



**Dublin City University  
RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE**

**APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A PROJECT  
INVOLVING HUMAN PARTICIPANTS**

Application No. (office use only)

DCUREC/2019/\_\_\_\_\_

**Please read the following information carefully before completing your application. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will make your submission ineligible for review.**

- **Applications must be e-mailed to the DCU Research Ethics Committee at [rec@dcu.ie](mailto:rec@dcu.ie)** –no hardcopy required.
- **Student applicants must cc their supervisor on that e-mail** – this applies to all masters by research and PhD students. The form should be checked, approved and signed by the supervisor in advance of submission to REC. **NB – Taught Masters and Undergraduate students apply for ethical review via their local review panels, not via REC.**
- **The application should consist of one electronic file only**, with an electronic signature from the PI. The completed application must incorporate all supplementary documentation, especially that being given to the proposed participants. It must be proofread and spellchecked before submission to the REC.
- **All sections of the application form must be answered as instructed and within the word limits given.**

Applications which do not adhere to all of these requirements will not be accepted for review and will be returned directly to the applicant.

Applications must be completed on the form; answers in the form of attachments will not be accepted, except where indicated. No hardcopy applications will be accepted. **Research must not commence until written approval has been received from the Research Ethics Committee.**

**Note: If your research requires approval from the Biosafety Committee (BSC), or review by the School of Nursing and Human Sciences Ethics Advisory Committee (SNHSEAC), this must be in place prior to REC submission.** Please attach the responses from these committees to this submission as directed below.

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Fake News Detector
<b>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S)</b> <i>The named Principal Investigator is the person with primary responsibility for the research project. In the case of Taught Masters projects the supervisor is the Principal Investigator.</i>	Yvette Graham
<b>START AND END DATE</b>	Start: 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2018 End: 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2019
<b>LEVEL OF RISK</b> <i>Please indicate whether this project requires (a) notification (b) expedited or (c) full committee review. Justification for your choice is required under section 3.1</i>	Notification

Please confirm that **all** supplementary information is included in your application (in electronic copy). If questionnaire or interview questions are submitted in draft form, please indicate this by putting (draft) after YES. A copy of the final documentation must be submitted for final approval when available.

<b>My application has been collated as one electronic file which includes the following documentation:</b>	<b>INCLUDED (mark as YES)</b>	<b>NOT APPLICABLE (mark as N/A)</b>
Bibliography		N/A
Recruitment advertisement		N/A
Plain language statement/Information Statement	Yes	
Informed Consent form	Yes	
Personal Data Security Schedule		N/A
Evidence of external approvals related to the research		N/A
Questionnaire/Survey	Yes	
Interview/Focus Group Questions		N/A
Debriefing material		N/A
Other (e.g. BSC approval, SNHSEAC review letter)		N/A

Please note:

- Any amendments to the original approved proposal must receive prior REC approval.
- As a condition of approval investigators are required to document and report immediately to the Secretary of the Research Ethics Committee any adverse events, any issues which might negatively impact on the conduct of the research and/or any complaint from a participant relating to their participation in the study

## 1. ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

<b>PROJECT TYPE:</b> (mark Y to as many as apply)	Research Project	...	Funded Consultancy	...
			Clinical Trial	...
	Student Research Project 4 <sup>th</sup> year	Y	Other - Please Describe: Undergraduate Final Year Project	Y
	PhD / Other Doctorate	...		
	MSc Research	...		

### 1.1 INVESTIGATOR CONTACT DETAILS

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S):** Doctoral researchers and Research Masters or their supervisors may be listed as Principal Investigators, depending on the conventions of the discipline and on the individual case. It should be made clear, in subsequent sections of this application, who is carrying out the research procedures.

NAME	SCHOOL/UNIT	EMAIL
Yvette Graham	School of Computing	yvette.graham@dcu.ie

**OTHER INVESTIGATORS:**

NAME	SCHOOL/UNIT	EMAIL
David Talan	School of Computing	david.talan2@mail.dcu.ie

### 1.2 WILL THE RESEARCH BE UNDERTAKEN ON-SITE AT DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY?

YES or NO

No

(If NO, state details of the off-campus location – provide details of the approval to gain access to that location in section 2.7.)

Though most of the research will be done on campus, I may need participants outside of the college to test out the system.

### 1.3 IS THIS PROTOCOL BEING SUBMITTED TO ANOTHER ETHICS COMMITTEE, OR HAS IT BEEN PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TO AN ETHICS COMMITTEE?

YES or NO

NO

(If YES, please provide details and attach copies of approval(s) received etc.)

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**DECLARATION BY PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S)**

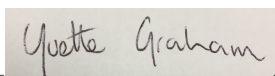
*The information contained herein is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, accurate. I have read the University's current research ethics guidelines, and accept responsibility for the conduct of the procedures set out in the attached application in accordance with the form guidelines, the REC guidelines (<https://www.dcu.ie/researchsupport/researchethics.shtml>), the University's policy on Conflict of Interest, Code of Good Research Practice and any other condition laid down by the Dublin City University Research Ethics Committee. I have attempted to identify all risks related to the research that may arise in conducting this research and acknowledge my obligations and the rights of the participants.*

*If there exists any affiliation or financial interest for researcher(s) in this research or its outcomes or any other circumstances which might represent a perceived, potential or actual conflict of interest this should be declared in accordance with Dublin City University policy on Conflicts of Interest.*

*I and my co-investigators or supporting staff have the appropriate qualifications, experience and facilities to conduct the research set out in the attached application and to deal with any emergencies and contingencies related to the research that may arise.*

**Electronic Signature(s):**

Principal investigator(s):



Print Name(s) here: YVETTE GRAHAM

Date: 13/05/19

## 2. PROJECT OUTLINE

### 2.1 LAY DESCRIPTION (Approx. 300 words)

Please outline, in terms that any non-expert would understand, what your research project is about, including what participants will be required to do. Please explain any technical terms or discipline-specific phrases.

The project is about detecting potential fake news articles online. The project uses machine learning and text classification. A model is trained using a dataset collected containing both reliable and unreliable articles. The model will then classify target article that the user inputs. A google search is also done using the target article's title. The results of the search are collected, and they are individually compared to the target article's contents using a text similarity metric. The similarity score is then presented along with the list of the articles.

### 2.2 AIMS OF AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THE RESEARCH (Approx. 400 words)

State the aims and significance of the project. Where relevant, state the specific hypothesis to be tested. Please provide a brief description of background research, a justification as to why this research project should proceed in that context and an explanation of any expected benefits to the community. NB – all references cited should be listed in an attached bibliography.

The aim of this project is to raise awareness of the presence of fake news. Users often come across article titles/headings that's shared on social media platforms and take that as fact instead of reading said article. This could lead to the spread of false information and propaganda. This project gives them a platform to check if the article is a reliable or unreliable source to prevent those things from happening.

### 2.3 DESCRIBE THE METHODOLOGY BEING USED TO ACHIEVE YOUR STATED AIMS

Provide an outline of the proposed method and state who is doing which task – include details of data collection techniques, the tasks participants will be asked to do, the estimated time commitment involved, and how data will be analysed. If the project includes any procedure which is beyond already established and accepted techniques please include a description of it. There should be enough detail provided to facilitate ethical review, but applicants are encouraged to keep it as succinct as possible.

The participants will be asked to input a news article link that they want to check. There will be no need for a user log in and no information will be collected.

### 2.4 PARTICIPANT PROFILE

Provide the number, age range and source of participants. Please provide a justification of your proposed sample size. Please provide a justification for selecting a specific gender, age, or any other group if this is done in your project.

Size: 5-10 people  
Age range: over 18  
Source: classmates, friends, family.

#### 2.4(a) PARTICIPANT VULNERABILITY

Are some or all of participants vulnerable in any way? (e.g by virtue of the group they belong to, people who have undergone traumatic or adverse emotional events, people with diminished cognitive ability, power relations between researchers and participants etc.)? If they are, state what this vulnerability (or vulnerabilities) is and justify why this research is being done with such participants.

All participants will be over the age of 18 and non-vulnerable adults.

#### 2.4(b) CHILD PARTICIPANTS (anyone under 18 years old)

If your participants include children, you must confirm that you are in compliance with the research specific guidelines as detailed in "Keeping Children Safe - Policies and Procedures supporting Child Protection at DCU" - available at: [https://www4.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/policy/157%20-%20child\\_protection\\_handbook\\_rev1%282%29%281%29.pdf](https://www4.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/policy/157%20-%20child_protection_handbook_rev1%282%29%281%29.pdf)

Please indicate your compliance with the following guidelines:

Mark here

We confirm that we have read and agree to act in accordance with the DCU Child Protection policy and procedures	N/A
We confirm that we have put in place safeguards for the children participating in the research	N/A
We confirm that we have supports in place for children who may disclose current or historical abuse (whether or not this is the focus of the research)	N/A

**2.5 EXPLAIN HOW PARTICIPANTS ARE TO BE RECRUITED**

*Please provide specific details as to how you will be recruiting participants. How will people be informed that you are doing this research? How will they be approached and asked if they are willing to participate? If you are mailing or phoning people, please explain how you have obtained their names and contact details. If a recruitment advertisement is to be used, please ensure you attach a copy to this application.*

Participants are to be recruited by talking to them directly and explaining them how it works. I will also ask them to answer a short questionnaire about their experience with the system.

**2.6 PLEASE EXPLAIN WHEN, HOW, WHERE, AND TO WHOM RESULTS WILL BE DISSEMINATED, INCLUDING WHETHER PARTICIPANTS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH ANY INFORMATION AS TO THE FINDINGS OR OUTCOMES OF THE PROJECT?**

There will be no need to publish the results as I need the users for testing purposes only.

**2.7 ARE OTHER APPROVALS REQUIRED TO GAIN ACCESS TO ANOTHER LOCATION, ORGANISATION ETC.?**

**YES or NO**

No

*(If YES, please specify from whom and attach a copy of the approval documentation. If this is not yet available, please explain when this will be obtained.)*

**2.8 HAS A SIMILAR PROPOSAL BEEN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE DCU REC?**

**YES or NO**

No

*(If YES, please state both the REC Application Number and Project Title)*

### 3. RISK AND RISK MANAGEMENT

#### 3.1 JUSTIFICATION OF STATED LEVEL OF RISK TO RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

You must provide a justification for the stated level of risk, as indicated on the cover page of your application. Note that the level of risk may be influenced by the vulnerability of the research group, the methods employed and the nature of the research itself. For further information on risk levels, please refer to the Levels of Review information on the website: <https://www.dcu.ie/researchsupport/researchethics.shtml>

There is no risk to the participants when using the system. There is going to be no underage participants and no personal information whatsoever is taken from the user.

#### 3.2 DOES THE RESEARCH INVOLVE:

	YES or NO
• use of a questionnaire? (attach copy)?	Yes
• interviews (attach interview questions)?	No
• observation of participants without their knowledge?	No
• participant observation (provide details in section 2)?	No
• audio- or video-taping interviewees or events?	No
• access to personal and/or confidential data (including student, patient or client data) without the participant's specific consent?	No
• administration of any stimuli, tasks, investigations or procedures which may be experienced by participants as physically or mentally painful, stressful or unpleasant during or after the research process?	No
• performance of any acts which might diminish the self-esteem of participants or cause them to experience embarrassment, regret or depression?	No
• investigation of participants involved in illegal activities?	No
• procedures that involve deception of participants?	No
• administration of any substance or agent?	No
• use of non-treatment of placebo control conditions?	No
• collection of body tissues or fluid samples?	No
• collection and/or testing of DNA samples?	No
• participation in a clinical trial?	No
• administration of ionising radiation to participants?	No

#### 3.3 POTENTIAL RISKS TO PARTICIPANTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

Identify, as far as possible, all potential risks to participants (physical, psychological, social, legal, economic, etc.), associated with the proposed research. Please explain what risk management procedures will be put in place to minimise these risks.

None. Before beginning their participation, the users will be told verbally and in writing, that they don't need to input any personal information into the system. Their feedback of the system, if they found it easy to use etc, will be the only thing asked of them.

#### 3.4 ARE THERE LIKELY TO BE ANY BENEFITS (DIRECT OR INDIRECT) TO PARTICIPANTS FROM THIS RESEARCH?

YES or NO

No

(If YES, provide details.)

#### 3.5 ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC RISKS TO RESEARCHERS?

Examples include use of dangerous materials, asking certain types of questions, research being undertaken in certain locations, researchers working alone in isolated areas, etc.

YES or NO

No

(If YES, please describe and explain what risk management procedures will be put in place to minimise these risks.)

### 3.6 DEALING WITH ADVERSE/UNEXPECTED OUTCOMES

Please describe what measures/protocols you have put in place in the event that there are any unexpected outcomes or adverse effects to participants arising from involvement in the project.

The users will be warned that they should not input any personal information. If they did, it can be deleted permanently.

### 3.7 HOW WILL THE CONDUCT OF THE PROJECT BE MONITORED?

Please explain how the principal investigator will monitor the conduct of the project (especially where several people are involved in recruiting or interviewing, administering procedures, etc.) to ensure that it conforms with the procedures set out in this application. In the case of student projects please give details of how the supervisor(s) will monitor the conduct of the project.

The supervisor will be informed throughout the progress of the project, especially during the involvement of the participants. A questionnaire will be forwarded to them and testing won't begin until their approval is given.

### 3.8 SUPPORT FOR PARTICIPANTS

Depending on risks to participants you may need to consider having additional support for participants during/after the study. Consider whether your project would require additional support, e.g., external counselling available to participants. Please advise what support will be available.

N/A

### 3.9 DO YOU PROPOSE TO OFFER PAYMENTS OR INCENTIVES TO PARTICIPANTS?

YES or NO

No

(If YES, please provide further details.)

### 3.10 DO ANY OF THE RESEARCHERS ON THIS PROJECT HAVE A PERSONAL, PHILOSOPHICAL, FINANCIAL OR COMMERCIAL INTEREST IN ITS OUTCOME THAT MIGHT INFLUENCE THE INTEGRITY OF THE RESEARCH, OR BIAS THE CONDUCT OR REPORTING OF THE RESEARCH, OR UNDULY DELAY OR OTHERWISE AFFECT THEIR PUBLICATION?

YES or NO

No

(If YES, please specify how this conflict of interest will be addressed.)

**4. INVESTIGATORS' QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS** (Approx. 200 words)

List the academic qualifications and outline the experience and skills relevant to this project that the PI, other researchers and any supporting staff have in carrying out the research and in dealing with any emergencies, unexpected outcomes, or contingencies that may arise. State specifically who will be carrying out the research procedures

David Talan will be carrying out the user testing. David is a final year CASE student

**5. CONFIDENTIALITY/ANONYMITY****5.1 WILL THE IDENTITY OF THE PARTICIPANTS BE PROTECTED?**

YES or NO

Yes

(If NO, please explain why.)

IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO 5.1, PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

**5.2 HOW WILL THE ANONYMITY OF THE PARTICIPANTS BE RESPECTED?**

Please bear in mind that where the sample size is very small, it may be impossible to guarantee anonymity/confidentiality of participant identity. Participants involved in such projects need to be advised of this limitation in the Plain Language Statement/Information Sheet. If you intend to fully anonymize the data, please provide details

No personal information is needed from the users. Also the questionnaire will be anonymous.

**5.3 LEGAL LIMITATIONS TO DATA CONFIDENTIALITY**

Participants need to be made aware that confidentiality of information provided cannot always be guaranteed by researchers and can only be protected within the limitations of the law - i.e., it is possible for data to be subject to subpoena, freedom of information claim or mandated reporting by some professions. This information should be included in your Plain Language Statement and Informed Consent Form. Depending on the research proposal and academic discipline, you may need to state additional specific limitations.

State how and where participants will be informed of these limitations

N/A



**6. PERSONAL DATA - COMPLIANCE WITH THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION**

Personal data is data relating to a living individual (i.e. the 'Data Subject') who is, or can be, identified either from the data itself or from the data in conjunction with other information that is in, or is likely to come into, the possession of the 'Data Controller' (i.e. DCU and its constituent units e.g. research teams etc.). Further information on personal data is available from the DCU Data Protection Unit at <https://www.dcu.ie/ocoo/dp/guides.shtml>

**6.1 IS PERSONAL DATA BEING PROCESSED AS PART OF THIS PROJECT?**

<b>YES or NO</b>
No

<b>If YES, Please indicate your compliance with the following guidelines:</b>	<b>Mark here</b>
We confirm that we have read and agree to act in accordance with DCU Data Protection Unit guidance and procedures regarding personal data	
We confirm that we have put in place a Personal Data Security Schedule (PDSS) for the project and have attached it to this application	

Please see the GDPR and the Research Ethics Process section of the [REC main webpage](#) for guidance

IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO 6.1, PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

**6.2 WHAT KIND OF PERSONAL DATA IS BEING PROCESSED?**

Note special categories of personal data include health data, genetic data and/or data relating to ethnicity/race of participants, their sex lives and/or sexual orientation

None
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**6.3 WILL ANONYMISATION/PSEUDONYMISATION OF THE PERSONAL DATA BE UNDERTAKEN?**

<b>YES or NO</b>
No

(If NO, please explain why.)

The participants are only needed to test out the system and no personal information is needed.
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## 7. DATA/SAMPLE STORAGE, SECURITY AND DISPOSAL

For the purpose of this section, "Data" includes that in a raw or processed state (e.g. interview audiotape, transcript or analysis). "Samples" include body fluids or tissue samples.

### 7.1 HOW AND WHERE WILL THE DATA/SAMPLES BE STORED?

Note that the REC recommends that all data be stored on campus – please justify any off-site storage.

The data from the anonymous questionnaire will be stored in the application.

### 7.2 WHO WILL HAVE ACCESS TO DATA/SAMPLES?

If people other than the main researchers have access, please name who they are and explain for what purpose.

Only David will have access to the data

### 7.3 HOW LONG IS THE DATA TO BE HELD/RETAINED FOR?

Note that with very few exceptions **personal data** may not be retained indefinitely. It is up to the unit or research team to establish an upper retention limit for each category of personal data under its control.

Until the conclusion of the project.

### 7.4 IF DATA/SAMPLES ARE TO BE DISPOSED OF, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW, WHEN AND BY WHOM THIS WILL BE DONE?

Note that simply deleting files is not sufficiently secure. The additional steps to be taken to maintain data security should be given. **Personal data** must be disposed of in a safe and secure manner at the end of its retention period. If the data is stored in a: a) paper based format then shredding or disposal via a secure bin is recommended; or b) if it is stored in an electronic based format then deletion of the record or full anonymization of the data is recommended. If data/samples are NOT being disposed of, please justify this decision.

The data will be deleted after the final year project presentations.

**8. FUNDING OF THE RESEARCH****8.1 HOW IS THIS WORK BEING FUNDED?**

N/A

**8.2 PROJECT GRANT NUMBER** *(If relevant and/or known – otherwise mark as N/A)*

N/A

**8.3 DOES THE PROJECT REQUIRE APPROVAL BEFORE CONSIDERATION FOR FUNDING BY A GRANTING BODY?**

YES or NO

NO

**8.4.1 HOW WILL PARTICIPANTS BE INFORMED OF THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDING?** *(e.g. included in the Plain Language Statement)*

N/A

**8.5 DO THE FUNDERS OF THIS PROJECT HAVE A PERSONAL, FINANCIAL OR COMMERCIAL INTEREST IN ITS OUTCOME THAT MIGHT COMPROMISE THE INDEPENDENCE AND INTEGRITY OF THE RESEARCH, OR BIAS THE CONDUCT OR REPORTING OF THE RESEARCH, OR UNDULY DELAY OR OTHERWISE AFFECT THEIR PUBLICATION?**

YES or NO

NO

*(If YES, please specify how this conflict of interest will be addressed.)*

**9. PLAIN LANGUAGE STATEMENT** (Attach to this document. Approx. 400 words)

A Plain Language Statement (PLS) should be used in all cases. This is written information in plain language that you will be providing to participants, outlining the nature of their involvement in the project and inviting their participation. The PLS should specifically describe what will be expected of participants, the risks and inconveniences for them, and other information relevant to their involvement. Please note that the language used must reflect the participant age group and corresponding comprehension level – if your participants have different comprehension levels (e.g. both adults and children) then separate forms should be prepared for each group. The PLS can be embedded in an email to which an online survey is attached, or handed/sent to individuals in advance of their consent being sought. See link to sample templates on the website: <https://www.dcu.ie/researchsupport/ethicsapproval.shtml>

**PLEASE CONFIRM WHETHER THE FOLLOWING ISSUES HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED IN YOUR PLAIN LANGUAGE STATEMENT/ INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS:**

	YES or NO
Introductory Statement (PI and researcher names, school, title of the research)	Yes
What is this research about?	Yes
Why is this research being conducted?	Yes
What will happen if the person decides to participate in the research study?	Yes
How will their privacy be protected?	Yes
How will the data be used and subsequently disposed of?	Yes
What are the legal limitations to data confidentiality?	No
What are the benefits of taking part in the research study (if any)?	Yes
What are the risks of taking part in the research study?	Yes
Confirmation that participants can change their mind at any stage and withdraw from the study	Yes
How will participants find out what happens with the project?	No
Contact details for further information (including REC contact details)	Yes
Details relating to GDPR Compliance if Personal Data is being sought	Yes

*If any of these issues are marked NO, please justify their exclusion:*

No real or personal data is collected from the users, therefore there are no legal limitations to data confidentiality.  
Participants will not find out what happens to the project.

**10. INFORMED CONSENT FORM** (Attach to this document. Approx. 300 words)

In most cases where interviews or focus groups are taking place, an Informed Consent Form is required. This is an important document requiring participants to indicate their consent to participate in the study, and give their signature. If your participants are minors (under 18), it is best practice to provide them with an assent form, while their parents/guardians will be given the Informed Consent Form. In cases where an anonymous questionnaire is being used, it is enough to include a tick box in the questionnaire (underneath the information section for participant), where participants can indicate their consent. See link to sample templates on the website: <https://www.dcu.ie/researchsupport/ethicsapproval.shtml>

**NB – IF AN INFORMED CONSENT FORM IS NOT BEING USED, THE REASON FOR THIS MUST BE JUSTIFIED HERE.**

Informed consent will be given via a checkbox.

**DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY**  
**Plain Language Statement**

## **I. Introduction to the Research Study**

**School:** School of Computing  
**Title:** Fake News Detector  
**Principal Investigator:** Yvette Graham  
**Contact Details:** Yvette.graham@dcu.ie  
**Other Investigators:** David Talan  
**Contact Details:** David.talan2@mail.dcu.ie

## **II. Details of what involvement in the Research Study will require**

As a participant in the project, I require you too look up a news article and enter its link into the system. The system will then tell you if it's a reliable source of information or not. I require you to play around with the system's other functionalities.

In the end, you will be asked to answer a quick questionnaire about your experience with the system. User's participation in the testing and the feedback from the questionnaire will help me make any necessary changes.

## **III. Potential risks to participants from involvement in the Research Study (if greater than that encountered in everyday life)**

You have been informed that there is no personal information is needed in both the testing and the questionnaire, therefore there is no potential risk to the participant.

## **IV. Benefits (direct or indirect) to participants from involvement in the Research Study**

There is no benefit to the participants taking part.

## **V. Statement that involvement in the Research Study is voluntary**

You may wish to withdraw from your participation with the research any time.

Your involvement/non-involvement in this research project will in no way affect any ongoing relationship with Dublin City University.

## **VI. GDPR Compliance**

As stated before, you are not required to input any personal information.

**If participants have concerns about this study and wish to contact an independent person,  
Please contact:**

*The Secretary,  
Dublin City University Research Ethics Committee,  
c/o Research and Innovation Support,  
Dublin City University,  
Dublin 9.  
Tel 01-7008000  
email: rec@dcu.ie*

# **CA400 Fake News Detector Questionnaire (draft)**

I have been given general information about this project and the types of questions I can expect to answer.

I understand that the survey/questionnaire will be conducted anonymously and that it will take approximately 5 minutes of my time to complete.

I understand that my participation in this project is completely voluntary and that I am free to decline to participate, without consequence, at any time prior to or at any point during the activity.

I understand that any information entered into the fake news detection system will not be personal.

I understand that the results of this activity will be used exclusively in the below-named student's Dublin City University's course assignment and none of the information I provide will be published, in any form, in any journals or conference proceedings.

I also understand that there are no risks involved in participating in this activity, beyond those risks experienced in everyday life.

☐ I have read the information above. By ticking the box and returning this form, I am consenting to participate in this survey/questionnaire project.

1. Did you find using the system easy?

Yes/No

1.1 If answered no, please explain why

2. After using the system, in the future, would you be more inclined to double check the articles that you see online?

Yes/No

2.1 If answered yes, would you use this system to check for reliability of articles in the future?

Yes/No

3. Would you change anything in the user interface? i.e. colour, button sizes.

Yes/No

3.1 If answered yes, what changes would you suggest?