

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY



CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH STUDY

Study Title: *TRIUMPHS: Transforming Instruction in Undergraduate Mathematics via Primarily Historical Sources*

Principal Investigator: Kathleen M. Clark, PhD

Introduction

You are invited to participate in a research study that is part of an educational grant funded by the Division of Undergraduate Education of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and is led by an educational researcher at Florida State University.

Before you decide to take part, please take as much time as you need to ask any questions and discuss this study with anyone on the FSU research team, or with family, friends or your personal physician or other professional.

Key information about the research study

Things you should know:

- The purpose of the TRIUMPHS study is to support the development, testing, and publication of curricular materials based on primary historical sources in mathematics. In addition to fulfilling the NSF required evaluation component, the result of this study will help us to investigate the role of these classroom materials in supporting student learning in mathematics.
- Your participation includes some components that are part of your regular course participation, including completing the associated work on Primary Source Projects (PSPs). If you agree to participate, your written PSP work will be collected. Since the student work from the PSPs will be completed as a part of the course no additional time commitment will be needed.
- You will complete a series of up to four course surveys (approximately 20 minutes for each) and if you are selected, participate in a short interview (approximately 30 minutes).
- A select number of mathematics course instructors may be invited to participate in an in-depth study of implementation of a PSP they choose to site test. If your

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- instructor is selected, classroom instruction and discussions will be audio and video recorded.
- Risks or discomforts from this research include some discomfort during the interviews, particularly if you have not participated in interviews before. You may be uncomfortable with sharing your views on surveys regarding your experiences with working on PSPs, particularly if you have not participated in educational research studies in the past.
 - The study will not provide direct benefits to participants. However, you may find the alternative instructional approach (e.g., the use of PSPs in undergraduate mathematics instruction) beneficial for your own learning and you may find it satisfying to contribute to the development of the materials used in this approach.
 - Taking part in this research project is voluntary. You don't have to participate and you can stop at any time.

Please take time to read this entire form and ask questions before deciding whether to take part in this research project.

Why is this study being done?

This study is being conducted by Kathleen Clark, PhD, Associate Professor of Mathematics Education, School of Teacher Education, Florida State University.

The purpose of the study is to evaluate and conduct research on undergraduate mathematics students' experience with learning mathematics via primary historical sources (e.g., the PSPs).

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Why are you being asked to take part in this study?

You were selected as a possible participant because you are a student taking a course at your college or university in which PSPs will be used.

How many people are expected to take part in this study?

Across the TRIUMPHS study, which has been funded for five years (2015-2020), we predicted we would involve some 1,500 undergraduate mathematics students and their instructors across the United States. To date, we have had some 1,000 students and their mathematics instructors participate in the study.

Before you begin the study

There is no eligibility testing to determine participation in this study.

Study procedures

If you agree and are eligible to participate in this study, we would ask you to do the following:

- (1) Complete three types of surveys: Initial (pre-course), Post-PSP (no more than two per semester), and Final (post-course). Each survey should take 20 minutes or less to complete.
- (2) Submit your work on no more than two PSPs. Since the student work from the PSPs will be completed as a part of the course in which you are enrolled, no additional time commitment will be needed for this component of the research.
- (3) If selected (depending on PSP implementation selected by your course instructor), participate in a post-PSP interview. If you are selected, each interview will be

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- approximately 30 minutes in duration, will take place after you complete a given PSP of interest, and will be video recorded.
- (4) A select number of mathematics course instructors may be invited to participate in an in-depth study of implementation of a PSP they choose to site test. If your instructor is selected, classroom instruction and discussions will be audio and video recorded. Since the ongoing classroom instruction will be completed as a part of the course in which you are enrolled, no additional time commitment will be needed for this component of the research.

How long will I be in this study?

Your consent applies to the current semester for the course in which you are enrolled.

Risks of study participation

The study has the following risks: You may feel uncomfortable sharing your views about mathematics and learning mathematics on surveys and in an interview (if you are selected). You may feel nervous about being interviewed if you are selected to do so, or, you may feel nervous about being recorded during interviews or during class sessions. Every effort will be made so as not to infringe on your natural classroom participation. That said, every effort will be made to minimize your nervousness/discomfort.

Because this is a research study, there may be additional risks that we cannot identify at this time.

Benefits of study participation

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The benefits to study participation are: You may gain satisfaction in contributing to the development and evaluation of curricular materials for use in undergraduate mathematics courses.

Alternatives to study participation

The alternative to study participation is to not participate in the study.

Ending the study

You can choose to withdraw from the study at any time. You can communicate your choice to withdraw your participation to the lead researcher, Dr. Kathleen M. Clark.

Study costs/compensation

All eligible consenting students will be entered in a random drawing for one of approximately 20, \$25 Amazon gift cards for their participation in the TRIUMPHS study. Consenting students with a “complete survey profile” (e.g., completion of all requested surveys: Initial (pre-course), Post-PSP, and Final (post-course)) will be eligible for the drawing, which will take place at the conclusion of the semester.

Once the number of consenting students for a given semester are known, you will be notified (via your course instructor) of your chances of winning (e.g., if N students consent, your chances of winning will be $N / 20$ (N divided by 20)). At the conclusion of the semester, each student with a complete survey profile will be assigned a random number, and the collection of all assigned random numbers will be used to randomly select 20 recipients of an Amazon gift card. If you are selected to receive a gift card, you will be notified via the email address you provide on this form.

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Who can profit from study results?

No financial conflicts or gains have been identified in connection with this study.

How will my samples and data be used?

Data collected as part of this research study will be kept private and confidential to the extent permitted by law. In any sort of report that we might publish, we will not include any information that will make it possible to identify a research participant. Research records will be stored securely and only researcher will have access to the records. (Research records, including digital voice and video recordings, interview transcripts, and survey responses, will be stored securely via password-protected cloud storage sites.) Only the researcher will have access to the documents, recordings, and digital/electronic files, and the researcher will destroy these by August 31, 2020.

Confidentiality

The records of this study will be kept private and confidential, to the extent allowed by law. In any publications or presentations, we will not include any information that will make it possible to identify you as a subject.

What will happen to the information collected about me after the study is over?

We will keep your research data to use for future research related to the use of PSPs in undergraduate mathematics instruction. Your name and other information that can directly identify you will be deleted from the research data collected as part of the project.

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I may share your research data with other investigators without asking for your consent again, but it will not contain information that could directly identify you.

The results of this study could be published in an article or presentation but would not include any information that would let others know who you are without your permission.

Voluntary nature of the study

Participation in this study is voluntary. Your decision whether or not to participate in this study will not affect your current or future relations with the University. If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without affecting those relationships.

Contacts and questions for the study team about the research

The researcher conducting this study is Dr. Kathleen M. Clark. You may ask any questions you have now, or if you have questions later, you are encouraged to contact her at:

School of Teacher Education
1114 West Call Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-4459
850-644-8497
kclark@fsu.edu

Contact information for questions about your rights as a research participant

If you have any questions or concerns about your rights as a research participant, or regarding the study and would like to talk to someone other than the researcher(s), you

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are encouraged to contact the FSU IRB at telephone number 850-644-7900. You may also contact this office by email at humansubjects@fsu.edu, or by writing or in person at 2010 Levy Street, Research Building B, Suite 276, FSU Human Subjects Committee, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2742.

You will be given a copy of this form for your records.

Statement of Consent

I have read the above information I have asked questions and have received answers. I consent to participate in this study.

Signature of Subject

Date

Printed Name of Subject

Date

Printed Email of Subject (*please provide the email address you use most frequently*)

Person Obtaining Consent

Date