Ph.D. Opportunity at the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

Openings:

The **Social Sensing & Intelligence (SSI) Lab** at the School of Information Sciences (iSchool) at the University of Illinois (https://ischool.illinois.edu) has multiple openings for Ph.D. students to work under the guidance of **Dr. Dong Wang** (https://www.wangdong.org) from **Fall 2025** (for Information Sciences and Informatics Ph.D. applicants).

Prospective students with an M.S. or B.S. degree (or expected by the time of admission) in Computer Science, Information Science, Data Science, Software Engineering, or related fields are encouraged to apply. Successful candidates will have the opportunity to work on exciting research projects in emerging areas of Social Sensing & Intelligence. **Example topics** include:

- Human-centered AI and AI for Social Good.
- Trustworthy AI, XAI, and Generative AI.
- Multimodal Large Language Model (MLLM), Misinformation Detection and Explanation, Recommender Systems.
- Crowdsourcing and Crowdsensing, Human-AI Collective Intelligence.
- Federated Learning, Edge Computing, Internet of Things (IoT).
- Privacy, Robustness, and FATE (Fairness, Accountability, Transparency, Ethics).

Preferred candidates should have a strong background in AI/data analytics/machine learning/social computing/system and/or networking/statistics/estimation theory and/or solid system implementation and development skills. Preferred candidates are also expected to be self-motivated and have good communication skills. Previous research experience and/or publications in relevant fields will be a plus.

The Social Sensing & Intelligence Lab has state-of-the-art computing facilities to support research. Our works are published in top AI/machine learning and systems venues such as AAAI, IJCAI, Web Conference (WWW), ACL, SIGIR, EMNLP, INFOCOM, RecSys, CIKM, CSCW, HCOMP, ICWSM, CI, ICDCS, IWQoS, IPSN, IEEE TCSS, TBD, TETC, TIST, IoT Journal, Elsevier KBS, etc. The lab also has a very collaborative working environment and provides

individualized mentorships and tailored career plans (including both academia and industry-oriented career paths, and industry/national lab internship opportunities) for students in the lab. Examples of recently graduated Ph.D. students from the lab can be found at: https://www.wangdong.org/sslab/team.html

The iSchool's flexible program prepares students with the intellectual guidance and experiences necessary for vibrant research careers in a wide range of academic, business, and public sector settings. The iSchool at UIUC has been the **#1 ranked graduate program** in Information Sciences since 1996.

If you are interested, please send your CV (including GPA, GRE, and TOEFL scores as applicable), transcripts, publications, and other relevant information to **Dr. Wang** at dwang24@illinois.edu with the title of "Prospective Ph.D. Student for 2025". In your email, please clearly explain your research interest/expertise and justify how it aligns with the main topics and directions in SSI Lab. It will also be helpful to mention your career goal and working style/philosophy. Accepted students are guaranteed funding for five academic years to explore their dedicated areas of research.

The **application deadline for Information Sciences Ph.D. in Fall 2024** (for early consideration for a Graduate College fellowship) is **October 20, 2024**, and the final application deadline is **December 1, 2024.** The application can be found at https://ischool.illinois.edu/degrees-programs/phd-information-sciences/apply.

The **application deadline for Informatics Ph.D. in Fall 2024** is **Dec. 1, 2024**. The application can be found at https://informatics.ischool.illinois.edu/phd-admission/.