

# Participant Information Sheet

## Date Information Sheet Produced:

06 October 2022

## Project Title

Class research project: Applied Human Computer Interaction

Usability study on Canvas

## An Invitation

Hello, we are Masaomi Gato, Zack Lim, Stephy Joy, Nathan Flanagan. We are undertaking an assignment to investigate Human Computer Interaction (HCI) theory and invite you to be involved in our project. This is a team-based assignment. The focus is on an Interactive Device (hardware and/or software). The Interactive Device we have chosen to study is AUT Canvas to understand how well the site has been designed or need any improvement in any area.

## What is the purpose of this research?

We are investigating HCI theory in relation to an Interaction Device to learn something about the usability of technology, and to learn appropriate ways to research in this area. We may also have an opportunity to publish our findings, most probably in a student research conference.

## How was I identified and why am I being invited to participate in this research?

You are a colleague, classmate, friend, or family and we believe that you may have some interest in this project and time available.

## How do I agree to participate in this research?

We will provide you with a consent form that you can sign.

Your participation in this research is voluntary (it is your choice) and whether you choose to participate will neither advantage nor disadvantage you. You can withdraw from the study at any time. If you choose to withdraw from the study, then you will be offered the choice between having any data that is identifiable as belonging to you removed or allowing it to continue to be used. However, once the findings have been produced, removal of your data may not be possible.

## What will happen in this research?

We are conducting a usability study on AUT Canvas to understand how well the site has been designed or need any improvement in any area. All you have had to do is, go through the Canvas and explore all the tabs and features as you can. This will take only five minutes and will take place in a booked study room in WG or WA building. We will be closely monitoring your progress as you go through the site and a video will be recorded for the purpose of our study reference only. You can tell us if you stuck.

## What are the discomforts and risks?

We will not be focussing on how well you can use technology, rather, we are interested in how well the technology has been designed to cope with your needs, so don't feel embarrassed or silly if you can't do something during the session, as this reflects poor design rather than your performance.

The video will be recording only for the purpose of our study reference.

## How will these discomforts and risks be alleviated?

AUT Health Counselling and Wellbeing can offer three free sessions of confidential counselling support for adult participants in an AUT research project. These sessions are only available for issues that have arisen directly as a result of participation in the research and are not for other general counselling needs. To access these services, you will need to:

- drop into our centres at WB219 City Campus, email [counselling@aut.ac.nz](mailto:counselling@aut.ac.nz) or call 921 9998.

- let the receptionist know that you are a research participant, and provide the title of my research and my name and contact details as given in this Information Sheet

You can find out more information about AUT counsellors and counselling on <https://www.aut.ac.nz/student-life/student-support/counselling-and-mental-health>

### **What are the benefits?**

We are primarily undertaking coursework for our degree / diploma paper, but we may have the opportunity to publish this study at a conference or in some other form of publication.

### **What compensation is available for injury or negligence?**

In the unlikely event of a physical injury as a result of your participation in this study, rehabilitation and compensation for injury by accident may be available from the Accident Compensation Corporation, providing the incident details satisfy the requirements of the law and the Corporation's regulations.

### **How will my privacy be protected?**

We will not be using your name or your image in any published material, any data that we collect that does have identifying characteristics will be stored in a locked cupboard in the School of Engineering, Computing, and Mathematical Sciences offices.

### **What are the costs of participating in this research?**

We envisage that it will take five minutes for our usability session.

### **What opportunity do I have to consider this invitation?**

If you could let us know within a week if you could be involved that would be appreciated. Our data collection will only be running over a couple of weeks so the earliest you could contact us the better.

### **Will I receive feedback on the results of this research?**

If you would like we can send you a summary of our research report when we are finished. We will record your email address on a separate list and send it to you at the completion of our coursework.

### **What do I do if I have concerns about this research?**

Any concerns regarding the nature of this project should be notified in the first instance to the Project Supervisor, *Dr Robert Wellington*, [robert.wellington@aut.ac.nz](mailto:robert.wellington@aut.ac.nz),

Concerns regarding the conduct of the research should be notified to the Executive Secretary of AUTEK, [ethics@aut.ac.nz](mailto:ethics@aut.ac.nz), (+649) 921 9999 ext 6038.

### **Whom do I contact for further information about this research?**

Please keep this Information Sheet and a copy of the Consent Form for your future reference. You are also able to contact the research team as follows:

#### **Researcher Contact Details:**

Masaomi Gato, [wjh2989@autuni.ac.nz](mailto:wjh2989@autuni.ac.nz)

Zack Lim, [wmv7022@autuni.ac.nz](mailto:wmv7022@autuni.ac.nz)

Stephy Joy, [rrt3291@autuni.ac.nz](mailto:rrt3291@autuni.ac.nz)

Nathan Flanagan, [cvg8736@autuni.ac.nz](mailto:cvg8736@autuni.ac.nz)

#### **Project Supervisor Contact Details:**

*Dr Robert Wellington*, [robert.wellington@aut.ac.nz](mailto:robert.wellington@aut.ac.nz),

Approved by the Auckland University of Technology Ethics Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2022, AUTEK Reference number 22/246.