

## IMAT3451 FINAL YEAR PROJECT - ETHICAL REVIEW FORM

The University requires all undergraduate final year projects to undergo an ethical review and, where human research ethical issues are identified, to ensure that these issues are addressed.

For the majority of Computing Final Year Projects, the outcome will be either 'No ethical issues' or 'Minor/Major ethical issues which have been addressed'; in these cases approval can be given by the supervisor. In the unlikely event that the outcome is 'Ethical issues that have not been addressed', the completed form will need to be forwarded to the Faculty Research Ethics Committee.

**Student Name**

Justin Alexander Shanks

**Programme**

Computer Games Programming BSc

**Project Title**

Terrific Disposition: Procedural Storyline Generation

**Brief description of proposed activity and its objectives:**

Create a game that utilises simple fuzzy logic and natural language processing to procedurally generate a storyline.  
This would require the polling of information from the user through gameplay and the saving of said information for the generation of in-game content.

**Ethical Issues Identified:**  
(see overleaf)**How these will be addressed:**

- User information will be collected during gameplay in order to properly tailor the gameplay to user input.
- During playtesting information will have to be gathered in order to make relevant changes to the game.

- Information, and profiles, will not have sensitive information as it is not necessary.
  - Profile information will be saved and encrypted so that the source code would be necessary to read.
- Information will be randomised in order to properly anonymise the results gathered.
  - This will be done through free online surveying services in order to retain anonymity

## Checklist

Has the project proposal identified any of the following research procedures?

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Gathering information about human beings through: Interviewing, Surveying, Questionnaires, Observation of human behaviour   | <u>Yes</u> / No |
| 2. Using archived data in which individuals are identifiable   | Yes / <u>No</u> |
| 3. Researching into illegal activities, activities at the margins of the law or activities that have a risk of personal injury | Yes / <u>No</u> |
| 4. Supporting innovation that might impact on human behaviour<br>e.g. Behavioural Studies                                      | Yes / <u>No</u> |

**If 'Yes' to any of 1-4 above: have you considered the following?**

- X Providing participants with full details of the objectives of the research
- X Providing information appropriate for those whose first language is not English
- X Voluntary participation with informed consent
- X Written description of involvement
- X Freedom to withdraw
- X Keeping appropriate records
- X Signed acknowledgement and understanding by participants
- X Consideration of relevant codes of conduct/guidelines

### Ethical Review Outcome

- ☐ 1. No ethical issues
- X 2. Minor ethical issues which have been addressed and concerns resolved
- ☐ 3. Major ethical issues which have been addressed and concerns resolved
- ☐ 4. Ethical issues that have not been resolved/addressed

### Authorisation

*If the outcome is no. 3 or 4 above, this form should be forwarded to the Faculty Research Ethics Committee.*

**Student**

Justin Alexander Shanks

**Date**

25/10/2017

**First Supervisor**

Jethro Shell

**Date**

26/10/2017

**Second Supervisor**

Jethro Shell

**Date**

26/10/2017