Student Human Subjects Research Practice
Classroom Projects

Instructions:
Faculty requiring a research project for a course grade (outside of thesis work) is considered "research practice" and will not require IRB review. There projects are under time constraints and are not normally as rigorous as research intended for a thesis or publication. However, students can present results at a conference without IRB approval. Students can declare to a conference that faculty approval was granted.

Application Checklist:

X Students should take the Human Subjects Research: Undergrad & Masters Student course in CITI.

X You must attach your informed consent form, all data collection tools, interview questions, and/or recruitment flyers/emails.

X Evaluation of risks in your research should consider all possible risks associated with your research. For example, although you may not reveal the identity of your subjects in your *results*, collecting identifiable raw data such as audio/video/email/phone creates a risk of identification if data were to be inadequately stored.

Submit Application:
Submit this form to your professor.

Classroom Project/ Research Practice

Faculty Notes:

A. Student Investigator Information	
Student Investigator(s):	Brandon Henman, Nico Paganelli
Email(s):	bhenman@csuchico.edu, npaganelli@csuchico.edu,

B. Project Information	
Project Title:	CreativeBlock
CITI certification attached:	☐ No X Yes
Are other institutions/ organizations involved?	X No ☐ Yes: List name of institution/organization: Do you have support from the organization? X No ☐ Yes

C. Project Overview

I. Purpose and Objectives of the Research

This is the "so what?" statement. Why are you are doing the study? Who will benefit? What is the problem or phenomena you are trying to address? Include a brief summary of literature that support the need for your research.

The goal of this study is to test the usability of our application and improve the app based on given feedback.

II. Main Research Question or Hypothesis

We want to see the efficiency of users creating and modifying a project in our application, CreativeBlock.

III. Methodology

Your methodology should help you directly answer your RQs/address your hypotheses. Include *all* of the following information:

- *Study Design*—What methods will be used? Quantitative? Qualitative? Mixed? Are you using a survey, interviews, focus groups, experiment?
- *Data Analysis*—How will you analyze the data you obtain in order to answer your research question(s)?

We will be using a mixed method. We will take some quantitative data such as the percentage of people who complete the tasks successfully and the satisfaction ratings they provide us with. We will also be taking some quantitative data. Our debrief will ask many open ended questions.

We will be analyzing this group as an aggregate; we will not be talking about each person individually.

IV. Development of/Contribution to Generalizable Knowledge

Generalizable knowledge means conclusions, facts, or principles derived from particulars that are applicable to or affect a whole category and enhance scientific or academic understanding. What are the potential implications of your research? How will it contribute to academic knowledge?

This study has nothing to do with generalized knowledge.

V. Results

- *Description of participants in results*—Describe whether participants will be identified individually or as a group in results, and how they will be protected (i.e. the population will be described as students at a Northern CA Community College and the real college name and location will not be revealed; all data will be reported in aggregate in charts and graphs; personal quotes will be linked to a pseudonym and no real names will be used).
- *Dissemination of results*—How do you plan to disseminate your results to peers in your discipline? Class presentation, conference submission, etc.

We will be reporting results in aggregate, not individuals. No names or PII will be recorded.

The results of this study will be written in a class report.

D. Participant Population	
I. Who are the research participants?	Usability classmates from Chico State university. Spring 2025.
VI. Will any special population be included?	☐ Children (Please consider if this is appropriate. Conducting research with minors requires parental consent and potentially expertise) ☐ DACA (Please consider if this is appropriate for a classroom project) ☐ Prisoners (not allowed)
VII. How will they be recruited? (Be specific with your steps. Include copy of flyer or email if advertising for participants)	Volunteered from the class itself
VIII. Maximum enrollment:	6 people
IX. Will an incentive be offered? If you feel that incentives are necessary, contact the IRB to make sure you are compliant with related rules and laws, or view this video.	*Incentives for classroom projects should be avoided.* Identifiable data is usually required (email) and it adds an element of possible coercion. Additionally, California lottery law applies to raffles or lotteries and should not be used unless you are certain the law is followed. X No ☐ Yes, *describe*:

E. Participant Experience

X. Data collection procedures

Discuss when you plan to collect the data, where you will collect it, how long it will take (if it involves several sessions, please break this up by session), and what you are collecting. Every detail should be planned and thought through.

Make sure to attach survey, interview questions, rubrics, inter-rater reliability datasheets, or other data collection tools you plan to use.

See attached protocol

a) How long will participation take?	Each test takes up to 30 minutes.
b) Where will the study be conducted?	At Chico State meriam library.

F. Data Analysis and Maintenance

I. Collection Method

Check all that apply.

☐ Online survey/questionnaire ☐ Qualtrics preferred ☐ Zoom Audio recording/ Video recording ☐ Audio recordings with another device ☐ Paper survey/questionnaire X Note-taking on computer or with notebook ☐ Rubric or checklist	**Zoom**: ☐ Zoom recordings will remain stored on my U: drive or my Zoom account **Non-Zoom recording device**: ☐ Once the recording is obtained, I will transfer the file from the recording device to a password protected hard-drive, OneDrive, or U: drive ☐ I will then delete the file from the recording device **You will do the following with your audio recording(s):** ☐ Transcribe audio recordings ☐ Change any names or other identifying information in the transcription to protect subject identity ☐ Delete the audio recording once you are satisfied with your transcription so that you are deleting any link between the participant and their responses.

XI. Collection of Direct and Indirect Identifiers

Check all of the identifiers you plan to collect.

(Direct) Identifiable data: ☐ Name ☐ Email ☐ Phone number ☐ Username ☐ Student ID or other unique ID ☐ Other: _____	*(Indirect) Demographic data:* ☐ Gender x Age ☐ Race ☐ Sexuality ☐ Income ☐ other demographic data: _____

XII. Who will have access to the raw data? How will confidentiality be maintained during collection and analysis?

Our team and the professor.

XIII. *How* and *when* will data be maintained or destroyed after publication/presentation (password protected, locked drawer; erase files, shred documents; 3 years after completion)**?** For research practice, it is not necessary to retain data for long periods of time.

We will replace any names or personally identifiable information with a participant code.
We will be taking notes on paper and transferring data to a spreadsheet. Instructor will shred the paper notes immediately and the spreadsheet will be void of any personally identifiable information. It will only be accessible by team and instructor.

G. Benefits and Risks

I. Describe the benefits to the individual (if any) and to society:

Aid people in making creative works that contribute to the arts.

XIV. Physical Risk (i.e., exercise, sensors placed on skin, cheek swabs, saliva samples, etc.)

☐ Not applicable X Minimal ☐ Greater than Minimal

a) Describe minimal or greater than minimal risk:	Any physical risks will be similar to risks in daily life. Participants will be sitting in a chair with a desk and computer in front of them.
b) Describe how this risk will be addressed/minimized:	We will not be conducting any strenuous or dangerous physical activities.

XV. Psychological Risk (i.e., stress, embarrassment) ☐ Not applicable X Minimal ☐ Greater than Minimal	
a) Describe minimal or greater than minimal risk:	Participant may feel nervous as we ask questions.
b) Describe how this risk will be addressed/minimized:	Reassure users that we are testing the protocol, not the person, and make them feel more comfortable.
XVI. Sociological and Economic Risk (i.e., employability, reputation, financial standing, criminal prosecution) X Not applicable ☐ Minimal ☐ Greater than Minimal	
a) Describe minimal or greater than minimal risk:	N/A - we will not be asking for any sociological/ economic information
b) Describe how this risk will be addressed/minimized:	
XVII. Confidentiality Risk (i.e., collection of identifiable information, data maintenance, potential access to data from outside parties) ☐ Not applicable x Minimal ☐ Greater than Minimal	
a) Describe minimal or greater than minimal risk:	Users will be giving out age and may feel uncomfortable having that stored.
b) Describe how this risk will be addressed/minimized:	We are not saving any personally identifiable information

H. Informed Consent
Use the *Exempt Research* informed consent form below. ● Review Section F.II. of your application. ○ Direct identifiers are checked: Use Option #1 (confidential paragraph) in the template. ○ No direct identifiers are checked: Use Option #2 (anonymous paragraph) in the template. ○ At this time, verbal informed consent is the best option during COVID.
I. Procedure for obtaining informed consent from subjects: Zoom – you can share your screen or share a link to the document in Chat, review the content and ask for verbal consent. Qualtrics – this is implied consent, they cannot sign anything or verbally agree. Their completion and submission of the survey is their consent.
The informed consent form will be signed and attached before the study begins.
XVIII. Attach a copy of the informed consent form, email, or script.

Student Investigator Agreement
In submitting this proposed project and signing below, I certify that: 1. I will conduct the classroom project involving human subjects as presented in the protocol and approved by my faculty supervisor; 2. I will report to my faculty any problems or injuries to subjects.
X_____Brandonhenman_____ _____APR-29th_____ Investigator Signature Date

Faculty Agreement for Student Investigators
I will supervise this student's research project and hereby confirm the research complies with best practices regarding the protection of human subjects.
X_____ _____ Faculty Advisor Signature Date

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

My name is (Brandon Henman / Nico Paganelli), and I am a (student) at California State University, Chico, (School). You are invited to participate in a research study about (our application called CreativeBlock for user interface).

If you volunteer, you will be asked to (do certain tasks and answer questions about our app), which will take about (up to 30 minutes).

If you agree to participate, you can stop at any time. This study may expose you to minor risks, but they are not expected to be any greater than risks you experience in daily life. The benefit(s) to this research (is to improve our application user interface by applying/improving based on the user experience throughout this study.)

Collecting individually identifiable information: The results will be part of a class report. You will not be identified in my results. We will protect your identity by: (1) grouping responses/using pseudonyms, (2) storing collected information in a protected location, and (3) removing identifiers as early as possible. We will destroy the de-identified data at the end of this semester.

If you have any questions about the research, please contact me at (bhenman@csuchico.edu, npaganelli@csuchico.edu,), or instructor..

Your participation implies that you have read and understand this information and that you may stop at any time without penalty.

Participant Agreement Signature	
X_____	_____
Participant signature	Date