

INFORMED CONSENT FORM FOR ONLINE STUDY

University of Massachusetts Boston
Department of Psychology
100 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3393

You are being invited to take part in a research study [Visual attention and scene memory] conducted by Erik Blaser, Ph.D. and colleagues in the Department of Psychology of the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Description of the Project

The purpose of this research is to study how people build a memory for a visual scene from viewing individual snapshots. Your participation in this study will take around 30 minutes, including instructions and debriefing.

If you decide to participate in this study, during the study, you will be asked to complete the attached online experiment. In this experiment, you will view visual displays presented on a computer screen and make judgements about them. You will continue to make such observations and responses for approximately 20 minutes.

Risks or Discomforts

As with all research, there is a chance that confidentiality could be compromised; however, we are taking precautions to minimize this risk.

The images you will see, and their method of presentation, are as benign as those encountered watching TV; and the judgments required of you are as benign as those employed by an optometrist during routine tests of vision. Therefore, there are minimal risks and chances for discomfort. You may speak with Dr. Erik Blaser, Ph.D. to discuss any distress or other issues related to study participation.

Benefits

While there are no direct benefits to you for participating in this study, it is hoped that the findings from this study will add to the general knowledge base of visual cognition.

Confidentiality

Your part in this research is **confidential**. That is, the information gathered for this project will not be published or presented in a way that would allow anyone to identify you. Information gathered for this project will be password protected or stored in a locked file cabinet and only the research team will have access to the data. While we make every effort to maintain confidentiality, the results of this research study may be presented at meetings or in publications; however, we typically only present aggregate data and, as mentioned earlier, your identity will not be disclosed.

Please note that your IP address and other information may be collected and used by Prolific [<https://researcher-help.prolific.co/hc/en-gb/articles/360009094594-Data-Protection-and-Privacy>] and Cognition [<https://www.cognition.run/privacy>] as per its privacy agreement.

The University of Massachusetts Boston Institutional Review Board (IRB) that oversees human research and its representatives may inspect and copy your information.

Compensation

To thank you for participating in this study, you will receive \$3 within 3 weeks after you complete the experiment if your submission is accepted by us.

Voluntary Participation

Participation in research is completely voluntary. You are free to decline to take part in the experiment. You are free to stop taking part in the experiment at any time. Whether or not you choose to participate, or continue participating in the experiment, there are no penalties or consequences of any kind if you decide that you do not want to participate. To withdraw from the study, you can close the web browser.

However, in accordance with Prolific policies, we may reject your submission if the study was not completed correctly or the instructions were not followed.

Questions

You have the right to ask questions about this research. If you have further questions about this research or if you have a research-related problem, you can reach Dr. Erik Blaser at 617-287- 6349 or erik.blaser@umb.edu. If you have any questions or concerns about your rights as a research participant, please contact a representative of the Institutional Review Board (IRB), at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, which oversees research involving human participants. The Institutional Review Board may be reached by telephone or e-mail at (617) 287-5374 or at human.subjects@umb.edu.

By clicking “I agree” below you are indicating that you are at least 18 years old, have read this consent form, and agree to participate in this research study. You can close the browser to withdraw from the study.

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