Nottingham Trent University

Senior Research Fellow

School or Department: Nottingham Business School

Grade & Salary: Grade I £49,127 - £58,624 per annum

Role Description:

Job purpose:

The principal purpose of this role is to **lead and coordinate the research activities of the Centre for Business and Industry Transformation (CBIT)**, advancing the Centre's national and international profile through high-quality, interdisciplinary, and AI-enabled research.

The postholder will play a key role in **shaping and delivering CBIT's research strategy**, ensuring excellence across the full research cycle. The postholder will develop an independent and collaborative research agenda that advances knowledge and delivers real-world outcomes in business transformation and innovation—particularly where AI and digital technologies reshape organisations, sectors, and value creation.

They will:

- Develop and lead interdisciplinary research on business transformation, innovation, and AIenabled industry change, aligned with CBIT's applied and impact-led mission.
- **Lead or co-lead competitive funding bids** (target schemes: UKRI, Innovate UK, EU), and support the **delivery of CBIT's current research projects** across its applied and interdisciplinary portfolio.
- Publish high-quality research in leading journals (typically **ABS 3+, targeting 2 papers / year**) and build a clear trajectory toward internationally excellent outputs.
- Translate research into impact, including practitioner-facing outputs (e.g., toolkits, demonstrators, policy briefings, industry reports, methods assets).
- Supervise postgraduate and doctoral researchers, embedding research excellence, professional development, and impact orientation.
- Contribute to teaching on the MSc modules and executive education programmes, bringing research and practice together.
- Collaborate with CBIT Venture Builder and external partners to ensure research is translated into tangible innovation, entrepreneurship, and transformation outcomes.

Accordingly, the role requires a candidate with **demonstrable experience in AI-applied or dataenabled research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and academic–industry partnerships**. The postholder will also contribute to mentoring and supporting early-career researchers, supervising

postgraduate students, and strengthening CBIT's integration between research, education, and venture-building.

More about CBIT https://www.ntu.ac.uk/research/groups-and-centres/centres/cbit-centre-for-business-and-industry-transformation https://cbitvb.uk/

Principal duties and responsibilities:

The role will encompass all of the following, but the balance of duties and responsibilities will be determined in discussion with the post holder's line manager:

A) **Subject Area: either of the following two tracks:**

1. Information Science / Tech Management Track: including but not limited to Data Science; Machine Learning; Artificial Intelligence; Computational Ontology; Knowledge representation; Personal Data; PrivTech; and other business / industry enabling / transformative technologies
2. Entrepreneurship / Innovation / Strategy / Supply chain track: including but not limited to business and economic models; transformation methodologies and management; (Corporate) Entrepreneurship, innovation, service science etc.

CBIT's current research portfolio has a particularly strong record in the application of Artificial Intelligence and data-driven methods across interdisciplinary domains.

Experience in AI-enabled research and cross-disciplinary collaboration is therefore essential for this role. ***AI expectations:***

- ***AI-empowerment is required****: you must be confident using AI tools to enhance productivity and quality in research, teaching, and delivery (e.g., literature workflows, analysis support, synthesis, prototyping, impact assets), with appropriate academic judgement.*
- *Commitment to* ***responsible AI*** *practice (ethics, transparency, data governance, and research integrity)*
- ***AI-first is preferred*** *(actively seeks AI-native approaches where appropriate) Also include a line on* ***responsible and ethical use****.*

B) **Principal Duties**

1. Research Leadership, Delivery and Strategy

- Lead the Centre's research strategy, ensuring alignment with CBIT's three pillars — Venture Building, Applied Research, and Personalised Education.
- Oversee and ensure the successful delivery of CBIT's current funded projects, monitoring milestones, deliverables, reporting and impact against agreed plans and budgets.
- Shape and extend CBIT's research agenda in AI-enabled business and industry transformation, fostering innovation at the intersection of technology, management and entrepreneurship.
- Work with project investigators and partners to resolve challenges, manage resources effectively and maximise research outcomes.

- Promote a culture of excellence, collaboration and impact across CBIT's interdisciplinary research community.

2. Research Development, Funding and Project Management

- Develop research objectives, projects and proposals for individual and collaborative research in business transformation and related areas, ensuring continued growth of the Centre's portfolio.
- Lead and coordinate competitive funding bids to UKRI, Innovate UK, Horizon Europe and other external bodies, supporting interdisciplinary and AIenabled research consortia across NTU and partner institutions.
- Plan, manage and deliver existing and new research projects, ensuring compliance with institutional and funder requirements, effective governance and timely reporting.
- Identify and pursue income-generating opportunities that align with CBIT's applied research and innovation mission.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with funders, collaborators and external stakeholders to support the long-term sustainability of CBIT's research activity.

3. Research Outputs, Impact and Dissemination

- Produce and support production of ABS 3+ and FT-listed journal publications, books and conference papers of international standing.
- Translate applied and AI-enabled research findings into policy, practice and venture-building impact pathways, contributing to REF 2029 impact cases.
- Deliver high-quality project outputs including white papers, policy briefs, case studies and toolkits that demonstrate measurable impact.
- Disseminate research outcomes through academic and practitioner networks, symposia and international collaborations.
- Assess, interpret and evaluate research results to develop new frameworks, methods and concepts that advance understanding of business and industry transformation.

4. Mentorship, Collaboration and Engagement

- Mentor and support early-career researchers, fellows and associates in developing research skills, publication strategies and funding applications.
- Lead and contribute to interdisciplinary collaborations within NTU and with external partners engaged in transformative business and industry initiatives.
- Represent CBIT in national and international research networks, strengthening the Centre's visibility and partnerships across academia, policy and industry.
- Build and sustain relationships with major organisations and government bodies driving business, digital and AI-based transformation agendas.
- Extend, transform and apply knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and external activities, ensuring continuous innovation and relevance.

5. Teaching and Learning Contribution

- Contribute to the teaching and learning programmes associated with CBIT's work where appropriate, including the MSc Business Transformation and executive education initiatives.
- Supervise postgraduate and doctoral research students in relevant fields, particularly in AI-enabled transformation and interdisciplinary innovation.
- Support integration between research, teaching and practice to reinforce CBIT's interdisciplinary and applied learning environment.

6. Governance and Compliance

- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation and local policies (e.g. Health and Safety, Research Ethics, Intellectual Property Rights and Equal Opportunities).
- Attend and contribute to meetings, participating in decision-making regarding research planning, Centre strategy and income-generation activities.
- Undertake any other duties which may reasonably be required within the nature of the post as defined.

Our Principles, Our Ways:

Our Ways represents a commitment to making a difference, taking bold steps, and maintaining moral standards. It's about proactively creating positive change while prioritising integrity and accountability in all our actions. We encourage colleagues to strive towards Our Ways with the following behaviours:

Our Ways		
We change lives.	**We are bold.**	**We do the right thing.**
Relationships with others	Adaptability	Planning and delivering work
Delivering through others	Problem solving	Accountability
	Developing yourself	

Nottingham Trent University

Personal Attributes:

Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge	- Possess a deep and current understanding of **business transformation** and its intersection with **AI, data science, and innovation management**. - Demonstrated knowledge of **AI applications** in business, management, or interdisciplinary research contexts. - Proven ability to design and deliver **interdisciplinary research programmes** integrating technology, management, and entrepreneurship. - Thorough understanding of **research impact pathways** and how to translate research into policy, industry, and societal outcomes. - Knowledge of **UK and international funding landscapes** (e.g. UKRI, Innovate UK, Horizon Europe).	- A thorough understanding of **business transformation** within the **Higher Education** context. Familiarity with **REF processes and assessment frameworks**. - Membership of professional or academic bodies related to AI, innovation, or business transformation.
Skills	- Strong **leadership and coordination skills**, with the ability to oversee multiple research projects and ensure timely delivery of outputs. - Ability to **communicate complex and conceptual ideas** clearly to diverse audiences (academic, industry, policy). - Proven capability to **secure and manage external funding** through competitive bids. - Ability to **mentor and inspire** early-career researchers to achieve publication and funding success. - Methodological capability (qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, computational, or design science) suitable for high-quality research and publications - High level of **digital and analytical literacy**, including the ability to engage with AI, data analytics, and computational tools relevant to business transformation. - Demonstrated **strategic thinking** and problem-solving skills in interdisciplinary research environments.	- Experience in using **advanced data or computational techniques** for applied business research. - Experience in **international collaboration** and cross-cultural research leadership. Ability to contribute to the **strategic development of research centres** or networks.

Experience	- A strong profile in research areas such as: ○ AI-Empowered business transformation (GenAI, decision intelligence, process automation) ○ Digital platforms & ecosystems, venture building, scaling ○ AI and Data-driven operations, service transformation, responsible innovation / governance ○ Industry transformation (manufacturing, services, SMEs, public sector etc.) - Substantial experience leading or co-leading **multipartner, interdisciplinary, or AI-enabled research projects**. - Evidence of sustained publication in **CABS 3+** or **FTlisted journals**. - Demonstrated experience in **translating applied research into industry or policy outcomes**. - Experience supervising postgraduate or postdoctoral researchers. - Evidence of **mentoring colleagues** and contributing to the professional development of others.	- Experience of serving as **Principal Investigator (PI)** or **Co-Investigator (Co-I)** on major funding awards. - Evidence of contributing to or leading **REF impact case studies**. Record of **international collaboration** and invited presentations at high-profile academic or practitioner events.
Qualifications	A PhD with a post-doc experience in a relevant field (e.g., business/management, information systems, innovation, operations, strategy, entrepreneurship, socio-technical studies).management.	- Membership or fellowship of relevant professional or academic bodies. - Formal training or certification in **AI applications**, **data science**, or **research leadership**.