



**UKRI AI Centre for Doctoral Training in  
Citizen-Centred AI - Pre-Application  
Workshops**



**Northumbria  
University**  
NEWCASTLE

# Why are we here?

- Working towards strong research proposals from under-represented groups
- House Rules
  1. Anti-racist
  2. Gender inclusive
  3. Respect
  4. Sensitivity
  5. Supportive



**CITIZENS AT THE HEART  
OF TECHNOLOGY.**

Leveraging AI to create a positive societal impact.

# About

- **Interdisciplinary**
  - Computer Science
  - Business
  - Law
  - Health and psychology
  - Design
  - Engineering
  - Social Sciences
  - Humanities
  - Arts
- **Centering citizens' voices in the design, development, deployment and evaluation of AI technologies**

# Current themes

- AI Law & Regulations
- AI Work & Organisations
- Climate & Sustainability
- Design & Co-Creation
- Communities, Democracy & Society
- Health & Wellbeing
- Identity & Security
- Learning & Education
- Uncertainty, Explainability, Transparency & Bias in AI

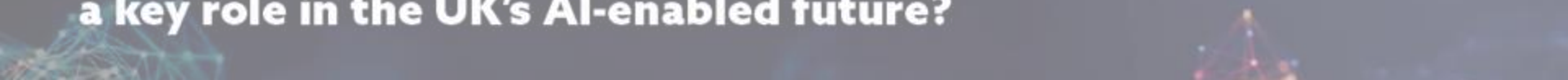
# Plan for the day

| <b>Time</b> | <b>Activity</b>   |
|-------------|---|
| 15 minutes  | Introduction and overview of workshop                     |
| 20 minutes  | Getting to know each other                                |
| 20 minutes  | Hearing from current students                             |
| 20 minutes  | Looking at good examples                                  |
| 10 minutes  | Discussing what makes a good research proposal            |
| 25 minutes  | Formulating an outline for your proposal                  |
| 10 minutes  | Break   |
| 20 minutes  | Giving constructive feedback                              |
| 5 minutes   | Break   |
| 20 minutes  | Outlining problem statement, research questions & methods |
| 15 minutes  | Key take aways and Q&A                                    |

# Getting to know each other

- In your groups, please introduce yourself to others at your table and share:
  - The general topic/area you are interested in pursuing as part of your post-graduate studies
  - Why you are passionate about the topic

**Are you passionate about empowering citizens to play a key role in the UK's AI-enabled future?**

A decorative network diagram with nodes and connecting lines, rendered in shades of blue and purple, is visible in the bottom right corner of the slide.

# Hearing from current students

1. How did you go about putting your PhD proposal together?
2. Were there any challenges you faced and how did you overcome them?
3. Any tips you would like to share?



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# Exploring Examples

- In your groups, please look at the proposals we shared with you:
  - Identify what parts of the proposals make them good proposals and why
  - Please use the pens and papers to write down notes based on your discussion
- Make sure to nominate one person in the group who will be sharing with the rest of us the things that you discussed



# Sharing back

- Can the nominated person for each group briefly share with us one thing that they thought made the proposals good proposals.

# Putting your ideas together

- Take 10 minutes on your own to write down/sketch what you are interested in researching and why. After 10 minutes share it with the group to discuss.
- While putting together what you want to research, think about/write/sketch:
  - What is the issue/topic or problem?
  - Why do you want to do this research?
  - Why is this research important? who will benefit from this research?



Break

# Selecting a Proposal to Develop

- In your groups review one another's proposals, volunteer or select one of the research proposals you have been working on to move forward with.

**Are you passionate about empowering citizens to play a key role in the UK's AI-enabled future?**

A decorative network diagram with nodes and connecting lines, rendered in shades of blue and red, is visible in the bottom right corner of the slide.

# Outlining a Proposal

- Use template 2 to work together on the selected topic
- Come up with:
  - a problem statement related to the group selected topic
  - the research questions that will be attempted
- Keep in mind that you will be nominating one person to share back with the rest of the group

# Sharing back

- Can the nominated person for each group briefly share with us the problem statements and research questions developed by the group



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# Where to find literature

- In each research theme on the CCAI website
- ACM Digital Library- <https://dl.acm.org/>
- CSCW <https://dl.acm.org/conference/cscw>
- CHI <https://dl.acm.org/conference/chi/proceedings>
- DIS <https://dl.acm.org/conference/dis/proceedings>
- PDC <https://dl.acm.org/conference/pdc/proceedings>
- FAccT <https://dl.acm.org/conference/facct/proceedings>
- ToCHI <https://dl.acm.org/journal/tochi>
- PACM-HCI <https://dl.acm.org/journal/pacmhci>
- 4S publications [https://www.4sonline.org/4s\\_publications.php](https://www.4sonline.org/4s_publications.php)
- JMIR <https://www.jmir.org/>
- Big Data + Society <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/bds>
- AI and Ethics <https://link.springer.com/journal/43681>



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# Questions & Answers

A nighttime photograph of a city street with light trails from cars and buildings in the background. The text is overlaid on this image.

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