

## Upper Iowa University

### Informed Consent Template for Human Subjects

**Study Participation:** We invite your participation in our study. Your participation would involve: [describe study participation. Identify appropriate alternative procedures that might be advantageous to the subject, if any].

**Topic and Purpose:** We, [insert Student Researchers, supervising faculty, and associations with university or titles (e.g., undergraduate student)], are conducting a research study to examine [insert experimental objective, question, and goal]. Through this work, we hope to benefit from an increased understanding of [insert research topic].

**Potential Risk:** [describe what level of risk, stress, or discomfort involved in the participation in the study. If a potential risk, stress, or discomfort is identified, direct subjects to any appropriate resources or care providers. It is not appropriate to say there are “no risks.” Instead you might say there are “minimal risks” such as loss of time, boredom, fatigue, and loss of anonymity. ]

**Study Benefits:** [Benefits to be expected or knowledge hoped to be gained, including whether or not the participant would experience a direct benefit]

**Data handling and confidentiality:** [A statement as to how data will be handled and how confidentiality/anonymity will be maintained.]

**Voluntary participation:** You are not required to participate and may choose not to participate. Your participation is strictly voluntary and you can end your participation at any time without penalty or loss of any benefit to which you are otherwise entitled.

**Debriefing to come:** At the conclusion of your participation, you will be debriefed about the purpose of the study and you will be given information about how to access the final results of our study. [Debriefing plan specifies how subjects will be informed about the nature, results, and conclusions of the research].

**Opportunity to ask questions:** If, at any point after participating, you have questions, you may contact a member of the research team (listed below) or the Upper Iowa University Human Subjects Committee ([HumanSubjects@uiu.edu](mailto:HumanSubjects@uiu.edu))

Student Researchers:

Student Researcher Contact Information:

Faculty Supervisor:

Faculty Supervisor Contact Information:

I, (name)\_\_\_\_\_ consent to participate in the research study as outlined above. I have been informed of the procedure and how I may obtain results of the study. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I may withdraw at any time without negative consequence to me.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

OR

I, (name) \_\_\_\_\_ consent to the involvement of  
\_\_\_\_\_ who is under 18 years old.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Debriefing/Explanation of Research:

A debriefing plan specifies how subjects will be informed about the nature, results, and conclusions of the research. This offers the ability of the researcher to take reasonable steps to correct any misconceptions that participants may have. **A debriefing plan is needed for all studies**, but is particularly important if deception has been used once the data have been collected. Researchers should provide a prompt opportunity for participants to obtain appropriate information about the nature of the research. Thus, debriefing should commence upon conclusion of procedures that participant is part of and should include an explanation of the study including researchers' hypothesis and rationale for conducting the investigation. Researcher should encourage and be ready to answer any questions the participants might have. When researchers become aware that research procedures have harmed a participant, they should take reasonable steps to minimize the harm. Participants should leave testing in the same mental state as they arrived.

#### Explanation of Research template for non-deception studies:

Thank you for participating in our study. We conducted this study to investigate: \_\_\_\_\_. If you have questions about this study, please contact \_\_\_\_\_. If you have other questions or concerns about the research in which you just participated, contact the Upper Iowa University Human Subjects Committee at [HumanSubjects@uiu.edu](mailto:HumanSubjects@uiu.edu)

Debriefing template for deception studies:

Thank you for participating in our study. This study was actually investigating the following hypothesis: [insert experimental objective, question, and goal]. \_\_\_\_\_ In order to not bias your response, we initially described the study purpose as [insert original description]. Through this work, we hope to benefit from an increased understanding of [insert research topic]. If you are experiencing discomfort from the participation in this study, please contact [provide resources for counseling and mental health, such as Counseling Services (for UIU students only)]. If you have questions about this study, please contact \_\_\_\_\_. If you have other questions or concerns about the research in which you just participated, contact the Upper Iowa University Human Subjects Committee at [HumanSubjects@uiu.edu](mailto:HumanSubjects@uiu.edu)