



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Postdoctoral Research Assistant – Discribe Hub+
Department / Unit:	Information Security Group (ISG) in collaboration with the School of Business and Management
Job type	Full Time, Fixed Term
Grade:	7
Accountable to:	Professor in Information Security
Accountable for:	
Purpose of the Post	
<p>The appointed researcher will be part of the ESRC-funded Discribe Hub+, a social science-led initiative to create a better understanding of next generation security technologies (https://www.discribehub.org/).</p> <p>Conduct sociotechnical research that critically examines the Digital Security by Design (DSbD) Programme and the hardware security technologies it produces. The postholder will conduct this research by working on three case studies grounded in market sectors where the hardware security technologies are likely to be adopted. The choice of market sectors will be made in collaboration with Discribe partners (both academic and non-academic partners).</p> <p>The postholder will be expected to create a critical sociotechnical framework from analytical positions found in Science Technology and Society (STS) studies and other related sociotechnical approaches. In each case study, the DSbD proposition to the market sector will be analysed using the critical sociotechnical framework in order to identify how the power structures that shape the deployment of security technologies in a particular sector might be impacted through the uptake of hardware security technologies.</p>	
Key Tasks	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a critical sociotechnical framework through which to gather primary data and analyse the DSbD proposition. 2. As part of the development of the critical sociotechnical framework, collaborate with the regulation specialists within Discribe to include within the framework a critical evaluation of the roles of regulation in the deployment and uptake of DSbD products. 3. Collaborate with Discribe partners to agree three market sectors through which to apply the critical sociotechnical analysis framework. 	

4. Develop a short working paper on the design of the critical sociotechnical framework and its role within the Discribe research programme.
5. Collaborate with Discribe partners to set-up three case studies, one per identified market sector. These case studies will be in sectors that are anticipated as likely early adopters of the initial DSbD products.
6. Conduct qualitative research in each of the case study sites, devising an interview schedule that supports the critical sociotechnical framework and conducting primary data collection in each.
7. Analyse the resulting data through the critical sociotechnical framework.
8. Write-up each case study as a short field report.
9. Present each case study field report to Discribe partners and work with the Discribe Hub+ manager to produce short summaries for the Discribe website and other communication channels.
10. Identify suitable publication venues and produce 2 academic papers from the case study programme.
11. Take part in weekly updates with Discribe's academic partners in order to share research developments and explain research direction.
12. Work with Discribe's Hub+ manager to develop short updates and other communications that contribute to Discribe's communication channels.
13. Liaise with Discribe's subject matter specialists on a monthly basis in order to discuss research strategy and review research developments.
14. Contribute to Discribe dissemination events and produce dissemination materials for those events.

Other Duties

The duties listed are not exhaustive and may be varied from time to time as dictated by the changing needs of the College. The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties as appropriate and as requested by his/her manager.

The post holder may be required to work at any of the locations at which the business of Royal Holloway is conducted.

Internal and external relationships

The following list is not exhaustive, but the post holder will be required to liaise with:

- Discribe academic partners at the universities of Bath, Bristol and Cardiff.
- The subject matter specialists from academia, government and industry that form Discribe's cohort of challenge fellows.

- Non-academic partners including ARM, Microsoft, HSBC, Airbus, RSA Security, National Cyber Security Centre and the UK's Knowledge Transfer Network.