**Project Description Form (PDF): MSc Information Security**

# How to complete this form?

This form should be completed and submitted before the end of the second term. Students should meet their supervisor at regular intervals during the term to discuss the scope of the project and the initial literature review. Drafts of the form and the literature review may be submitted to the project supervisor for review during the term, as plans for the project evolve. Apart from completing this front page, text should be provided under each of the four headings given after the declaration section below.

An initial project literature review should also be prepared, again in consultation with your supervisor. The form will use a standard project front page. If at any stage the project deviates significantly from the description given, then the student must discuss this with their project supervisor and, if necessary, complete a revised form.

Royal Holloway encourages research of the highest quality by ensuring that research ethics and good practices are followed. If the proposed work raises any ethical issues, ethical approval must be sought in advance.

**Student checklist**

* A copy of this form must be completed, and submitted (via email) to your project supervisor for their approval. They will acknowledge and confirm their approval by responding to your email.
* A copy of the project literature review should also be sent, attached to this form.

# Student and project details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | Dayuan Wang |
| **Student number** | 100949102 |
| **MSc track (if applicable)** |  |
| **Email address** | WJIS038@live.rhul.ac.uk |
| **Supervisor name** | Siaw-Lynn Ng |
| **Provisional project title** | Analyse the factors of WeChat and WhatsApp internal management information security |

# Ethics (to be completed jointly by the student and the supervisor)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Question | Delete/tick as appropriate | |
| 1. Will the study be covert in any way? | Yes | 🗹No |
| 2. Will resulting data be used for purposes outside this study? | Yes | 🗹No |
| 3. Are you working with a vulnerable population? | Yes | 🗹No |
| 4. Is it possible that your study will cause distress or harm to participants? | Yes | 🗹No |
| If the answer to any of the above questions is ‘YES’, the supervisor should contact the MSc Project Director and arrange for Departmental/College ethical approval. | | |

# Declarations and signatures

**Student declaration**: I declare that I have read and understood the MSc Project Handbook, in particular the sections on referencing and plagiarism. I declare that the contents of this Project Description Form are all my own work, and that I have acknowledged all quotations from published or unpublished work of other people. I also declare that the proposed work will not raise any ethical issues.

**Signature**: Dayuan Wang  
**Date**: 23/3/2021

**Supervisor declaration**: I approve the attached project plan and literature review. I agree that the proposed project topic meets the requirements of the MSc track (if specified). I also agree that the project does not raise any ethical issues.

**Signature**:   
**Date**:

# Statement of objectives

Current investigations and studies indicate that consumers are becoming interested in safeguarding the security and confidentiality on their smartphones and different application that gathered their information. Studies have indicated that smartphone app users have either refused to install apps or deleted them for privacy and security reasons. This paper explores the WeChat and WhatsApp internal management information security.

# Methodology

* The researcher firstly carried out a literature review on the WeChat and WhatsApp internal management information security. For this study, a comprehensive, systematic analyses and literature review are methods deployed to collect information on the research topic. The investigator developed questions to ensure that correct information is collected, evaluated, and inferred. The investigator utilized a variety of books, articles, journal, and internet in performing literature review and gathering significant information on the study topic. The researcher used various databases as information sources such as google scholars. During the literature review, the researcher searched a wide variety of databases. Science Direct, Web of Science, EBSCO Host, and Social Media Abstracts are some of the databases I searched.
* In the second part of the research, the researcher will carry out online surveys using questionnaires. The questionnaire will comprise of different multi-choice and open-ended question that were quantified on a five-point Likert Scale.
* Also, the investigator will investigate targeted and specific sample. The respondents’ selection will be carried via random sampling. This will allow the investigator to obtain the needed information from the respondents. In this way, the researcher will maintain the accuracy of the obtained results because a wide variety of samples will be tested using random selection.

# Work plan

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Wk 1** | **Wk 2** | **Wk 3-4** | **Wk 5** | **Wk 6** | **Wk 7-8** | **Wk 9-12** | **Wk 13-19** |
| **Formulations of study objectives and writing chapter one (Introduction chapter)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Comprehensive Literature Review** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Writing and editing chapter two (Literature Review)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Carrying out online survey and gathering of primary data** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Writing and editing chapter three (Research methodology)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Data analysis** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Writing and editing chapter four and five**  **(Findings and results and conclusion and recommendations)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# Additional comments

The final stage will involve inductive analysis and interpretation of data to acquire the findings and results of study. The information obtained from the questionnaires of the online surveys will be thematically analysed for interpretation to acquire results each question on the basis of the established parameters. Descriptive statistics will be tabulated after the data was entered into Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. Data coding for statistical analyses on demographic information will be carried out in the Excel software spreadsheet. While the rest of the data will be explained in percentage in pie-charts and graphs, the ages of participants will be reported as the range and the mean.