

DOCTORAL INTERNSHIP ON HUMAN-ROBOT/AI INTERACTION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEBEC IN MONTREAL

Canada Research Chair on Digital Regulation at Work and in Life

RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

- The Canada Research Chair in Digital Regulation at Work and in Life analyses **people's attitudes towards digital technologies** in different national contexts (e.g. Europe, North America, China, the Global South), **strategies and policies for regulating digital technologies** (e.g., constant connectivity, virtual identities, privacy), and the **consequences** of digital regulation, or the lack of it, for individuals, organisations, and society.
- The Chair is held by Professor Ariane OLLIER-MALATERRE.
- Eleven other faculty members and seven doctoral and master's students work with the Chair.
- The Chair is hosted by the School of Management of the **Université du Québec A Montréal**.
- The Chair conducts **contextualised, interdisciplinary and socio-material research** that tends to favour qualitative approaches.
- Further information: <https://digitalregulation.uqam.ca/>

POSITION

Research internship under the supervision of Professor Ariane OLLIER-MALATERRE for a **doctoral student in the final year of their thesis** and **working on one of the following topics:**

- Perceptions of robots/humanoids/AI at work or other domains of life.
- Emotions and emotional contagion between human and robot/humanoid/AI.
- Cross-cultural differences in the relationship with robots/humanoids/AI (e.g. Japan as "robot kingdom").
- Representation of robots/intelligent agents in science-fiction.
- Human-robot/humanoid/AI interactions in work teams: behaviour, collaboration, trust, anthropomorphism, "uncanny valley", "creepiness".
- Human-humanoid/AI interactions in personal life: personal assistants, domestic robots, romantic partners.
- Robots in care (e.g. Paro), religious (e.g. Buddhist humanoids, Digital Shaman, Xian'er, Mindar, SanTo) and administrative roles.
- Gender attributions towards robots and intelligent agents.

MODALITIES

- **3 to 6 months internship**, depending on the applicant's PhD schedule.
- This is a part-time position **3 days/week** given that the applicant may also be finalizing their PhD dissertation or other research projects.
- Timing is flexible **within Sept 2024 and June 2025**.
- Scholarship: **5,000 CAD per month**.
- The internship may lead to submitting a **post-doctoral grant application** of 1 or 2 years to FRQ or SSHRC (\$45,000/year; deadline Sept 2024 or Sept 2025).
- Financial support to present at an academic conference can be discussed.

QUALIFICATIONS

- **Final year of PhD on human and robots/humanoids/AI interaction** in information systems, psychology, sociology, management, communication, political science or a related field.
- **Expertise in the human/bot/AI interaction literature.**
- Very good command of English; some command of French would be a plus.
- Strong motivation for academic research and ambition to publish in internationally recognised academic journals.
- Candidates who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada must obtain a work permit and the University can provide assistance for this; there is a simplified work permit application process for internships under 120 days.
- The Chair strives to ensure equity, diversity, and inclusion in its recruitment.

RESOURCES

- **Flexible working hours and location;** office at UQAM if requested.
- Possible **research collaborations** with Professor Ariane Ollier-Malaterre and Chair colleagues on current research projects of the Chair or other projects proposed by the applicant.
- UQAM's working environment in **Montreal's Latin Quarter**, including an excellent library, research workshops and training courses.
- **Montreal ecosystem** with several hundred AI researchers and start-ups.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested, please send the following to ollier.ariane@uqam.ca by **May 31, 2024**:

- Curriculum vitae.
- Cover letter detailing your motivation, skills, experience, and identity as a scholar as well as your PhD schedule including your expected or planned defense date and current status of thesis chapters/papers.
- A summary of your PhD research in English (2-3 pages), presenting 1) the aim of your PhD research, 2) its theoretical and methodological approach, 3) expected theoretical and practical contributions.
- 2 research papers: published, under review, in development, submitted to a conference, or thesis chapters.
- Contact information for 2 persons willing to serve as reference.

If you wish to inquire further, please email Ariane Ollier-Malaterre : ollier.ariane@uqam.ca