

Project proposal

Project title

First Supervisor Dr

Second Supervisor

School

*Other member of supervisory team
(no more than three KU supervisors in total)*

*Specific requirements
beyond 2:1 degree*

Project summary (max 4,000 characters)

Judging bias in sport has been the subject of much research in recent years (Findlay & Ste-Marie, 2004). At the elite level, minute differences can separate athletes and therefore errors in judging can affect the outcome of competition. Open feedback can lead to social conformity and bias within the judging system, and thus final scores can be altered by elements outside that of the competitor's performance (Boen et al., 2006). Johns and Brouner (2013) found that in trampolining, judges often undertake only basic training, affecting the competency with which a judgement can be made regarding the successful completion of a skill. Johns and Brouner's findings also revealed key differences in scoring performance between subjective judging and objective analysis with discrepancies evident for all participants in a national competition.

This illustrates the need to develop a quick, reliable and objective observation tool, which can replace subjective assessment. The purpose of this research would be to develop a "real-time" objective analytical tool which will assist judging accuracy and proficiency in aesthetic sport.