

Informed Consent Form

We are asking you to participate in a research study titled “Assistance games”. We will describe this study to you and answer any of your questions. This study is being led by Abhilasha Kumar, Psychology at Bowdoin College.

What the study is about

The purpose of this study is to investigate how humans seek and provide help in cooperative scenarios.

What we will ask you to do

We will ask you to take part in an online computer-based experiment, where you will play a game with another participant. You will be presented different goals on the screen and asked to take actions that help you achieve those goals, in cooperation with your partner. You will also complete a demographic survey. You will also be provided a debriefing script at the end of the experiment for educational purposes. The entire experiment will be completed in one session that will not exceed 60 minutes.

Risks and discomforts

We do not anticipate any risks from participating in this research beyond boredom and fatigue.

Benefits

There are no direct benefits to participating in this study.

We hope that the knowledge gained from this experiment will help scientists better understand the ways in which humans engage in cooperative behaviors and helping. We also hope that this study will help us understand how to build better assistive AI models.

Compensation for participation

You will receive 1 credits for participating in this study. Please consult your course syllabi for alternatives to earn these credits if you do not wish to participate.

Privacy/Confidentiality/Data Security

Your data will be protected and stored on encrypted servers and computers. All data will be automatically de-identified, such that no personally identifying information will be stored in the data files.

Your confidentiality will be kept to the degree permitted by the technology being used. We cannot guarantee against interception of data sent via the internet by third parties.

Taking part is voluntary

Your involvement in this study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate before the study begins, discontinue at any time, or skip any questions/procedures that may make you feel uncomfortable, with no penalty to you, and no effect on your academic standing, record, or relationship with the university or other organization or service that may be involved with the research.

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You will only be awarded course credit for successfully completing the study and sharing the completion code assigned to you at the end of the experiment for verification. You may choose not to participate if you are not comfortable with these conditions.

If you have questions

The main researcher conducting this study is Abhilasha A. Kumar, an Assistant Professor at Bowdoin College. Please ask any questions you have now. If you have questions later, you may contact Abhilasha Kumar at a.kumar@bowdoin.edu. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a subject in this study, you may contact the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at irb@bowdoin.edu.

If you have carefully read the above information and consent to take part in the study, please click the button below to continue to the experiment.