



"DIGITLab provided me with excellent support and challenged me to take my research on digital technologies into new areas of impact and public engagement, including the opportunity to create exciting novel outputs such as documentary films."

Dr. Hugh Williamson

Dr Hugh Williamson trained as a Social Anthropologist and Science and Technology Studies researcher investigating governance, responsible practice and social organisation for digital technology and data in agriculture and the biosciences. Hugh joined DIGITLab in 2022 as a Research Fellow to work with DIGITLab's Co Investigator Prof Sarah Hartley on Responsible Innovation and to understand how data and digital technology are changing animal agriculture, and the impact this has on society and livestock animals themselves. His research aims to find new ways of co-producing data and digital technologies (such as digital sensing and imaging technologies) in animal farming that are inclusive of diverse stakeholders, including the perspectives of animals themselves, and are attentive to power dynamics, the uneven distribution of risks and benefits, and the environmental effects of digital systems. Together with Prof Hartley, Hugh has published a number of papers, a framework for responsible digital technology development in agriculture, and a short documentary film called 'Digital Animals' which has been screened across the UK. Hugh has delivered seminars on Responsible Innovation and Digital Transformation as well as engaging with industry partners, stakeholders and non-governmental organisations across the agri sector.

In 2024 Dr. Williamson secured a post as a Postdoctoral Researcher within the Department of Science, Technology and Society at Technical University of Munich.