

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

Digital Skills Assessment Tool

INTRODUCTION

You are asked to participate in a research study conducted by Ann Ciesla (Computer Science), Charles Wallace (Computer Science), and Kelly Steelman (Cognitive & Learning Sciences) at Michigan Tech. Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. Please read the information below and ask questions about anything you do not understand, before deciding whether to participate.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study is to assess a digital tool that is being developed to assess the skills of newcomers to digital technology.

PROCEDURES / RISKS / DISCOMFORTS

You are invited to take part in a research study that should take no more than 60 minutes to complete and will take most people 30 to 45 minutes. You will be asked to use the Digital Skills Assessment Tool, on a digital device of your choosing and in a place of your choosing, and answer some questions about your experiences with the tool.

There are no known risks to participating in this study.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO SUBJECTS AND/OR TO SOCIETY

Although you will not directly benefit by participating in this study, your participation will help us to understand better how to assess skills among digital newcomers.

COMPENSATION FOR PARTICIPATION

Participants will receive two research credits in exchange for their participation in this study. (The norm for MTU Psychology courses is one research credit per half hour of study time.) Instructors in the Intro to Psychology classes make alternative assignments available to expose students to research practices.

CONFIDENTIALITY

No information that can be identified with you will be collected.

PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

You can choose whether or not to be in this study. If you volunteer to be in this study, you may withdraw at any time without consequences of any kind or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You

may also refuse to answer any questions you do not want to answer. There is no penalty if you withdraw from the study and you will not lose any benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

It is possible that one of the researchers may be teaching a class you are taking. Your participation in the study will in no way affect your grade in class. Participation in the study is voluntary and the results of the study will be anonymous. If you are uncomfortable with participating in a study because one of the researchers is your instructor, you maintain the same rights to withdraw from the study at any time with no penalty or loss of benefits.

IDENTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATORS

If you have any questions or concerns about this research, please contact:

- Ann Ciesla, 847-337-0265, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49930, aeciesla@mtu.edu
- Kelly Steelman, 906-487-2792, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49930, steelman@mtu.edu
- Charles Wallace, 906-487-3431, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49930, wallace@mtu.edu

RIGHTS OF RESEARCH SUBJECTS

A human research protections personnel at Michigan Tech has reviewed my request to conduct this project. If you have any concerns about your rights in this study, they can be reached at 906-487-2902 or via email at irb@mtu.edu