

# Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunity

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## Overview

The Warfighter Effectiveness Research Center (WERC) at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) is offering a postdoctoral fellowship. The postdoctoral fellow will work closely with Lt Col Chad Tossell, Ph.D. and Dr. Ewart de Visser on an Air Force Office of Scientific Research program of research in social robotics, autonomous driving, and related projects. The candidate will investigate the design and psychological consequences of 1) robotics; 2) experimental design 3) social psychology; and/or 4) autonomy/AI. This is a stipend-based position open to doctoral graduates and graduate students.

Annual stipend is between \$51,339 and \$76,000 plus relocation reimbursement, travel, and professional development.

## Purpose

- Advance the candidate's technical skills and experience
- Increase the candidate's competitiveness to obtain employment in science & technology fields
- Provide collaborative opportunities for career enhancement
- Enable future human-machine teams and ethical design of intelligent systems
- Contribute to the growing body of scientific knowledge

## Preferred Background

- Ph.D. degree or master's degree in a relevant field (already received, or having completed all requirements and awaiting graduation).
- Detailed technical expertise in one or more of the specific research areas below, including knowledge of the gaps, conflicts, limits, and challenges:
  - Human-robot interaction
  - Human-automation interaction
  - Augmented and virtual reality
  - Human Factors, HCI, applied psychology, social psychology, computer science, and/or systems engineering
  - Background in programming in python, unity, and/ or ROS is a plus!

## Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Strong research skills and experience, including:
  - Critical evaluation of literature
  - Experimental design
  - Project management
  - Data analysis techniques
    - Fluency in a programming language or statistical analysis software (SPSS, SAS, R, MATLAB, etc.) is a plus
  - Data Interpretation

- Ability to communicate effectively through the following mediums:
  - Conference briefings and talks to high profile stakeholders
  - Grant application and white paper development and writing
  - Scientific publications
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively
- Ability to mentor and coach junior scientists, including undergraduate research students

### How to Apply

Applicants should send the following application package to [chad.tossell@afacademy.af.edu](mailto:chad.tossell@afacademy.af.edu):

- A cover letter which specifically outlines the candidate's:
  1. Qualifications that address the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed above;
  2. Research interests; and
  3. How the candidate plans to achieve these goals.
- A curriculum vitae.
- A letter of recommendation from the candidate's advisor or similar role.

### About Us

The Warfighter Effectiveness Research Center is the research arm of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the United States Air Force Academy, facilitating faculty and cadet research that enhances warfighter effectiveness.

The WERC conducts a wide range of research and design projects for operational customers including special operations forces, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Air Force Research Laboratory, and Army Research Laboratory. These projects are based in the behavioral sciences and connect to a wide range of disciplines and collaborators across government labs, academia, industry, and military operators in order to generate the most innovative and effective solutions. Studies involve cadets and their educational outcomes are a top priority in any research conducted in the WERC.

Please see our website for more information about the Warfighter Effectiveness Research Center: <https://www.usafa.edu/research/research-centers/warfighter-effectiveness-research-center/>

### Contact Information

Lt Col Chad Tossell, Ph.D., Associate Professor  
Warfighter Effectiveness Research Center  
Department of Behavioral Sciences & Leadership  
United States Air Force Academy  
[chad.tossell@afacademy.af.edu](mailto:chad.tossell@afacademy.af.edu)

### Nature of the Fellowship

Upon selection, participants will become affiliated with USAFA as a fellow with ORISE through their Terms of Appointment.

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