

Job Description

Job title	AI Scientist (KTP Associate)
School / department	School of Computing and Engineering (SCE)
Salary	£40,834 per annum
Line manager	Professor of Computing
Responsible for (direct reports)	N/A
Date of creation or review	13/04/2026

Main purpose of the job

The University of West London (UWL), in partnership with B4 Secure Limited, is seeking an AI Scientist (KTP Associate) to deliver an exciting new Innovate UK-funded Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP). This interdisciplinary and technically advanced project requires a highly capable individual with strong theoretical grounding in Artificial Intelligence, computer science, or a related discipline. Prior industrial experience is not required.

Working primarily remotely, the KTP Associate will lead the design and implementation of an AI-driven threat intelligence software system that automates Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) threat monitoring and risk assessment. The project aims to transform the business partner's currently manual workflows into an efficient, scalable, adaptive, and ethically aligned AI platform that enhances operational performance and supports sustainable business growth.

This role offers an outstanding career-development opportunity to manage a high-impact KTP project while being fully supported by an experienced team of academic and industry experts in AI, data science, cyber security, threat intelligence and ethical AI.

There is strong potential for the successful candidate to transition into a permanent role within B4 Secure, becoming a key member of the team, subject to performance and business needs

This is a primarily remote role; however, the successful candidate will be expected to attend in-person meetings in London for project collaboration and stakeholder engagement. Applicants should be located within a reasonable commuting distance to facilitate attendance when needed. Reasonable travel expenses will be covered.

This post is fixed-term for 24 months. The salary for the Associate is set to £40,834 p.a., aligned with market rates for Graduate AI Scientist/Engineer remote working roles in London.

Key areas of responsibility

Working closely with the business partner supervisors at B4 Secure and supported by the UWL academic team, the KTP Associate will lead the design and implementation of an AI-driven threat intelligence software system that automates OSINT threat monitoring and risk assessment. The key duties and responsibilities of the KTP Associate include:

Technical research and development

- Investigate state-of-the-art agentic AI (e.g., agent-based architectures, NLP, data-driven decision systems) and translate findings into robust system designs; apply advanced Python programming for prototyping and production-quality system.
- Design and implement an Agentic-AI system to autonomously identify, analyse and contextualise threats across surface, deep, and dark-web sources.

- Ensure that all technical development aligns with commercial objectives and client needs, maintaining a focus on delivering practical, high-value outcomes

Responsible and ethical AI

- Embed explainability, bias mitigation, transparency and trust into the system’s design and evaluation, working with academic experts to operationalise ethical requirements.

Testing and commercial readiness

- Plan and execute system functionality/performance testing and commercial-viability assessments; define metrics, evaluate results and iterate features accordingly
- Prepare and deliver client demonstrations, capture structured feedback, assess usability/user experience, and prioritise improvements that strengthen product-market fit

Adoption, training and stakeholder engagement

- Introduce AI-driven automation into existing workflows; address resistance to change, build trust in AI outputs and ensure smooth adoption through stakeholder training and engagement
- Maintain effective relationships with business, academic and external stakeholders (including pilot users) throughout the project lifecycle

Project and risk management

- Manage tasks, timelines and deliverables in line with the project workplan; coordinate regular supervision (weekly engagement with the business and academic supervision) and lead monthly project progress meetings
- Identify and manage risks associated with emerging technologies and evolving requirements, adapting plans while staying focused on project objectives

Knowledge transfer, documentation and academic outputs

- Produce clear technical documentation (architecture, pipelines, SOPs) and maintain repositories to embed capability within B4 Secure beyond the project’s lifetime
- Prepare technical/analytical reports and contribute to planned joint academic publications and presentations

Working practices and stakeholder engagement

- Operate effectively in a remote-first environment, managing time, priorities, and outputs with a high degree of autonomy
- Communicate complex technical concepts clearly to both technical and non-technical stakeholders, including clients
- Engage professionally with clients during demonstrations, feedback sessions, and product development activities
- Collaborate effectively with academic and business teams to ensure successful project delivery
- To work in accordance with UWL’s Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion policies.

In addition to the above areas of responsibility the post-holder may be required to undertake any other reasonable duties relating to the broad scope of the position, commensurate with the post, and in support of the University.

Dimensions / background information

The School of Computing and Engineering is a professional and student focused School with high quality teaching, student experience and research informed teaching at the top of its priority list. The School has strong links with local, national and international partners and enjoys state-of-the-art equipment and continues to invest heavily in its improvement.

B4 Secure works as a trusted advisor to businesses and government departments, delivering a full range of intelligence services that not only address security challenges but also help clients navigate broader organisational risks.

The School of Computing and Engineering at the University of West London (UWL) in partnership with [B4 Secure Limited](#) is delivering an exciting new Innovate UK-funded Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP).

Person Specification

	Criteria	Essential or Desirable ¹	Demonstrated ²		
			Application	Interview	Test / Exercise
Qualifications and/or membership of prof. bodies	Advanced degree (Masters or PhD) in machine learning, computer Science, statistics, mathematics, or a related subject	Essential	X		
Knowledge and experience	Strong knowledge of AI and ML concepts, with experience applying NLP and data-driven approaches to the design of applied AI systems, including agentic AI methodologies	Essential	X	X	X
Specific skills to the job	Demonstrated ability to design, implement, and maintain AI/ML system using Python, including data pipelines, model integration, experimentation and evaluation workflows	Essential	X	X	X
General skills	Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to clearly articulate complex ideas in English	Essential	X	X	X
	Strong organisational skills with the ability to manage workload and deliver the project and outcomes in a remote working environment	Essential	X	X	
	Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to build relationships with colleagues and stakeholders	Essential		X	
	Awareness and understanding of the commercial drivers	Desirable		X	
	Ability to work independently while contributing effectively to a multidisciplinary team	Essential	X	X	
	Ability to engage confidently in client-facing interactions	Desirable		X	
	Other	Ability to obtain and maintain UK security clearance (e.g. BPSS/SC level) is required for this role. Candidates must be willing to undertake enhanced screening and vetting checks	Essential	X	X

Disclosure and Barring Scheme Is a DBS Check required: DBS (This post requires a standard DBS check)

Before making a selection, please refer to the University's [Disclosure and Barring Checks Guidance for Staff](#) and [Criminal Convictions, Disclosures and Barring Staff Policy and Procedure](#). If a DBS check is required for the role, a **Check Approval Form** will need to be completed.

¹Essential Criteria are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job. Applicants who have not clearly demonstrated in their application that they possess the essential requirements will normally be rejected at the shortlisting stage.

Desirable Criteria are those that would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements, to determine which applicants to shortlist.

²Demonstration: Select the Recruitment Process stage at which the candidates will have to demonstrate that they meet the criteria. Criteria which have to be demonstrated at application stage should be mentioned in the Recruitment Information Pack as Pre-Selection/Killer Questions, Shortlisting Questions or Shortlisting Criteria. Other criteria should be evaluated and tested at interview stage (e.g. through interview questions) or through additional tests, exercises or presentations. Criteria can (and should) be demonstrated at multiple stages.