologies Strand Leader) and the M.Sc. module Robotics & Cybernetics (ITEC40071). His main research interests concern the broad scientific themes of Artificial Perception and Cognition in Robotics and IoT.

**Metadata:** Course Leaders in Artificial Intelligence

**Text:**

Dr. Pedro Machado: course leader for MSc Artificial Intelligence. Dr. Machado is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Pedro Machado received his MSc in Electrical and Computers Engineering from the University of Coimbra in 2012 and his PhD in Computer Science from Nottingham Trent University in 2022. Dr Machado is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science, Course Leader for MSc Artificial Intelligence and first secretary for the IEEE Systemic Innovation Special Interest Group. In his research, Dr. Machado is developing AI monitoring technologies to unlock the secrets of how underwater animals interact with their environment. The research is not just about watching fish swim; it is about using cutting-edge algorithms to understand their behaviour on a deeper level. Imagine being able to tell if a fish is feeling pain, predict disease outbreaks before they happen, or even gauge the overall health of a fish population. Dr Machado's research has the potential to revolutionise how we care for our oceans, freshwater and natural resources allowing the early-detection and preventing declines in fish and plant life before it's too late. It is a chance to ensure the well-being of aquatic animals and the sustainability of these vital ecosystems. His research interests include Neuromorphic engineering, edge computer vision, bio-inspired computing, robotics and intelligent sensors, retinal cell understanding, biological nervous system modelling, spiking neural networks, robotics and autonomous systems, and neuromorphic hardware, aquaculture, endangered/invasive underwater species.

Dr. Amir Pourabdollah: course leader for Computer Science Artificial Intelligence BSc (Hons). Dr. Amir Pourabdollah is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr. Pourabdollah’s active areas of research include Computational Intelligence, Quantum Intelligence, Fuzzy Logic Systems, Deep Learning, Cloud-based AI, and Ambient Intelligence.

**Metadata:** Course Leaders in Cyber Security

**Text:**

Dr. Jon Robinson: Course leader for Cyber Security BSc (Hons). Dr. Robinson is a Principal Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr Robinson is the Technical Innovations Manager for the Department of Computer Science and is the Course Leader for the Cyber-Security degree. He runs the Distributed Network Architectures & Operating Systems module and helps on a variety of modules. He was previously the module leader for the Systems Programming, Systems Technology, Foundations of Computing & Technology, and Network Design & Administration modules. He also runs the departmental FPGA based supercomputer (Hydra AI). Dr Robinson runs the Hydra AI supercomputer which is based within the Department of Computer Science. Dr Robinson is currently investigating software systems for large scale computing, languages and middlewares for running on the departmental supercomputer.

Dr. Alexandros Konios: course leader for MSc Cyber Security. Dr. Konios is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University and an active research member of the Cyber Security Research Group (CSRG). He currently teaches on the BSc Cyber Security and MSc Cyber Security courses here at NTU. He obtained his PhD in Computer Science and MSc in Computer Security and Resilience from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne (UK). He also holds a BSc in Computer Science from the University of Piraeus (Greece). He has previously worked as Lecturer in Ethical Hacking and Cyber Security at Coventry University, and as Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Staffordshire University. Alexandros is a Fellow of Higher Education Academy, and a member of the British Computer Society and other professional bodies.

Dr. John Kingson: Course leader for MSc IT Security. Dr. Kingston is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. The focus of John's research is on projects requiring at least two of cyber security, artificial intelligence and law. Current interests include: Using knowledge management techniques to address the problem of human deception in cyber security Standardisation of descriptions of cyber attacks for knowledge sharing and reasoning.

**Metadata:** Course Leaders in Data Science

**Text:**

Dr. Isibor Kennedy Ihianle: course leader for Data Science BSc (Hons). Dr. Isibor Kennedy Ihianle is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr. Ihianle received his BSc and PhD in Computer Science from the University of East London. He joined Nottingham Trent University in March 2020 and teaches modules in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and Data Science. Dr. Ihianle’s research focuses on the application of computational intelligence, AI, and ML to various domains. His work is particularly centred on developing technology-driven solutions that enhance health and well-being, with a focus on smart environments for recognising and identifying the daily activities of elderly individuals and those with physical disabilities or cognitive impairments. Kennedy is the principal investigator for the project: SmartBerry: Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Strawberry Farming In Developing Countries, funded by Innovate UK.

Dr. Taha Osman: Course leader for MSc Data Science and course leader for MSc Cloud and Enterprise Computing. Dr. Taha Osman is a principal Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. His research interests include: semantic web open linked data knowledge engineering intelligent information retrieval and multi-agent systems. Building on a strong research track record in intelligent multi-agent systems, Dr Osman started exploring the utilisation of the semantic web technology in the intelligent composition of Web services. The application of semantic technologies in Dr Osman's research further expanded to intelligent information retrieval and knowledge management, which culminated in the collaboration with the Press Association – the UK's prime multimedia content and news provider, where Dr Osman's research team helped the company to develop a semantic-based image indexing and retrieval system that improves the accuracy and recall of PA Photos images search engine.

**Metadata:** Course Leaders in Engineering

**Text:**

Dr. Zoheir Ezziane: Course Leader forMSc Engineering Management. Dr. Ezziane is a Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at Nottingham Trent University. Dr. Ezziane received a postdoctoral certificate in Global Faculty Development from the Wharton Business School of the University of Pennsylvania, a Ph.D. in Engineering from Florida Atlantic University, an MSc in Computer Science from the University of Central Florida, and a BSc in Computer Science from USTH-Algeria. Zoheir is a former research fellow at Harvard, Oxford, Imperial College London, Stanford, the World Health Organization (Switzerland), Tina Vienna Urban Technologies and Strategies (Austria), and Yale.

Dr. Omprakash Kaiwartya: Course Leader for MSc Engineering – Electronics. Dr. Omprakash Kaiwartya is PhD Research Coordinator of the Department of Computer Science. He is also the Course Leader for MSc Engineering and Cybernetics & Communication from 2018. He teaches Embedded Systems and Group Design Projects in MSc and Internet/Systems Technology, and Networks and Security in BSc. Dr. Omprakash is leading the industry centered Connected and Autonomous vehicle research at Nottingham Trent University, and Co-Director of the Cyber Security Research Group (CSRG) at the Department of Computer Science. Prior to NTU, Dr. Omprakash was a Research Associate at the Northumbria University, Newcastle, UK, in 2017, and a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia in 2016.