



香港教育大學
The Education University
of Hong Kong

Research Assistant II (Ref: 2501092)
Centre for Learning, Teaching and Technology

Project Title: Modeling Individual Difference in Nonverbal Communication Cues: A Machine Learning Framework for Enhanced Backchannel and Engagement Detection
[Appointment Period: around 3-12 months]

The appointee will participate in a research project focused on Machine Learning Framework and Model development for backchannel, engagement and emotion detection. He/she will be responsible for:

- studying the requirements for analyzing nonverbal communication cues (e.g., head movement, eye gaze, facial expressions) to account for individual differences in backchannel and engagement expression;
- investigating and developing machine learning models, particularly attention-based and transformer architectures, for multimodal analysis of human interactions;
- adapting and validating the developed frameworks to detect engagement signals in novice–expert dyadic conversations;
- evaluating the effectiveness of the models on publicly available datasets and preparing them for potential real-world applications in education, mental healthcare, and human-computer interaction; and
- performing any other duties as assigned by the Principal Investigator or his delegates.

There will be opportunities for manuscript writing and publications in international journals or conferences. The initial appointment will be for a period of 3 to 12 months, depending on the applicant's qualifications.

Applicants should have at least Level 2 or equivalent or above in five subjects including Chinese Language, English Language and Mathematics in HKDSEE; or Grade E (Level 2) or above in five subjects including Chinese, English (Syllabus B) and Mathematics in HKCEE or equivalent. Preference will be given to those with a Bachelor's Degree or above in Data Science, Computer Science, Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence, Educational Technology or a closely related discipline with expertise in data science or artificial intelligence. Hands-on experience in programming and background knowledge in artificial intelligence and machine learning will be an advantage. Applications should have good communication skills in both written and spoken English and Chinese, as well as good interpersonal and communication skills. The applicant should be mature and able to work independently. Preference will be given to those with research and/or project development experience.

For further enquiries about the post, please contact Dr. Eugene Fu at eugenefu@eduhk.hk.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Fringe benefits include leave and outpatient medical benefits.

The University only accepts and considers applications submitted online for this post. Applicants should complete the [online application form](#) and upload a full CV on or before **20 October 2025**. Applications which are incomplete or without the required documents may not be considered. Personal data provided by applicants will be used for recruitment and other employment-related purposes. For details of the Personal Information Collection Statement, please refer to <http://www.eduhk.hk/jobsopp/index.php?glang=en>.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence. Only those who are shortlisted will be contacted. The University reserves the right not to fill the position(s) advertised.

Further information about the University is available at <http://www.eduhk.hk>.

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