

APPLICATION FOR ETHICAL APPROVAL

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**: "creative 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, postgraduate research students, and both taught postgraduate and undergraduate students working on dissertations/projects.

The individual undertaking the research activity is known as the "principal researcher".

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

Please read the notes for guidance before completing ALL sections of the form.

This form must be completed and approved prior to undertaking any research activity. Please see Checklist for details of process for different categories of application.

SECTION A: About You (Principal Researcher)

Full Name:	D.R.Manage				
Tick all boxes which apply:					
Member of staff:	☐	Student:	☒	Honorary research fellow:	☐
Faculty/School/Centre:	Online and Distance Learning				
Campus:	Online and Distance Learning				
E-mail address:	1706316@student.uwtsd.ac.uk				
Contact Telephone Number:	001 647 281 2564				
For students:					
Student Number:	1706316	Undergraduate	☐		
Programme of Study:	Master of Business Administration (MBA)	Taught Postgraduate	☒		
Director of Studies/Supervisor:	Anthony Burns	Research	☐		

SECTION B: Approval for Research Activity

Has the research activity received approval in principle? (please check the Guidance Notes as to the appropriate approval process for different levels of research by different categories of individual)		YES	☒	NO	☐
					Date
If Yes, please indicate source of approval (and date where known):	Research Degrees Committee		☐		
	Faculty Research Committee		☐		
	Other (write in) Dissertation Supervisor		☐	30/01/2020	

Approval in principle **must** be obtained from the relevant source prior to seeking ethical approval.

SECTION C: External Ethical Guidance Materials

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, 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.

	☐
	☐
	☐

SECTION D: External Collaborative Research Activity

Does the research activity involve collaborators outside of the University?	YES	☐	NO	☒
If Yes, please provide the name of the external organisation and name and contact details for the main contact person:				
Institution				
Contact person name				
Contact person e-mail address				

Where research activity is carried out in collaboration with an external organisation

Does this organisation have its own ethics approval system?	YES	☐	NO	☐
If Yes, please attach a copy of any final approval (or interim approval) from the organisation				

SECTION E: Details of Research Activity

Indicative title:	Venture Capital Investments in Canada; a Success or a Failure?		
Proposed start date:	02/01/2020	Proposed end date:	04/30/2020
Purpose of research activity (including aims and objectives) Outline the purpose, aims and objectives of the research activity, including key research questions. Show briefly how existing research has informed the proposed activity and explain what the research activity will add and how it addresses an area of importance. (Maximum 300 words)			
The aim of the research to explore the avenues of profitability in venture capital strategies in accumulating investment positions in distressed and undervalued companies and use influence and constructive engagement to unlock and create value for the financially distressed organizations and add value to economy. The research intends to critically evaluate whether the entrepreneurs are able to earn positive returns through venture capital investments in Canada and add value to the economy.			
The objective of the research: - To explore the potential of distress investment opportunities in Canada and analyze and assess the SWOT factors in venture capital investing in Canada. To analyze and assess the economic, political, social and related risk factors, associated remediation strategies, etc. - To perform research based on available public statistics through credible sources in Canada; for example, Industry Canada (Federal Ministry for Industries), Bank of Canada, Office of Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada, market information, academic institutions/papers, etc. It will be extremely difficult to conduct individual research in this area due to non-availability of specific company details and / or due to protection of privacy and confidentiality of financial information by distressed companies. - To produce a research-based dissertation to conclude the potential profitable venture capital investment strategies in Canada. - To produce the effective investment guidance by this research on distressed investments in Canada to potential venture capitalists across the world that will provide; direction and constructive engagement, create value by improving capital structure, refreshing strategy and operations and enabling transformative transactions to provide assistance to these companies to avoid unavoidable bankruptcies in distressed economic situations. (this box should expand as you type)			
Proposed methods Provide a brief summary of all the methods that may be used in the research activity, making it clear			

what specific techniques may be used. If methods other than those listed in this section are deemed appropriate later, additional ethical approval for those methods will be needed. (Maximum 600 words)

In this research, it is intended to implement descriptive research methodology, used to describe characteristics and/or behaviour of focused area. Descriptive research may include the elements of both, qualitative and quantitative aspects where data collection is facilitated without changing the environment.

In descriptive studies, case studies can be used to describe the characteristics of a specific subject. This approach will help in identify patterns rather than gathering a large volume of data.

Primarily, it is expected to collect data from empirical sources which are publicly available reliable data repositories. These data repositories are constructed and maintained by Federal Government of Canada and by the agencies that are associated with the Federal Government of Canada. These repositories include, Industry Canada (Federal Ministry for Industries), Business Development Bank of Canada and the Office of Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada, etc.

(this box should expand as you type)

Location of research activity Identify all locations where research activity will take place.
Toronto, Canada
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 sensitivities or vulnerabilities of participants.
Not Applicable

SECTION F: Scope of Research Activity

Will the research activity include:	YES	NO
Use of a questionnaire or similar research instrument?	☐	☒ X
Use of interviews?	☐	☒ X
Use of diaries?	☐	☒ X
Participant observation with their knowledge?	☐	☒ x
Participant observation without their knowledge?	☐	☒ X
Use of video or audio recording?	☐	☒ X
Access to personal or confidential information without the participants' specific consent?	☐	☒ X
Administration of any questions, test stimuli, presentation that may be experienced as physically, mentally or emotionally harmful / offensive?	☐	☒ X
Performance of any acts which may cause embarrassment or affect self-esteem?	☐	☒ X
Investigation of participants involved in illegal activities?	☐	☒ X
Use of procedures that involve deception?	☐	☒ X
Administration of any substance, agent or placebo?	☐	☒ X
Working with live vertebrate animals?	☐	☒ X
Other primary data collection methods, please explain in this box Primarily, it is expected to collect data from empirical sources which are publicly available reliable data repositories. These data repositories are constructed and maintained by Federal Government of Canada and by the agencies that are associated with the Federal Government of Canada.	☐	☐

If NO to every question, then the research activity is (ethically) low risk and **may** be exempt from **some** of the following sections (please refer to Guidance Notes).

If YES to any question, then no research activity should be undertaken until full ethical approval has been obtained.

SECTION G: Intended Participants

Who are the intended participants:	YES	NO
Students or staff at the University?	☐	☐ x
Adults (over the age of 18 and competent to give consent)?	☐	☐ x
Vulnerable adults?	☐	☐ x
Children under 18?	☐	☐ x
Prisoners?	☐	☐ x
Young offenders?	☐	☐ x
Those who could be considered to have a particularly dependent relationship with the investigator or a gatekeeper?	☐	☐ x
People engaged in illegal activities?	☐	☐ x
Others (please identify): Bankers	☐	☐ x

Participant numbers and source

Provide an estimate of the expected number of participants. How will you identify participants and how will they be recruited?

(this box should expand as you type)

Information for participants:	YES	NO	N/A
Will you describe the main research procedures to participants in advance, so that they are informed about what to expect?	☐	☐ X	☐
Will you tell participants that their participation is voluntary?	☐	☐ X	☐
Will you obtain written consent for participation?	☐	☐ X	☐
Will you explain to participants that refusal to participate in the research will not affect their treatment or education (if relevant)?	☐	☐ X	☐
If the research is observational, will you ask participants for their consent to being observed?	☐	☐ X	☐
Will you tell participants that they may withdraw from the research at any time and for any reason?	☐	☐ X	☐
With questionnaires, will you give participants the option of omitting questions they do not want to answer?	☐	☐ X	☐
Will you tell participants that their data will be treated with full confidentiality and that, if published, it will not be identifiable as theirs?	☐	☐ X	☐
Will you debrief participants at the end of their participation, in a way appropriate to the type of research undertaken?	☐	☐ X	☐

If NO to any of above questions, please give an explanation

Primarily, it is expected to collect data from empirical sources which are publicly available reliable data repositories. These data repositories are constructed and maintained by Federal Government of Canada and by the agencies that are associated with the Federal Government of Canada.

(this box should expand as you type)



Information for participants:	YES	NO	N/A
Will participants be paid?	☐	☒ x	☐
Is specialist electrical or other equipment to be used with participants?	☐	☒ x	☐
Are there any financial or other interests to the investigator or University arising from this study?	☐	☒ x	☐
Will the research activity involve deliberately misleading participants in any way, or the partial or full concealment of the specific study aims?	☐	☒ x	☐
If YES to any question, please provide full details			

SECTION H: Anticipated Risks

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.			
Risks to participants For example: emotional distress, financial disclosure, physical harm, transfer of personal data, sensitive organisational information			
Not applicable			
If research activity may include sensitive, embarrassing or upsetting topics (e.g. sexual activity, drug use) 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			
Not applicable			
Risks to investigator For example: personal safety, physical harm, emotional distress, risk of accusation of harm/impropriety, conflict of interest			
Not applicable			
University/institutional risks For example: adverse publicity, financial loss, data protection			
Not applicable			
Adverse outcomes List measures put in place to limit any adverse effects or outcomes of research activity where appropriate. Include any emergency protocols.			
Not applicable			

Disclosure and Barring Service			
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
Has a DBS certificate been obtained?	☐	☐	☒ x



SECTION I: Feedback, Consent and Confidentiality

Feedback

What feedback will be provided to participants, how will this be done and when?

Not applicable

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 data collection begins. If gaining consent in this way is inappropriate, explain how consent will be obtained and recorded.

Not applicable

Confidentiality / Anonymity

Set out how anonymity of participants and confidentiality will be ensured in any outputs. If anonymity is not being offered, explain why this is the case.

Not applicable

SECTION J: Data Protection and Storage

In completing this section refer to the University's Research Data Management Policy and the extensive resources on the University's Research Data Management web pages (<http://uwtsd.ac.uk/library/research-data-management/>).

	YES	NO
Does the research activity involve personal data (as defined by the Data Protection Act)?	☐	☒
If YES, provide a description of the data and explain why this data needs to be collected:		
(this box should expand as you type)		
Does it involve sensitive personal data (as defined by the Data Protection Act)?	☐	☒
If YES, provide a description of the data and explain why this data needs to be collected:		
(this box should expand as you type)		
Will the research activity involve any of the following activities:	YES	NO
Electronic transfer of data in any form?	☐	☒
Sharing of data with others at the University?	☐	☒
Sharing of data with other organisations?	☐	☒
Export of data outside the European Union or importing of data from outside the UK?	☐	☒
Use of personal addresses, postcodes, faxes, emails or telephone numbers?	☐	☒
Publication of data that might allow identification of individuals?	☐	☒
Use of data management system?	☐	☒
Data archiving?	☐	☒
If YES to any question, please provide full details, explaining how this will be conducted in accordance with the Data Protection Act (and/or any international equivalent):		
(this box should expand as you type)		

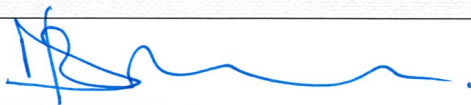
Will the research activity involve storing personal data on one of the following:	YES	NO
Manual files (i.e. in paper form)?	☐	☐ x
University computers?	☐	☐ x
Private company computers?	☐	☐ x
Home or other personal computers?	☐	☐ x
Laptop computers/ CDs/ Portable disk-drives/ memory sticks?	☐	☐ x
"Cloud" storage or websites?	☐	☐ x
Other – specify:	☐	☐ x
For all stored data, explain the measures in place to ensure data confidentiality, including details of password protection, encryption and anonymisation: (this box should expand as you type)		
List all who will have access to the data generated by the research activity: (this box should expand as you type)		
List who will have control of, and act as custodian(s) for, data generated by the research activity: (this box should expand as you type)		
Give details of data storage arrangements, including where data will be stored, how long for, and in what form. Will data be archived – if so how and if not why not. (this box should expand as you type)		

SECTION K: 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 Code of Practice

Signature of applicant:



Date:

JAW 31/2020

For students:

Director of Studies/Supervisor:	Dr Alex Bell / Anthony Burns
Signature:	
Date:	

For staff:

Head of School/Assistant Dean:	
Signature:	
Date:	

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

☒	I have read the guidance notes supplied before completing the form.
☒	I have completed ALL RELEVANT sections of the form in full.
☒	I confirm that the research activity has received approval in principle
☒	I have attached a copy of final/interim approval from external organisation (where appropriate)
☒	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.
☒	I understand that before commencing data collection all documents aimed at respondents (including information sheets, consent forms, questionnaires, interview schedules etc.) must be confirmed by the DoS/Supervisor, module tutor or Head of School.

RESEARCH STUDENTS AND STAFF ONLY

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.

You will be informed of the outcome of your claim by email; therefore it is important that you check your University and personal email accounts regularly.

STUDENTS ON UNDERGRADUATE OR TAUGHT MASTERS PROGRAMMES should submit this form (and receive the outcome) via systems explained to you by the supervisor/module leader.

This form is available electronically from the Academic Office web pages:

<http://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/academic-office/>

