

— Introducing BDFI's academics

Our BDFI academics are an interdisciplinary cohort of University of Bristol researchers who spend a proportion of their time directly engaged with BDFI projects.



Rebecca Coleman

Professor of Digital Futures, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies (SPAIS)

Her specialisms are in the everyday life of digital media, with specific interests in how presents and futures are made and experienced. Her research works across theory, method and the empirical.

Beckie is keen to ensure the perspectives of marginalised groups are involved in how sociotechnical futures are imagined and made, and is particularly interested in developing collaborative, creative, arts-based methods for doing this.



Marisela Gutierrez Lopez

Senior Research Associate, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

Marisela's research specialism is in investigating how the outcomes of AI can be meaningfully explained to different data publics, and the adoption of emerging technologies in the workplace. At BDFI she will apply her experience in interdisciplinary and design-led participatory research to create more diverse, equitable and inclusive data-driven futures.



Rasheed Hussain

Senior Lecturer in Digital Futures, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Rasheed's specializes in ad hoc networks and cybersecurity, vehicular communications security and privacy, applied cryptography, Internet of Things (IoT) security, and the role of emerging technologies (blockchain and Artificial Intelligence -- AI) in cyber and network security. His research work at BDFI will also focus on the security of digital twins, emerging network infrastructure, and the social implications of security and privacy.



Sophie Lythreatis

Lecturer in Business Analytics, School of Management

Sophie's area of research revolves around ethics and leadership, looking at the responsibility of corporations towards society and where they focus their attention, beyond making profit and abiding by laws. At BDFI, Sophie will be working to ensure that the ethical dimension of digital technology is properly built into our digital futures to address emergent ethical challenges which will help in creating a better future that is inclusive and trustworthy.



Sanja Milivojevic

Associate Professor in Digital Futures, School of Policy Studies

Sanja's research interests are borders and mobility, security technologies and surveillance, gender and victimisation, and international criminal justice and human rights. She will work on the crime-technology nexus, in particular challenges and promises around technology's current and future application in crime prevention, offending, victimisation, and the criminal justice system.

Sanja is keen to explore the crime-technology nexus in a range of contexts (industry, government), particularly when it comes to crime prevention and reducing opportunities for and causes of offending via the use of technology.



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Jessica Ogden

Lecturer in Digital Futures, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

Jessica's research centres on the politics of data/archives, with a focus on the ways that digital culture, media and knowledge are constructed and represented online, as well as the broad implications these have for contemporary and future digital scholarship. She is excited to continue this research with BDFI, in particular on the role and future-making capabilities of data in everyday life, with a view towards building more inclusive digital futures.



Xenofon Vasilakos

Lecturer in Artificial Intelligence for Digital Infrastructures, Faculty of Engineering

Xenofon works on intelligent digital infrastructures, leveraging ideas that combine Artificial Intelligence with traditional Parallel and Distributed computer system solutions. At BDFI, Xenofon will research aspects of 5G/B5G that go beyond just designing new technologies.

Xenofon will work on machine learning model-based solutions as integral functions of the envisioned Sixth Generation (6G) of telecommunication networks.