

PG1 - FULL RESEARCH PROPOSAL

This form is to be completed by both the student and supervisory team within **THREE** months for full-time students and **SIX** months for part time students, after the commencement of the research degree or following progression to Part Two of your course.

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This document is also available in Welsh.

Student Details

Student Family / Surname:	YANG		
Student Given / First name:	LINXUAN		
Student Number	1712549		
Start Date	01/02/2026	End Date	01/02/2030

PhD by Research	PhD Practice Based	PhD by Published Works	Professional Doctorate (including DBA, DProf, Ed D)	MPhil by Research	MPhil Practice Based
☐	☐	☐	√	☐	☐
MA by Research	MSc by Research	MRes			
☐	☐	☐			

Proposed Research

Current Proposed Title (20 / 30 words):
Reconstructing Tradition through Design Practice: A Practice-Based Autoethnographic Research of Martial Arts Cultural Communication in the Digital Age
Background & Context (approx. 500 words)
Martial arts originate from early human survival activities, including hunting, food production, and animal domestication in primitive societies. Over time, these practices were shaped by military training and gradually developed into a more organised cultural system with a long historical background. According to Statista (2025), as of 2024, there are nearly 7 million Martial Arts practitioners in the United States alone. Around the world, Taekwondo alone is practised by around 70 million people, while Karate reaches around 100 million participants (Origua Rios et al, 2018). Millions of practitioners have devoted themselves to a variety of different Martial arts styles, resulting in the continued flourishing of martial arts in the 21st century. Martial arts are also an important part of modern pop culture, widely present in social networks, films, and electronic games (Xue et al., 2023). At the same time, ethical principles and philosophical concepts were developed, emphasising humility, courage, respect for the opponent, chivalry and other spiritual elements, which were combined with Martial Arts movement techniques and applied to daily life (Lafuente, Zubiaur and Gutiérrez-García, 2021). Any subject can be accommodated for the exploration of Martial Arts and evolve with the rise and fall of the many issues that exist in each subject area, such as identity, globalisation, media, philosophy, class, health, etc. (Bowman, 2016). The Martial Arts may be the key to the kernel of the world's culture, which needs to

be constantly awakened, preserved and promoted through generations of practitioners.

Having said that, until 2026, most of the dissemination of Martial Arts culture still focuses on the level of competition (Martial Arts set competitions, competitive rings) , making the public's understanding of Martial Arts more and more narrow. What stands out the most is that many Martial Arts athletes only regard the Martial Arts as a competitive sport, with insufficient understanding of the philosophical foundations of the Martial Arts, and the teaching and acquisition of fighting skills ends up being reduced to mere technical level learning (Sukhoverkhov, Klimenko and Tkachenko, 2021), thus preventing many audiences from truly understanding the cultural heritage and spiritual values of the Martial Arts. At the same time, while people have long been accustomed to accessing information and learning expertise through mobile devices, videos and social media platforms, many Martial Arts practitioners (especially in Europe and Asia) still rely on the traditional offline modes of teaching and dissemination, which has not been fully integrated into the contemporary communication environment.

From 2020 to 2026, a growing number of studies in the field of martial arts have focused on communication innovation, digital preservation, and cultural heritage transmission. These researches have proposed many valuable ideas and improvement strategies regarding communication models, media channels, and audience participation in Martial Arts. However, most of the existing research remains at a conceptual level and lacks practical design cases that can translate these ideas into real applications. This gap between theory and practice makes it difficult for Martial Arts practitioners and cultural organisations to apply academic findings in real-world contexts, creating an important research gap in the field of digital martial arts communication.

Aims and Objectives (approx.. 250 – 500 words)

This research aims to explore how digital design can promote a richer and more responsible dissemination of martial arts culture in the digital age. The research is particularly interested in how cultural meanings, values and embodied practices can be communicated through contemporary digital environments without being reduced only to technical instruction, competition or visual spectacle.

This research uses digital media and visual design as forms of intervention and considers design practice not only as a way of producing practical outcomes, but also as a method for knowledge production, reflection and problem solving. Through the combination of research and design practice, the study aims to explore how evidence collected from martial arts communities, professional practice and existing communication models can inform new approaches to cultural communication.

To achieve this aim, I have established the following four points:

1. To investigate how martial arts culture is currently communicated through physical and digital environments, with particular attention to cultural meaning, content organisation, participation and user experience.
2. To examine how the researcher's dual practice as a martial arts coach and visual designer contributes to, and influences, the communication of martial arts culture through autoethnographic reflection.
3. Compare the outreach practices of different martial arts organisations and clubs, and analyze the different approaches they take in terms of cultural presentation, community engagement, as well as digital media and visual design
4. To develop, test and iteratively refine a provisional digital visual design intervention informed by the research findings, and to evaluate how effectively it communicates selected dimensions of martial arts culture.

Proposed plan of work including timetable

Proposed plan of work

No.	Chapters	Details	Timeline
1	Introduction	Research Background, Significance, Objectives and Overall Structure of the Thesis	02/2027-03/2027
2	Literature Review	Martial arts culture, digital design, platform/community design, practice research	03/2027-06/2027
3	Methodology & Ethics	Details of the methodology, ethical approval	06/2027-07/2027
4	Collect data	Observation, case studies, diary research	08/2027-02/2028
5	Data Analysis	Thematic analysis and synthesis of research findings	02/2028-04/2028
6	Practice-Based Design Framework	Translate research findings into design principles	05/2028-06/2028
7	Prototype Development	Produce provisional digital prototype	07/2028
8	User Testing	Test prototype with intended users	08/2028
9	Iteration	Revise prototype based on findings	09/2028
10	Conclusion	Research Findings, Limitations and Future Directions	10/2028
11	Research Writing	First draft completed	Before10/2028
12	Research Writing	Second Revision of the Research	10/2028-02/2029
13	Research Writing	Research completed	Before02/2029

Proposed methodology (approx. 500 words):

This research adopts a qualitative, practice-based research approach informed by Autoethnography. The researcher occupies a dual position as both a visual designer and a martial arts instructor. Rather than treating this experience simply as background information, the study uses situated professional practice as a source of research knowledge while critically reflecting on the researcher's positionality.

This insider position provides valuable access to martial arts teaching, design practice and community engagement that would be difficult to obtain through external observation alone. However, it may also introduce potential bias, existing power relationships and subjective interpretation. To minimise these risks, the research will adopt continuous reflexive practice, distinguishing between observation, interpretation and design judgement throughout the research process. Existing teaching or professional relationships will not be used to influence participation, and any potential commercial interests related to future design outcomes will be acknowledged where appropriate.

This research combines **Participant Observation, Diary Research and Case Studies**. Each method is designed to generate a different form of evidence and to address different aspects of the research questions. Diary Research will examine the researcher's own lived experience and design practice; Participant Observation will investigate how martial arts culture is embodied and communicated in club environments; and Case Studies will analyse different models of cultural and digital communication. Findings from these methods will subsequently inform a provisional design intervention, which will be tested and iteratively revised with intended users.

Participant Observation: The researcher will observe three-five martial arts clubs as both a participant and an observer without affecting the normal teaching activities of the clubs. Provisional field sites include Apollo Gym and Bangtao Muay Thai & MMA in Phuket, and the Shaolin Temple in London, etc. Where appropriate and with participants' informed consent, photographs and videos will be collected to support field observations.

Purpose: The purpose of participant observation is to understand how martial arts culture is embodied, communicated and negotiated in everyday club practice. Observation will focus on teaching interactions, ritual, use of space, visual communication, community participation and the ways in which cultural values are interpreted by practitioners.

Field sites will be selected to provide contrast between different organisational and cultural contexts. The final number of sites may be reduced depending on feasibility, access and ethics requirements.

Diary Research: The researcher will use himself as a case and conduct diary research over a period of three to five months, recording experiences twice each week. The diary will include written reflections of around 500 words and 5–8 photographs for each entry.

The diary will focus on two areas:

1. Design practice related to martial arts promotion, including visual design, short videos, and social media communication.
2. Martial Arts teaching practice, including the teaching of techniques, cultural values, and class rituals.

Purpose: The aim of this diary research is to reflect on the researcher's dual identity as both a Martial Arts practitioner and a designer. Through the systematic documentation of personal experiences, this approach seeks to reveal how design practice and teaching practice influence and interact with one another in the process of disseminating Martial Arts culture.

At the same time, this part of the diary research seeks to explore how digital media practices—such as visual design, short-form video production and social media storytelling—can be integrated with the embodied teaching of martial arts, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of cultural dissemination. Through long-term self-documentation and reflection, the research will capture the processes of cognitive change, skill development and the deepening of cultural understanding.

The diary will not only document experience but will also be analysed thematically. Recurring themes, tensions and critical incidents related to teaching, design decisions, cultural interpretation and communication will be identified and compared over time.

Case Studies: This research will examine several representative martial arts organisations and communication models. The current proposed commercial cases include YOKKAO, Fairtex, and Venum. These brands have established digital platforms, social media systems, branded products, and offline martial arts spaces, making them useful examples for analysing how martial arts culture is communicated across both digital and physical environments. In addition, at least one community-based, grassroots, or non-profit martial arts organisation will be included to provide a broader comparison beyond commercial branding.

The analysis will focus on two aspects:

Cultural and visual communication, including websites, products, branding, visual identity, and social media content such as YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram.
Offline experience and community practice, including club spaces, cultural symbols, teaching activities, interaction between instructors and practitioners, and forms of community participation.

Purpose:

The purpose of this case study is to systematically compare how different martial arts organisations construct, represent, and communicate martial arts culture across digital and physical environments. Through the analysis of YOKKAO, Fairtex, Venum, and a non-commercial or community-based case, the research will identify both shared strategies and distinctive approaches in cultural representation, visual communication, community engagement, and digital participation. It will also examine how commercial and non-commercial

organisations balance cultural values, audience needs, branding, and communication objectives. Rather than identifying a single best practice, the case studies aim to understand different communication strategies that may inform later design decisions.

Introductory bibliography:

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Facilities and resources available for the investigation: please indicate if you expect to need any special resources

This research is expected to make use of academic library resources, including journals, books and electronic resources available in the university library's databases. I have gained access to my university's library and online databases via my student account, and do not currently require additional authorisation from external organisations.

Special Issues

This research includes both primary data collected through personal field research and secondary data analysis. The project is conducted individually and is not part of a group study. Most of the research will be completed in the UK; however, limited fieldwork will be carried out in Thailand and China, focusing on martial arts clubs. These overseas research and investigation will include field observations, diary research, and case study. All necessary arrangements will be made in advance, and the visits will last approximately one month. No access restrictions are expected, and all secondary data will be obtained from publicly available or institutional sources. The study does not involve sensitive populations or experimental procedures, so no significant ethical risks are anticipated.

Language in which submitted

The thesis will be written in [please tick as appropriate]:

Welsh ☐

English ☒

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence

In line with [UWTSD guidance](#), Generative AI will be used in this thesis for the following purposes:

	Tick ☒	YES	NO
RESEARCH	I intend to use Generative AI to support my research, including searching for bibliography, using tools to summarise, compare and interrogate materials.	☒	☐
STRUCTURE	I intend to use Generative AI to support structuring my thesis submission, including creating a draft argument structure, identifying parts and headings, etc.	☐	☒
PROOFREADING	I intend to use Generative AI to check my own text/creation for grammatical and syntactical mistakes, including translation and rephrasing of my own work within specific standards.	☒	☐
WRITING	I intend to use Generative AI to create text for submission.	☐	☒
CREATIVE	I intend to use Generative AI to create creative materials, such as images.	☒	☐
PROGRAMING	I intend to use Generative AI to create and check code.	☐	☒
NONE	I do not intend to use any type of Generative AI support. This includes research support, structure support, writing/proofreading support and creative support.	☐	☒

Note: any use of Generative Artificial Intelligence will need to be considered and noted in the research ethics application.

Intellectual Property IP

Tick ✓

	YES	NO
It is anticipated that Intellectual Property (IP) will be produced as a result of this research, other than copyright.	✓	☐
If yes, is the IP already subject to a separate agreement with a third party (e.g. employer, sponsor or external funder)? If so please provide details below	☐	✓
Is the research dependent upon background IP owned by: If so, please provide details below	UWTSD ✓	A third party ☐
Text box will expand		

Tick ✓

I understand that:	YES	NO
If any party other than the student is likely to be involved in the development of IP a separate IP agreement will be needed and it may be necessary for the student to assign the IP rights to the University.	✓	☐
If there are no third parties involved in the creation of the IP the student is deemed to own the IP, however should the student wish to commercially exploit their IP and require the assistance of the University to do so, they will be required to assign their IP to the University. https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/iced/protecting-innovation-and-creativity---intellectual-property/	✓	☐

Student Signature

Signature or Print Name:	LINXUAN YANG	Date:06/08/2026
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Supervisory Team

Has the student proposed a viable research project that is appropriate for this programme that should be supported by the Institute?	
Supported: ☐	Not Supported: ☐

Authorisation

Director of Studies	Print Name and Signature:	Date:
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Institute Manager of Research Degrees	Signature or Print Name:	Date:
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(<https://mytsd.uwtsd.ac.uk>).**

APPLICATION FOR ETHICAL APPROVAL – INTRODUCTORY NOTES

In order for research to result in benefit and minimise risk of harm, it must be conducted ethically. A researcher may not be covered by the University's insurance if ethical approval has not been obtained prior to commencement.

The University follows the OECD Frascati manual definition of **research activity**:

"[C]reative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications".

As such this covers activities undertaken by:

- Members of staff (academic staff or support staff);
- Individuals holding honorary title from the University;
- Postgraduate research students;

In all of these cases ethical review is required regardless of discipline.

The individual undertaking the research activity is known as the **lead researcher**.

Ethical approval is not required for routine audits, performance reviews, quality assurance studies, testing within normal educational requirements, and literary or artistic criticism.

For most projects you will only need to complete sections in the main part of the form. A few projects will need more detailed ethical consideration and will need you to fill in sections in an appendix. At some points in this form you will be asked questions about your research in the following way:

1	Does your research involve <<something specific>>?	YES	Click to continue to appendix <<N>>	NO	Continue to the next section
2	Have you completed appendix <<N>>?	YES	☐	NO	☐

Clicking in the appropriate box will take you to the appropriate location in the text. At the end of each appendix is a box. Clicking on this will return you to the question that originally took you to the appendix.

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Guidance notes are provided as comments or as text **IN GREEN** throughout this form. Please ensure that the comments are removed and that the green text is replaced by your own text or removed as appropriate BEFORE submitting this form.

Please ensure that you have read the UWTSD Research Ethics and Integrity Policy and the UWTSD Research Data Management Policy BEFORE submitting this form.

APPLICATION FOR ETHICAL APPROVAL

SECTION A: About You (Lead Researcher)

1	Full Name:	LINXUAN YANG			
2	Tick all boxes that apply:	Member of staff:	☐	Honorary research fellow:	☐
	Undergraduate Student	☐	Taught Postgraduate Student	☐	Postgraduate Research Student
3	Institute/Academic Discipline/Centre:	Art and Design			
4	Campus:	Swansea College of Art			
5	E-mail address:	1712549@student.uwtsd.ac.uk			
6	Contact Telephone Number:	+44 07434849451			
7	Project Title	Reconstructing Tradition through Design Practice: A Practice-Based Autoethnographic Research of Martial Arts Cultural Communication in the Digital Age			
8	Proposed Start Date	01/02/2027	Proposed End Date	01/02/2029	
For students:					
9	Student Number:	1712549			
10	Programme of Study:	Art and Design			
11	Director of Studies/Supervisor:				

SECTION B: Grant or Contract Funding

1	Has your research been awarded, applied for, or intend to apply for external funding?	YES	Click to continue to appendix 1	NO	Continue to the next section
2	Have you completed appendix 1?	YES	☐	NO	×

SECTION C: Internal and External Ethical Guidance Materials

Ethical Guidance Documents

Please list the core ethical guidance documents that have been referred to during the completion of this form (including any discipline-specific codes of research ethics, location-specific codes of research ethics, and also any specific ethical guidance relating to the proposed methodology). Please tick to confirm that your research proposal adheres to these codes and guidelines. You may add rows to this table if needed.

1	UWTSD Research Ethics & Integrity Policy	☒
2	UWTSD Research Data Management Policy	☒

3	UWTSD Open Access Publications Policy	☒
4	UWTSD Export Control Policy <i>Required if Appendix 8 completed</i>	☐
5	UWTSD Trusted Research and Innovation Policy <i>Required if research is taking place outside the UK</i>	☒
6	[List any other relevant documents here]	☐

SECTION D: External Collaborative Research Activity

1	Does your research involve collaborating partners at another institution or organisation?	YES	Click to continue to appendix 2	NO	Continue to the next section
2	Have you completed appendix 2?	YES	☐	NO	x

SECTION E: Details of Research Activity

Aims, Vision and Approach of the Research (maximum 200 words per section)

Please outline what are you hoping to achieve with your proposed work and how will you deliver it?

1	Research aims and objectives
The aim of this research is to investigate how design practice, supported by autoethnographic research, can enhance the communication of Martial Arts culture in the digital age. By integrating digital media, visual design and reflective practice, the research seeks to explore more effective approaches to communicating Martial Arts culture across both physical and digital environments. To achieve this aim, the research has four objectives. First, it will investigate how Martial Arts culture is currently communicated through physical and digital environments, with particular attention to cultural meaning, content organisation, participation and user experience. Second, it will examine the researcher's dual role as a Martial Arts instructor and visual designer through diary research. Third, it will compare the communication practices of commercial and community-based martial arts organisations. Finally, the research findings will inform the development, testing and iterative refinement of a digital visual design intervention to evaluate its effectiveness in supporting the communication of Martial Arts culture.	
2	Vision

Martial Arts are recognised not only as systems of physical practice but also as important forms of cultural heritage that embody history, philosophy and community values. However, many existing approaches to the dissemination of Martial Arts continue to focus primarily on competitive sport and technical instruction, while the broader cultural significance of Martial Arts often receives insufficient attention. At the same time, in the digital age, people are increasingly accessing knowledge of Martial Arts culture and participating in Martial Arts training through digital media.

This research seeks to explore how design practice can contribute to more effective dissemination and interpretation of Martial Arts culture. The findings are expected to provide practical guidance for Martial Arts organisations, clubs and designers, helping them to enhance digital engagement and the cultural representation of Martial Arts. Beyond its practical applications, the research aims to demonstrate how autoethnographic research can support the development of digital visual design for Martial Arts cultural dissemination, contribute to practice-based design research, and promote the sustainable dissemination of Martial Arts culture in contemporary society.

3 Approach

This research adopts a qualitative autoethnographic approach. Data will be collected through three complementary methods: Participant Observation, Diary Research and Case Studies.

Participant Observation will examine how Martial Arts culture is practised and disseminated within Martial Arts club environments. Diary Research will document the researcher's dual role as a Martial Arts instructor and visual designer, while critically reflecting on the relationship between design practice and the dissemination of Martial Arts culture. Case Studies will analyse different strategies adopted by Martial Arts organisations in cultural representation, digital engagement and visual communication.

The collected data will be analysed using thematic analysis to identify design opportunities. The findings will then inform the development of a digital visual design intervention, which will be evaluated and refined through user testing and iterative development.

Potential risks include gaining access to research sites, participant recruitment, and ethical issues relating to photography and participant observation. These risks will be managed through informed consent, ethical approval and appropriate data management procedures. By combining multiple sources of evidence, this approach supports both reflective practice and digital design development, enabling the research objectives to be achieved effectively.

4 Location of research activity

Identify all locations where research activity will take place.

1. Selected martial arts clubs in Swansea and Bristol, United Kingdom
2. Apollo Gym, Phuket, Thailand (provisional)
3. Bangtao Muay Thai & MMA, Phuket, Thailand (provisional)
4. Venum Training Camp, Pattaya, Thailand (provisional)
5. YOKKAO Training Center, Bangkok, Thailand (provisional)
6. Selected martial arts organisations and community clubs (subject to access and ethical approval)
7. Online research activities (websites, social media platforms and digital media analysis)

5	Will any of your research be undertaken outside of the UK?	YES	Click to continue to appendix 3	NO	Continue to the next section
6	Have you completed any of appendix 3?	YES	×	NO	☐

SECTION F: Research Methods

Will the research activity include:		YES	NO
1	Use of a questionnaire or similar research instrument?	☐	☒
2	Use of interviews?	☒	☐
3	Use of focus groups?	☐	☒
4	Use of participant diaries?	☐	☒
5	Use of video or audio recording?	☒	☐
6	Use of computer-generated log files?	☐	☒
7	Participant observation with their knowledge?	☒	☐
8	Participant observation without their knowledge?	☐	☒
9	Access to personal or confidential information without the participants' specific consent?	☐	☒
10	Administration of any questions, test stimuli, presentation that may be experienced as physically, mentally or emotionally harmful / offensive?	☐	☒
11	Performance of any acts which may cause embarrassment or affect self-esteem?	☐	☒
12	Investigation of participants involved in illegal activities?	☐	☒
13	Use of procedures that involve deception?	☐	☒
14	Administration of any substance, agent or placebo?	☐	☒
15	Working with live vertebrate animals?	☐	☒
16	Procedures that may have a negative impact on the environment?	☐	☒
17	Other primary data collection methods. Please indicate the type of data collection method(s) below.	☐	☒
Details of any other primary data collection method: The above list covers most common data collection methods. If you will use other types of data collection for all or some of your data collection then please describe them here. (this box should expand as you type)			

SECTION G: Research Participants

Research participants include people who will be taking part in your research as providers of research data (e.g. being interviewed, answering questionnaires, or doing user testing of hardware or software). This includes animal participants.					
1	Does your research involve human or non-human participants?	YES	Continue this section	NO	Click to continue to section N

Participant numbers and source

How will you ensure an appropriately convened sample group in order to meet the aims of the research? Give details for subgroups separately, if appropriate. How will any potential pitfalls, for example dual roles or potential for coercion, be addressed?

1	How many participants will be recruited and how was the number decided upon?	Approximately 6–10 participants will be recruited to take part in the user testing of the digital visual design intervention. This sample size is appropriate for qualitative research, as it enables the collection of rich, in-depth feedback while remaining feasible within the scope of the doctoral project.
2	Who will the participants be?	Participants will include adult martial arts practitioners, martial arts instructors, and adults with an interest in martial arts or digital learning. They will have some knowledge or experience of martial arts, or an interest in learning about martial arts culture through digital media. All participants will be aged between 18 and 60 years and will be able to provide informed consent.
3	How will you identify the participants?	Participants will be recruited through martial arts clubs, existing professional networks and community organisations in the United Kingdom and Thailand. Additional participants for user testing may also be recruited through social media and voluntary invitations. Participation will be entirely voluntary, and existing teaching relationships will not be used to influence recruitment.
4	Will you be excluding any groups of people, and if so what is the rationale for that?	Individuals under the age of 18 and over the age of 60 will be excluded from the research. Individuals who are unable to provide informed consent or who are considered vulnerable will also be excluded. These exclusion criteria are intended to minimise ethical risks and ensure that all participants are able to make an informed and voluntary decision about their participation.
5	Will the research involve any element of deception? If yes, please describe why this is necessary and whether participants will be informed at the end of the study	No. The research will not involve deception. Participants will receive clear information about the purpose of the research, the activities involved and the use of the data before providing informed consent.
6	Describe whether participants will be able to withdraw from the study, and up to what point (eg if data is to be anonymised). If withdrawal is not possible, after a certain point, explain why not.	Yes. Participants may withdraw from the study at any time without providing a reason. They may also request that their data be withdrawn before anonymisation and analysis. After the data have been anonymised and incorporated into the analysis, it may no longer be possible to identify and remove individual contributions.

7	How long will the participant have to decide whether to take part in the research?	Participants will normally be given at least one week to consider the Participant Information Sheet before deciding whether to take part in the research.
8	What arrangements have been made for participants who might have difficulties understanding verbal explanations or written information, or who have particular communication needs that should be taken into account to facilitate their involvement in the research?	Participant information and consent materials will be written in clear and accessible language. Where appropriate, additional explanations will be provided to ensure that participants fully understand the research before giving consent. Individuals who are unable to provide informed consent will not be recruited.

SECTION H: Research with Vulnerable People

1	Are your participants classed as vulnerable people?	YES	Click to continue to appendix 4	NO	Continue to the next section
2	Have you completed appendix 4?	YES	☐	NO	×

SECTION I: Research Involving Animals

1	Are your participants non-human animals?	YES	Click to continue to appendix 5	NO	Continue to the next section
2	Have you completed appendix 5?	YES	☐	NO	×

SECTION J: Research with the Prison Service or the Probation Service

1	Are your participants staff or offenders within the Prison Service or the Probation service?	YES	Click to continue to appendix 6	NO	Continue to the next section
2	Have you completed appendix 6?	YES	☐	NO	×

SECTION K: Health and Social Care Research

1	Are your participants selected due to their health or social care needs?	YES	Click to continue to appendix 7	NO	Continue to the next section
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2	Have you completed appendix 7?	YES	☐	NO	x
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SECTION L: Types of Personal Data

Personal Data		YES	NO
Does the research activity involve personal data (as defined by the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 and the Data Protection Act 2018)?			
1	Personal data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'). An identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person. Any video or audio recordings of participants and transcription of such are considered to be personal data. If you ticked YES, provide a description of the data and explain why this data needs to be collected:	x	☐
The research will collect a limited amount of personal data, including participants' names, contact details and signed consent forms for research administration. Where participants provide permission, photographs and video recordings may also be collected during participant observation and user testing. Personal data are required to organise participation, obtain informed consent and support the analysis of research activities. All identifiable data will be stored securely and anonymised before publication wherever possible.			

Special Category Data		YES	NO
Does the research involve the processing of special category data (as defined by the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 and the Data Protection Act 2018)?			
2	Racial or ethnic origin	☐	☒
3	Political opinions	☐	☒
4	Religious or philosophical beliefs	☐	☒
5	Genetic, biometric or health data	☐	☒
6	Sex life or sexual orientation	☐	☒
7	Trade union membership	☐	☒
If you ticked YES to any of questions L2-L7, provide a description of the data and explain why this special category data needs to be collected to support the research and that it is in the public interest to do so:			
8			
9	Please describe how the research has been designed to gather the minimum amount of personal data necessary for the specified research purpose:		
Only the minimum personal data necessary for the research will be collected. Personal identifiers will be used solely for participant recruitment, communication and informed consent. Research findings will be reported anonymously wherever possible. Photographs or video recordings will only be collected with participants' explicit consent, and participants may choose not to be photographed or recorded.			

10	Demonstrate that the processing is not likely to cause substantial damage or distress to individuals and that their interests will be safeguarded:						
The processing of personal data is not expected to cause substantial damage or distress to participants. All personal information will be stored securely, access will be restricted to the researcher and supervisory team where necessary, and identifiable information will be removed or anonymised before dissemination of the research findings. Participants may withdraw from the study before data are anonymised.							
11	Demonstrate that the data will not be used to take any action or make decisions in relation to the individuals concerned:						
The personal data collected during this research will be used solely for research purposes. The data will not be used to make decisions about participants or to affect their rights, opportunities or relationships. Participation in the study will be entirely voluntary and will have no impact on participants' employment, education or involvement in martial arts organisations.							
12	Data should be anonymised wherever possible, either at point of capture or once collated. If the data cannot be anonymised, and if pseudonymisation is not possible, demonstrate why the that is possible. If special category data cannot be anonymised, explicit consent to share that data must normally be obtained.						
Personal data will be anonymised wherever possible before analysis and publication. Participants will be assigned identification codes, and any identifying information will be removed from research records and publications. Where photographs or video recordings are used, explicit consent will be obtained in advance. If participants do not consent to identifiable images being used, their identity will be protected by excluding the images or removing identifying features where appropriate.							
13	If special category data cannot be anonymised, will you obtain explicit consent to share that data?						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YES</th> <th>NO</th> <th>N/A</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>☐</td> <td>☐</td> <td>☒</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	YES	NO	N/A	☐	☐	☒
YES	NO	N/A					
☐	☐	☒					

SECTION M: Participant Information and Consent

Information for participants It is normally expected that those participating in research should do so having given their informed consent. If this is not appropriate or practical, explicit justification must be provided, in line with prevailing disciplinary conventions. Please note however, that informed consent to participate in the research is separate from consent to process (e.g. collect, analyse, store, reuse or share) personal data, as the University's lawful basis for processing personal data in research activities is part of its 'public task'.		YES	NO	N/A
1	Will you obtain written consent for participation?	☒	☐	☐
2	Will you describe the main research procedures to participants in advance, so that they are informed about what to expect?	☒	☐	☐
3	Will you tell participants that their participation is voluntary?	☒	☐	☐
4	Will you explain to participants that refusal to participate in the research will not affect their treatment or education (if relevant)?	☒	☐	☐
5	If the research is observational, will you ask participants for their consent to being observed?	☒	☐	☐
6	Will you tell participants that they may withdraw from the research at any time and for any reason?	☒	☐	☐
7	Will participants be made aware of how you will treat any information that may reasonably be considered as confidential?	☒	☐	☐

8	If your research requires your participants to sign up for a service provided by an external company or organisation will you inform them that their data may be stored and processed outside UWTSD?	☐	☒	☐
9	Will you give participants the UWTSD Privacy Notice for Research?	☒	☐	☐
If you have answered NO to any of questions M1-M9, please provide justification detailing why this is necessary for the research.				
10	No external company or organisation will be used to collect research data. Participant information and consent will be managed directly by the researcher in accordance with UWTSD research ethics and data protection requirements.			
Informed consent: Describe the arrangements to inform potential participants, before providing consent, of what is involved in participating. Describe the arrangements for participants to provide full consent before the research begins. If gaining consent in this way is inappropriate, explain how consent will be obtained and recorded.				
11	All participants will receive a Participant Information Sheet explaining the purpose of the research, the research procedures, potential risks and benefits, data management procedures, and their right to withdraw. Written informed consent will be obtained before participation. Where photographs or video recordings are involved, separate consent will be requested. Participants will have sufficient time to consider their participation before signing the consent form.			
Confidentiality: Confidential information refers to information that can be related to an identifiable individual, whether living or deceased, which is not in the public domain and which is given with the expectation that it will be kept confidential. Under Common Law when an individual entrusts a researcher or research team with confidential information, the team must handle this in line with 'reasonable expectations'. In other words, confidential information should only normally be shared when there would be 'no surprises' for the individuals concerned. Where participants would not expect the researcher to be sharing their confidential information with others, researchers can manage their expectations by informing them of their intentions (e.g. in the participant information sheet or during discussions about participation) and asking them if they are happy with these plans. They should understand what is being proposed and what this might mean for them, before they decide whether the researcher can share their confidential information with others.				
Please detail how you will treat confidential information:				
12	All personal and confidential information will be treated in accordance with the UWTSD Research Ethics and Data Management Policy. Personal data will be stored securely on password-protected devices and secure university-approved storage where appropriate. Access to identifiable data will be limited to the researcher and, where necessary, the supervisory team. Participants will be assigned identification codes and identifiable information will be removed from research reports wherever possible. Photographs and video recordings will only be collected with participants' explicit consent and will not be shared publicly without additional permission. Participants will be informed about how their data will be stored, used and protected before providing informed consent.			
Copies of any written consent form, written information and all other explanatory material should accompany this application. If you have included these then please list the documents included here.				
13	Participant Information Sheet Participant Consent Form (Currently in draft stage)			
14	Consent form attached?	YES ☒	NO ☐	N/A ☐

SECTION N: Research with Potential Military Application

1	Does your research have any potential military application?	YES	Click to continue to	NO	Continue to the next section
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			appendix 8		
2	Have you completed appendix 8?	YES	☐	NO	x

SECTION O: Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools

Use of generative AI and other AI-based tools		YES	NO	N/A
There are a number of ethical issues relating to the use of generative AI and other AI-based tools, including data security, output bias, and output errors. In general you should assume that any generative AI or other AI-based tool that you pay to use is more secure and accurate than one which is free to use. Will the research use AI tools to do any of the following:				
1	Capture data?	☐	☒	☐
2	Generate and/or edit text?	☐	☒	☐
3	Generate graphics?	☒	☐	☐
4	Generate video?	☐	☒	☐
5	Generate sound/music?	☐	☒	☐
6	Generate code?	☐	☒	☐
7	Generate synthetic data?	☐	☒	☐
8	Analyse data?	☐	☒	☐
9	Analyse personal or sensitive data?	☐	☒	☐
10	Classify data?	☐	☒	☐
11	Do you intend to use the free version of any AI tools?	☒	☐	☐
If you have answered YES to any of questions O1-O11, please provide justification detailing why this is necessary for the research.				
12	Generative AI tools may be used to support idea development and the generation of preliminary visual concepts during the design process. AI tools will not be used to analyse research data or process participants' personal or confidential information. All AI-generated outputs will be critically reviewed, refined and evaluated by the researcher before being incorporated into the design process. The researcher will comply with UWTSD guidance on the responsible use of AI in research.			

Section P: Research Data Management Plan

1	Data Summary
The research will generate qualitative data, including participant observation notes, diary research, photographs, video recordings (where consent has been obtained), case study materials, design sketches, prototype development records, user testing feedback and thematic analysis notes.	
2	Responsibilities

The researcher will be responsible for the collection, management, storage and protection of all research data. The supervisory team will provide academic guidance and oversight where appropriate.	
3	Assessment of existing data
The research will use publicly available materials, including academic literature, websites and social media content relating to martial arts organisations. Primary qualitative data collected during the research will complement these existing sources by providing insights into contemporary design practice and martial arts cultural communication.	
4	Management and curation of data
Research data will be organised using a consistent file naming system and stored in clearly structured folders. Field notes, photographs, design files and user testing data will be documented and maintained throughout the research to ensure accurate record keeping and traceability.	
5	Quality assurance of data
Data will be reviewed regularly for completeness, consistency and accuracy. Observations and Diary will be recorded as soon as possible after each research activity, and digital files will be checked to ensure that they are complete and accessible.	
6	Short-term data storage
Research data will be stored on password-protected devices and backed up using secure storage in accordance with the UWTSD Research Data Management Policy. Access to identifiable data will be restricted to the researcher and, where appropriate, the supervisory team. Personal data and research data will be stored separately wherever possible.	
7	Long-term data storage and preservation
Anonymised research data, including observation notes, diary records, case studies, design documentation and user testing results, will be retained after the completion of the project where appropriate. Personal data will not be retained longer than necessary and will be managed in accordance with UWTSD policies and relevant data protection legislation.	
8	Documentation and metadata
All research data will be clearly organised and documented using consistent file names, dates and version control where appropriate. Contextual information will be recorded to support accurate interpretation and future reference.	
9	Data sharing
Research findings may be shared through the doctoral thesis. Only anonymised data will be shared where appropriate and where participants have provided consent. Personal or identifiable data will not be made publicly available.	
10	Copyright and intellectual property ownership
The copyright and intellectual property of the research outputs will belong to the researcher, subject to the regulations and intellectual property policies of UWTSD.	

11	Resources
The research will use the researcher's personal computer, password-protected storage devices, design software and camera where needed. These personal resources are sufficient for collecting, storing and managing the research data.	

SECTION Q: Risk Assessment

Outline any anticipated risks that may adversely affect any of the participants, the researchers and/or the University, and the steps that will be taken to address them. If you have completed a full risk assessment (for example as required by a laboratory, or external research collaborator) you may append that to this form.			
1	Full risk assessment completed and appended?	YES ☒	NO ☐
Risks to participants, researchers, and the University			
2	Social risks: <i>disclosures that could affect participants standing in the community, in their family and their job.</i>	YES ☒	NO ☐
Risk: Potential risks include participants being identifiable through photographs or video recordings, concerns about privacy when sharing opinions during observation or user testing, and the possibility that existing teacher – student relationships could make some participants feel under pressure to take part. There may also be practical risks, such as changes in access to research sites or participants withdrawing from the study.		How will you address any risks? The researcher will not use their role as a martial arts instructor to influence participation. If access to research sites or participant availability changes, alternative eligible participants will be recruited where appropriate.	
3	Legal risks: <i>activities that could result in the participant, researchers and / or University committing an offence; activities that might lead to a participant disclosing criminal activity to a researcher which would necessitate reporting to enforcement authorities; activities that could result in a civil claim for compensation</i>	YES ☐	NO ☒
Risk: No significant legal risks are anticipated. The main legal risks relate to the collection and processing of personal data, including photographs and video recordings, during research activities conducted in the UK and Thailand.		How will you address any risks? All participants will provide written informed consent before any data collection. Personal data will be collected only where necessary and managed in accordance with the UK GDPR, the Data Protection Act 2018 (UK), the Thailand Personal Data Protection Act B.E. 2562 (2019), and UWTSD research ethics requirements. Photographs and video recordings will only be taken with participants' permission, identifiable information will be removed from research outputs wherever possible, and research data will be stored securely on password-protected devices.	

4	Economic harm: <i>financial harm to participant, researcher and / or University through disclosure or other event.</i>	YES ☐	NO ☒
Risk: No significant financial risks are anticipated for participants, the researcher or the University. However, participants will be asked to give a small amount of their time to take part in participant observation or user testing, which may cause minor inconvenience. The researcher may also incur reasonable costs associated with travel to research sites, data collection and prototype development. These costs are expected as part of the normal research process and are not expected to create financial hardship or affect the research.		How will you address any risks? Research activities will be arranged at times that are convenient for participants and will be kept as brief as possible. Participants will be informed in advance of the expected duration of each activity and may withdraw from the research at any time without any penalty. Participation is entirely voluntary, and no participant will be required to incur any costs as a result of taking part. The researcher will plan research activities and travel carefully to minimise unnecessary expenses and will use personal equipment for data collection and design work wherever possible.	
5	Reputational risk: <i>damage to public perception of University or the University / researchers' reputation in the eyes of funders, the research community and / or the general public.</i>	YES ☒	NO ☐
Risk: No significant reputational risks are anticipated. However, there is a potential risk that participants or martial arts organisations may feel that their views, teaching practices or cultural values are misunderstood or misrepresented. This could affect trust between the researcher and participants or influence the reputation of the organisations involved.		How will you address any risks? The research will be conducted with respect, transparency and cultural sensitivity. Participants will receive clear information about the purpose of the research and provide informed consent before taking part. Findings will be reported accurately and objectively without identifying individual participants or organisations unless explicit permission has been obtained. The researcher will maintain academic integrity and follow UWTSD research ethics requirements throughout the project.	
6	Safeguarding risks: <i>Risk to young people, vulnerable adults and / or researcher from improper behaviour, abuse or exploitation. Risk to researcher of being in a compromising situation, in which there might be accusations of improper behaviour.</i>	YES ☐	NO ☒
Risk: No significant safeguarding risks are anticipated because the research will only involve adults aged between 18 and 60 who are able to provide informed consent. However, there is a potential risk that participants may misunderstand the researcher's dual role as both a martial arts instructor and researcher. In addition, participant observation conducted in martial arts clubs may lead to misunderstandings about the purpose of the research.		How will you address any risks? The research will only recruit adults aged between 18 and 60 who are able to provide informed consent. All participants will receive clear information about the study before participation, and participation will be entirely voluntary. The researcher will maintain appropriate professional boundaries throughout the study and will not use their role as a martial arts instructor to influence participants' decisions to participate. Research activities will be conducted in martial arts club settings or other appropriate public locations and will comply with UWTSD Research Ethics and Integrity Policy.	

7	Sensitive, embarrassing or upsetting topics. <i>If research activity may include sensitive, embarrassing or upsetting topics or issues likely to disclose information requiring further action (e.g. criminal activity), give details of the procedures to deal with these issues, including any support/advice (e.g. helpline numbers) to be offered to participants. Note that where applicable, consent procedures should make it clear that if something potentially or actually illegal is discovered in the course of a project, it may need to be disclosed to the proper authorities.</i>	YES ☐	NO ☒
No significant risks relating to sensitive, embarrassing or upsetting topics are anticipated. However, some participants may feel slightly uncomfortable when discussing their personal experiences, opinions or teaching practices relating to martial arts culture and digital communication. Participants will receive clear information about the purpose of the research before taking part and will be informed that participation is entirely voluntary. They may decline to answer any question or withdraw from the study at any time without giving a reason. The researcher will avoid asking unnecessary personal or sensitive questions and will respect participants' preferences throughout the research. If a participant becomes uncomfortable, the discussion or observation will be paused or stopped immediately.			
Health and safety risks			
8	Location hazards: <i>for example: fire; visiting or working in participant's homes; working in remote locations and in high crime areas; overseas travel; hot, cold or extreme weather conditions; working on or by water. Also hazardous work locations, such as construction sites, confined spaces, roofs or laboratories. For overseas travel, researchers will need to check country / city specific information, travel health requirements and consider emergency arrangements as part of their research planning. In all cases the University's International Travel Policy must be followed.</i>	YES ☒	NO ☐
Risk: The research will involve fieldwork in martial arts clubs in the UK and Thailand. Potential risks include travel-related issues, unfamiliar environments, minor accidents within training venues, and changes to research locations or schedules. However, the research will not require either the researcher or participants to undertake any hazardous martial arts training or other high-risk activities for the purposes of the study.		How will you address any risks? A risk assessment will be completed before any fieldwork begins. Where applicable, the research will comply with UWTSD guidance and policies relating to overseas research. Research activities will be conducted in recognised martial arts clubs and will follow all venue health and safety requirements, as well as relevant UK and Thai laws and regulations. Unnecessary risks will be avoided, and research activities will be stopped immediately if the environment is considered unsafe. All travel will be planned in advance, and emergency contact information will be available throughout the fieldwork.	
9	Activity hazards: <i>for example: potentially mentally harmful activities; distressing and stressful work and content; driving; tripping or slipping; falling from height; physically demanding work; lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling loads; night time and weekend working.</i>	YES ☐	NO ☒
Risk: No significant activity-related risks are anticipated. However, the research may involve extended periods of observation, standing, travelling between research sites, and the use of digital equipment during		How will you address any risks? Research activities will be planned carefully to minimise unnecessary physical demands. Adequate breaks will be taken during fieldwork where necessary, and research activities will be scheduled at appropriate times. The researcher will follow all health	

fieldwork. These activities may result in minor physical fatigue or inconvenience. The research will not require the researcher or participants to undertake any hazardous martial arts training or other physically demanding activities for the purposes of the study.		and safety requirements of the research venues and will not participate in any activities that present unnecessary physical risk. If any activity is considered unsafe, it will be stopped immediately.	
10	Machinery and equipment: for example: ergonomic hazards, including computer workstations and equipment; contact with electricity; contact with moving, rotating, ejecting or cutting parts in machinery and instruments; accidental release of energy from machines and instruments.	YES ☐	NO ☒
Risk: No significant risks associated with machinery or equipment are anticipated. The research will primarily involve the use of personal computers, cameras, mobile devices and audio recording equipment for data collection, documentation and design work. Minor risks such as eye strain, fatigue or equipment malfunction may occur during prolonged use of digital devices.		How will you address any risks? All equipment used in the research will be personal equipment that is regularly maintained and used according to the manufacturer's instructions. The researcher will take regular breaks when using computers for extended periods and will ensure that electronic devices are used safely. Data will be backed up regularly to reduce the risk of data loss caused by equipment failure.	
11	Chemicals and other hazardous substances: the use, production, storage, waste, transportation and accidental release of chemicals and hazardous substances; flammable, dangerous and explosive substances; asphyxiating gases; allergens; biological agents, blood and blood products.	YES ☐	NO ☒
Risk: No risks associated with chemicals or other hazardous substances are anticipated. The research will not involve the use, storage, transportation or disposal of chemicals, biological materials or any other hazardous substances.		How will you address any risks? No hazardous substances will be used during the research. All research activities will be conducted in accordance with UWTSD health and safety requirements and the normal safety procedures of the research locations.	
12	Physical agents: for example: excessive noise exposure, hand-arm vibration and whole body vibration; ionising radiation; lasers; artificial optical radiation and electromagnetic fields	YES ☐	NO ☒
Risk: No significant risks associated with physical agents are anticipated. The research will not involve exposure to excessive noise, radiation, lasers, vibration, electromagnetic fields or other hazardous physical agents.		How will you address any risks? Research activities will be conducted in normal martial arts club environments and other standard public locations. The researcher will follow the health and safety requirements of each research site and avoid any environment that presents unnecessary physical hazards.	
13	Environmental risks: for example: accidental spillage of pollutants, damage to local ecosystems	YES ☐	NO ☒
Risk: No significant environmental risks are		How will you address any risks? The researcher will conduct all research activities	

anticipated. The research will involve participant observation, case studies, diary research and user testing in martial arts clubs and other public locations. These activities are not expected to have any negative impact on the natural environment or local ecosystems.	responsibly and minimise any environmental impact. Existing facilities and public spaces will be used without causing damage to property or the surrounding environment. Any waste generated during the research will be disposed of appropriately, and all activities will comply with local regulations and UWTSD health and safety requirements.
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SECTION R: Disclosure and Barring Service

Disclosure and Barring Service				
1	If the research activity involves children or vulnerable adults, a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate must be obtained before any contact with such participants.	YES	NO	N/A
	Does your research require you to hold a current DBS Certificate?	☐	☐	☒
2	If YES, please give the certificate number. If the certificate number is not available please write "Pending"; in this case any ethical approval will be subject to providing the appropriate certificate number.			

SECTION S: Declaration

The information which I have provided is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have attempted to identify any risks and issues related to the research activity and acknowledge my obligations and the rights of the participants. In submitting this application I hereby confirm that I undertake to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's Research Ethics and Integrity Policy which is published on the website: https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/research/research-ethics/		
1	Name of applicant	LINXUAN YANG
2	Electronic or written signature of applicant:	<i>LINXUAN YANG</i>
3	Date	08/08/2026
4	Name of Director of Studies	
5	Electronic or written signature of Director of Studies:	
6	Date	

Checklist: Please complete the checklist below to ensure that you have completed the form according to the guidelines and attached any required documentation:

1	☒	I have read the guidance notes supplied before completing the form.
2	☒	I have completed all relevant sections of the form in full.
3	☒	I have attached a copy of the Participant Information Sheet (PIS) or Consent Form
4	☐	I have attached a completed copy of the Trusted Research and Innovation Checklist (where applicable)
5	☐	I have attached a full risk assessment (where appropriate)
6	☒	I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's Research Ethics and Integrity Code of Practice
7	☒	I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's Research Data Management Policy
8	☒	I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's Research Export Control Policy
9	☒	I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's Open Access Research Policy
10	I have completed the following appendices:	1 ☐
		2 ☐
		3 ☒
		4 ☐
		5 ☐
		6 ☐
		7 ☐
		8 ☐

All communications relating to this application during its processing must be in writing and emailed to pgresearch@uwtsd.ac.uk, with the title 'Ethical Approval' followed by your name.

END OF MAIN FORM

APPENDIX 3: Research Undertaken Outside of the UK

A3.1	Research activity outside of the UK If research activity will take place overseas, you are responsible for ensuring that local ethical considerations are complied with and that the relevant permissions are sought. Specify any local guidelines (e.g. from local professional associations/learned societies/universities) that exist and whether these involve any ethical stipulations beyond those usual in the UK (provide details of any licenses or permissions required). Also specify whether there are any specific ethical issues raised by the local context in which the research activity is taking place, for example, particular cultural and/or legal sensitivities or vulnerabilities of participants. Describe the measures you have taken to comply with these and provide evidence of approvals etc. If you live in the country where you will do the research then please state this. If you have a local research supervisor or research advisor then please give their contact details here. Part of the research will be conducted in Phuket, Pattaya and Bangkok, Thailand, including Apollo Gym (Phuket), Bangtao Muay Thai & MMA (Phuket), Venum Training Camp (Pattaya) and YOKKAO Training Center (Bangkok), subject to access and permission. The research activities will include participant observation, case studies and, where appropriate, user testing related to the development of digital visual design for Martial Arts cultural communication. Prior permission will be obtained from the relevant martial arts organisations before any research activities begin. All participants will receive a Participant Information Sheet and provide informed consent before taking part. The research will comply with the ethical requirements of UWTSD and will also comply with relevant Thai laws and regulations, including the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA) B.E. 2562 (2019) governing the collection, storage and processing of personal data. The research will not involve children, vulnerable adults or activities that present more than minimal risk. Only adults aged 18–60 who are able to provide informed consent will be recruited. Photography or audio recording will only be undertaken with participants' explicit consent. Before travelling, the researcher will review the latest UK Government travel advice for Thailand, obtain appropriate travel insurance, and follow local health and safety requirements. If access to any research site is not granted or circumstances change, alternative martial arts organisations or participants that meet the research criteria will be recruited.
A3.2	Responsible Research and Innovation If research is taking place overseas please refer to the UWTSD Trusted Research and Innovation Policy and complete the Trusted Research and Innovation Checklist and submit it with this form.
A3.3	Confirm that you have read the Trusted Research and Innovation Policy ☒

If you are a postgraduate research student working with a research supervisor or research advisor at your local university then you do not need to fill in any more sections of this appendix.

If you are working in a research collaboration with an overseas partner please complete the remaining sections of this appendix.

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Organisational Details	
A3.4	Name of Organisation
A3.5	Country where organisation is based:

A3.6	Registration number and name of registration body (examples of relevant registration bodies are government, tax, corporation, charity, educational authority):
A3.7	What is the legal status of the organisation? (for example: public university, private university, charity, private company, non-profit making company, government research organisation, independent research organisation) Please include the date of foundation. Note: We may be required to ask for evidence of this at a later stage.
A3.8	Is your organisation affiliated to any other organisation? (i.e. is the organisation legally part of a larger organisation or a group of larger organisations).
A3.9	Name(s) of investigators in the organisation who will be responsible for the collaborative research and innovation

About New Partners			
A3.10	Why does a partner want to work with you?		
A3.11	What are they expecting in return for their financial support or involvement?		
A3.12	Is the organisation associated with a country which may be viewed as hostile to the UK or one which has different democratic and ethical values from our own? If you have ticked YES, please briefly describe below how you will maintain the UK's democratic and ethical values within the research.	YES ☐	NO ☐
A3.13	Has due diligence into the partner identified any involvement in research on behalf of the military or police with links to a hostile state? If you have ticked YES, please summarise below how you will prevent information from this research from being released to these organisations.	YES ☐	NO ☐
A3.14	Set within the context of any information gained from due diligence, could your research be misused or have unintended applications which would be negative? If you have ticked YES, please summarise below how this might occur.	YES ☐	NO ☐

A3.15	Are there any legal, regulatory or university policy constraints on undertaking your research with this partner? If you have ticked YES, please summarise these below.	YES	NO
		☐	☐
A3.16	Having considered the answers to questions A3.10-A3.15, are there potential reputational or ethical risks to you or the university? If you have ticked YES, please summarise these risks below.	YES	NO
		☐	☐

About Research Relationships		YES	NO
A3.17	Are the terms of any proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in keeping with the expectations of your department and university?	☐	☐
A3.18	Are you providing existing intellectual property (IP), research data, confidential or personally identifiable data to the project? If so, how is this going to be protected?	☐	☐
A3.19	Who will own any IP that is generated?		
A3.20	What plans do you have in place for protecting the resulting IP?		
A3.21	What contractual requirements are you able to put in place to protect the interests of your academic institutions?		
A3.22	What access will the research partner have to your IT network? If they do have access, what broader visibility might this provide?		
A3.23	Is there any physical separation or protection required between research in similar fields?		

About Existing Partners			
A3.24	Would proceeding with the research raise potential conflicts of interest with existing research partners? If you have ticked YES, please explain these conflicts below.	YES	NO
		☐	☐
A3.25	Have you spoken with your existing partners about any potential conflict of	YES	NO

	interest? If you have ticked YES, please briefly summarise their response(s) below.	☐	☐
A3.26	Does any non-disclosure agreement for this project include an expectation that you will need to provide visibility to existing partners? If you have ticked YES, please explain below how this will be managed.	YES ☐	NO ☐
A3.27	Will this research breach any existing contractual agreements that you, your department or university already have? If you have ticked YES, please explain below how this will be managed.	YES ☐	NO ☐

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