

# Informed Consent Protocol

This study consists of three data collection surveys (prior to course, after course, one year after the course) and one electronic consent survey for use of content created during the course and for contact information for the final survey, modeled after the recommended written consent form template.

The more informed consent document included in the electronic consent survey is to be provided in paper form at the beginning of the course, and is also linked as a downloadable PDF from the electronic consent survey.

For the three data collection surveys, electronic statements of informed consent are embedded in the surveys following recommended guidelines from the IRB website for exempt, survey research. The text of this informed consent is written as follows:

You have been asked to complete this survey as part of a research project conducted by Dr. Joseph Holler, a faculty at Middlebury College and Dr. Peter Kedron, a faculty at University of California Santa Barbara. The research project is titled “Transforming theory-building and STEM education through reproductions and replications in the geographical sciences” and this survey is designed to assess and inform pedagogical effectiveness. Your responses are entirely voluntary, and you may refuse to complete any part or all of this survey.

This survey is designed to be anonymous, meaning that there should be no way to connect your responses with you. Your responses to follow-up surveys can be linked to this survey with a random unique identifier number. To maintain anonymity, please do not include your name or any personal information in your responses that make it easy to identify you.

By completing and submitting the survey, you affirm that you are at least 18 years old and that you give your consent for Dr. Holler and Dr. Kedron to use your answers in their research. If you have any questions about this research before or after you complete the survey, please contact Dr. Holler at [josephh@middlebury.edu](mailto:josephh@middlebury.edu). If you have any concerns or questions about your rights as a participant in this research, please contact the Middlebury Institutional Review Board at [IRB@middlebury.edu](mailto:IRB@middlebury.edu).