

consent form for participation in a research study

**researcher and title of study**

My name is David Benedetto and I am a Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science at the University of New Hampshire. I am also a PhD student in the Department of Education at Tufts University. I am your professor for this class, and I am also a researcher studying your experiences in this class. The title of the study is, “Social justice education in intro data science course,” **IRB-FY2021-73.**

**what is the purpose of this form?**

This consent form describes the research study and helps you to decide if you want to participate. It provides important information about what you will be asked to do in the study, about the risks and benefits of participating in the study, and about your rights as a research participant. You should:

* Read the information in this document carefully, and ask me or the research personnel any questions, particularly if you do not understand something.
* Not agree to participate until all your questions have been answered, or until you are sure that you want to.
* Understand that your participation in this study involves you to: complete a brief pre-intervention survey; give permission to use your course assignments for research purposes; and participate in a post-intervention interview.
* Understand that the potential risks of participating in this study are minimal.

**what is the purpose of this study?**

The purpose of this research is to investigate the implementation of social justice education (SJE) into this introductory data science course. I want to learn about your views on social justice and data science, your experiences in this class, and how these experiences impact your views.

I anticipate about 60 participants in this study. Participants must be at least 18 years old to participate in the study.

**what does your participation in this study involve?**

Participation in this study involves completion of a short pre-intervention survey, the use of your coursework for research purposes, and participation in a post-class interview.

* The pre-intervention survey will ask you to share a bit about your prior experiences and views related to data science and social justice. The survey will be online via Qualtrics and should take 10-15 minutes to complete. You should complete the survey only once.
* The coursework that may be used for research purposes includes artifacts from class and group discussion activities, journals, and project documentation.
* The post-intervention interview will be a conversation about your experience in the class and how those experiences have affected your views. This will take place at the end of the semester, after I’ve graded your coursework, and will take about 30-40 minutes. We can have this conversation in-person, in my office or another location where you feel comfortable, or online via Zoom. With your permission, these conversations will be video-recorded.

**what are the possible risks of participating in this study?**

There are no significant risks of participating in this study.

**what are the possible benefits of participating in this study?**

By participating in the post-intervention interview or completing the written reflection, you will have an opportunity to reflect on your experiences.  Reflective learning is a way to step back from your learning experience, develop critical thinking skills and, improve on future performance by analyzing what you have learned and how far you have come.

The UNH community may benefit from this study by gaining a better understanding of our students' prior experience and conceptions of data science, and its relation to social justice. The study may also help us to better understand ways to incorporate social justice education into data science, and potentially other courses as well. Further, the research community may benefit by this studies contributions to the research literature, in areas such as justice-centered approaches in computing education and phenomenological research in computing education.

**If you choose to participate in this study, will it cost you anything?**

There is no cost to participate in this study.

**will you receive any compensation for participating in this study?**

You can receive extra credit for the course in compensation for participating in this study. This extra credit is in the form of an exemption from your lowest quiz or project grade (whichever benefits your final grade more). If you choose not to participate, you can still earn this extra credit by completing a written reflection on your course experiences (about 4 pages or 1000 words).

**do you have to take part in this study?**

Taking part in this study is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you agree to participate, you may refuse to answer any question. If you decide not to participate, you will not be penalized. Aside from the extra credit (described above), not taking part in the study will have no impact on your course grade or your class standing.

**can you withdraw from this study?**

If you agree to participate in this study and you then change your mind, you may stop participating at any time. Any data collected as part of your participation will remain part of the study records.

If you decide to stop participating at any time, you will not be penalized. However, if you withdraw from the study prior to the post-intervention interview, but still wish to receive the compensation (extra credit, described above), you must complete the alternate assignment (written reflection, described above). Aside from this extra credit, withdrawing from the study will have no impact on your course grade or your class standing.

**what alternatives are available if you do not want to participate in this study?**

Participation in this study is not part of your required coursework. If you want to earn the extra credit offered for participating in the study but you do not want to participate in the study, the alternative assignment for this study is to complete a written reflection of your course experiences (described above).

**how will the confidentiality of your records be protected?**

I plan to maintain the confidentiality of all data and records associated with your participation in this research.

There are, however, rare instances when I may be required to share individually identifiable information with the following:

* Officials at the University of New Hampshire,
* Regulatory and oversight government agencies

Further, any communication via the internet poses minimal risk of a breach of confidentiality.

To help protect the confidentiality of your information, I will store all the identifiable study data securely using UNH cloud storage. I will be the only person with access to this data. I will transfer video recordings to UNH secure cloud storage as soon as possible, and then delete the record on memory. In the interim, I will keep these records on my person. I will transcribe selected portions of video recordings; I will immediately move these transcription records to UNH cloud storage and delete any local records.

No identifiable data will be shared with any third parties. It is possible that some de-identified data may be shared with third parties and/or used for future studies. I will report the results using pseudonyms and remove any information which may be used to identify individual participants. With your permission, I may use one or more of your quotes. If so, I will use a pseudonym to protect your identity. I plan to use this study as part of my doctoral dissertation. I may also present initial and/or final results in other reports, presentations, and/or publications.

**whom to contact if you have questions about this study**

If you have any questions pertaining to the research you can contact David Benedetto ([David.benedetto@unh.edu](mailto:David.benedetto@unh.edu)) to discuss them.

If you have questions about your rights as a research subject you can contact Melissa McGee in UNH Research Integrity Services, 603/862-2005 or [melissa.mcgee@unh.edu](mailto:melissa.mcgee@unh.edu) to discuss them.

Yes, I, Ryan J. Skelly\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_consent/agree to participate in this research project.

Please check all that you agree to:

⃣X Complete pre-intervention survey

⃣X Allow my coursework to be used for research purposes

⃣X Take part in video-recorded interview

⃣⃣X Allow deidentified quotes to be used in reporting

Ryan J. Skelly\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/27/23\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature Date