



Project Title: Study of Undergraduate Use of the Writing and Transfer Tool (WATT)
Open Educational Resource Mobile Learning App

Principal Investigator: Peter H. Khost, Ph.D.

Department: Program in Writing and Rhetoric

You are being asked to be a volunteer in a research study.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is:

- To research undergraduates' usage of the Writing and Transfer Tool mobile learning app (WATT) in order to better understand these students' perceptions of themselves as writers.
- About 200 students will be invited to participate in this study in the spring 2018 semester.
- Eligibility: You are eligible to participate in this study if you are 18 years or older *and* you are a current undergraduate student at Stony Brook University *and* you are enrolled in a course that is using the WATT app for homework assignments. If you do not meet all of these conditions, then you may not participate.

PROCEDURES

If you decide to be in this study, your part will involve:

- Stage 1: Choosing the option of "Yes" when you are invited by the first installment of the WATT mobile app to provide consent to have your homework answers and written coursework included as anonymous research study data (stage 1 requires no additional time or effort on your part). This decision also includes the volunteering or not of your answers to questions in an optional online follow-up survey described in the next point.
- Stage 2: Choosing the option of "Yes" when you are invited by the last installment of the WATT app to be considered for participation in a follow-up online survey and an audiotaped group discussion about your app homework and written work for the course. If you are randomly selected, then:
 - You can complete the online survey from any location where you have Internet access. It takes up to 30 minutes to complete.
 - You can join a group discussion in the Humanities building on the West campus of Stony Brook University with about 5 other students and a faculty member discussion leader. It lasts up to 60 minutes.

RISKS / DISCOMFORTS

- There are no foreseeable risks or discomforts associated with your participation in this study.

BENEFITS

- There are no expected direct benefits to you as a result of your being in this study.

PAYMENT TO YOU

- Stage 1 of this study simply analyzes the answers you have submitted for homework and your written work for the course. You will not be paid if you agree to allow this to happen.
- Stage 2 will award you a \$20 Amazon.com gift card for completion of the online survey, and a \$30 Amazon.com gift card for completion of the group discussion.

CONFIDENTIALITY

- We will take steps to help make sure that all the information we get about you is kept confidential. Your name will not be used wherever possible. We will use a code instead. All the study data that we get from you will be kept locked up. The code will be locked up too. If any papers and talks are given about this research, your name will not be used.
- Your homework answers in the WATT mobile app and any paper that you have written in the course for which you used the app will have your real name and/or SBU ID on it. Only the study team will have access to that information, and it will be removed and replaced with a code as soon as possible.
- Any academic records of yours that are examined (such as your grade for the course) will have your real name and/or SBU ID on them. Only the study team will have access to that information, and it will be removed and replaced with a code as soon as possible.
- You will use a fake name instead of your real name for the group discussion. The audiotape of your group discussion will be transcribed and then stored on the password-protected computer of the study's Principal Investigator. The transcript of the group discussion will also be stored on that same password-protected computer.
- We want to make sure that this study is being done correctly and that your rights and welfare are being protected. For this reason, we will share the data we get from you in this study with the study team, the sponsor of the study (and those who work for them), Stony Brook University's Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects, applicable Institutional officials, and certain federal offices, including the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP), and, where applicable, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). However, if you tell us you are going to hurt yourself, hurt someone else, or if we believe the safety of a child is at risk, we will have to report this. In a lawsuit, a judge can make us give her or him the information we collected about you.

COSTS TO YOU

- There are no foreseeable financial costs to you for participating in this study.

ALTERNATIVES

- Your alternative to being in this study is simply to not participate.

CONSEQUENCES OF WITHDRAWING

- There are no consequences to you if you decide to withdraw from this study. If you choose to withdraw, you may do so at any time without penalty.

REMOVAL FROM STUDY

- You may be removed from the study if you have volunteered for the online survey but do not complete it by the designated deadline.
- You may also be removed from the study if you have volunteered for the group discussion but you do not show up for it or you show up for it more than 10 minutes late.

YOUR RIGHTS AS A RESEARCH SUBJECT

- Your participation in this study is voluntary. You do not have to be in this study if you don't want to be.
- You have the right to change your mind and leave the study at any time without giving any reason, and without penalty.
- Any new information that may make you change your mind about being in this study will be given to you.
- You have a copy of this consent form to keep in the form of this document. Please download, print, and keep a copy of it as soon as possible.
- You do not lose any of your legal rights by signing this consent form.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE STUDY OR YOUR RIGHTS AS A RESEARCH SUBJECT

- If you have any questions, concerns, or complaints about the study, you may contact Dr. Peter Khost, Principal Investigator, at peter.khost@stonybrook.edu.
- If you have any questions about your rights as a research subject or if you would like to obtain information or offer input, you may contact the Stony Brook University Research Subject Advocate, Ms. Lu-Ann Kozlowski, BSN, RN, (631) 632-9036, OR by e-mail, lu-ann.kozlowski@stonybrook.edu
- Visit Stony Brook University's Community Outreach page, <http://research.stonybrook.edu/orc/community.shtml#overview-of-volunteering-in-research> for more information about participating in research, frequently asked questions, and an opportunity to provide feedback, comments, or ask questions related to your experience as a research subject.

If you select the "Yes..." consent option in the WATT mobile app, it means that you are 18 years or older and you have read (or have had read to you) the information given in this consent form, and you would like to be a volunteer in this study.