

## ADULT CONSENT FORM

### YALE UNIVERSITY

TITLE OF RESEARCH: *Psychological mechanisms of skill learning*

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: *Samuel McDougale, PhD*

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR'S DEPARTMENT: *Psychology*

#### **Research Study Summary:**

- We are asking you to join a research study.
- The purpose of this research study is to study skill learning
- Study activities will include: button presses on a computer keyboard or short reaching movements.
- Your involvement will require 60 minutes for this session.
- There may be some risks from participating in this study, including boredom and fatigue.
- The study may have no benefits to you. However, the study will help us increase our understanding of human skill learning.
- Taking part in this study is your choice. You can choose to take part, or you can choose not to take part in this study. You also can change your mind at any time. Whatever choice you make will not have any effect on your relationship with Yale
- If you are interested in learning more about the study, please continue reading, or have someone read to you, the rest of this document. Ask the study staff questions about anything you do not understand. Once you understand the study, we will ask you if you wish to participate; if so, you will have to sign this form.

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You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide to participate in this study, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully. Please ask the researcher if there is anything that is not clear or if you need more information.

#### **Purpose of the research:**

You are being invited to participate in a study of motor and cognitive processes conducted in the Action, Computation, and Thinking Laboratory, directed by Professor Samuel McDougale, in the Department of Psychology at Yale University. The research deals with how people acquire and produce certain skills and how visual and auditory information are used to guide actions.

#### **Study Procedures:**

You will be seated in front of a table and a computer monitor will present visual displays that are used to indicate the types of movements or responses you are supposed to produce. We will either ask that you hold a digitizing pen while reaching across a tablet, ask that you use your thumbs and fingers to interact with a digital input device (computer keyboard), or ask that you make reaching movements while holding a robotic arm. To assess factors that may affect learning, you may also be asked to answer survey questions or complete additional forms that pertain to demographic information. The experiment session should take approximately one hour. If you decide to participate in this project, please understand that your participation is voluntary, and you have the right to withdraw your consent or discontinue participation at any time.

Your total expected time commitment for this study is approximately one hour.

**Benefits and Risks:**

It is important that you understand that there is no direct benefit to you anticipated from your participation in this study. It is possible but unlikely that this reaching task may cause you discomfort or fatigue. The visual and auditory stimuli are presented at a comfortable lighting and sound level and the movements require a minimal amount of effort. There is a slight chance you may feel frustrated or uncomfortable if the task is difficult for you to do, but you are free to discontinue your participation in the study if you choose. Please let us know if you feel fatigued or uncomfortable at any time during the experiment.

**Alternatives**

The alternative to participating in this particular study is to not participate.

**Confidentiality:**

All records from this study will be kept confidential. Your responses will be kept private, and we will not include any information that will make it possible to identify you in any report we might publish. Research records will be stored securely in a locked cabinet and/or on password-protected computers. The research team will be the only party that will have access to your data.

**Compensation:**

Participants will receive a \$20 per hour honorarium (prorated for partial hours) for their participation, and up to \$5-30 in bonus payments, depending on the study, for their performance in the task.

**Who to contact with questions:**

## 1. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Samuel McDougle, PhD  
100 College Street Rm 1221, New Haven CT 06510  
office: (203) 432-1294  
email: [samuel.mcdougle@yale.edu](mailto:samuel.mcdougle@yale.edu)

## 2. If you have questions regarding your rights as a research subject, or if problems arise which you do not feel you can discuss with the Investigator, please contact the Institutional Review Board at:

Yale University Human Subjects Committee  
Phone: (203) 785-4688  
Email: [human.subjects@yale.edu](mailto:human.subjects@yale.edu)

## 3. I understand the information that was presented and that:

- A. My participation is voluntary, and I may withdraw my consent and discontinue participation in the project at any time. My refusal to participate will not result in any penalty.
- B. I do not waive any legal rights or release Yale University, its agents, or you from liability for negligence.

## 4. I hereby give my consent to be the subject of your research.

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Subject's Signature

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Date

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Person Obtaining Consent's Signature

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Date