



## ADULT CONSENT FORM YALE UNIVERSITY

TITLE OF RESEARCH: *Psychological mechanisms of skill learning*

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: *Samuel McDougle, 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 up to 30 minutes.
- 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 McDougle, 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 see visual displays on your computer monitor that are used to indicate the types of mouse movements or button presses you are supposed to produce. 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 30 minutes.

### **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. 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.

**Alternatives**

Your participation in this study is extremely valuable for our research, and we hope that participating will prove to be an educational experience for you. In addition, however, please remember that this is only one of the ways in which you can fulfill your "experimental participation" credits for Introduction to Psychology. Other ways, as detailed in the form handed out to you in class, include serving as an observer of 5 experiments, or arranging for other options of equivalent educational value (e.g., writing essays) through your instructor.

**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 0.5 credits toward fulfilling your "experimental participation" credits for Introduction to Psychology.

**Who to contact with questions:****1. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:**

Samuel McDougle, PhD  
314G Sheffield-Sterling-Strathcona Hall  
office: (203) 432-4500  
email: [samuel.mcdougle@yale.edu](mailto:samuel.mcdougle@yale.edu)

2. If you have questions about the Psychology Subject Pool, you may contact the coordinator at 432-4518, or [psychsubject.pool@yale.edu](mailto:psychsubject.pool@yale.edu). If you would like to talk with someone other than the researchers to discuss problems or concerns, to discuss situations in the event that a member of the research team is not available, or to discuss your rights as a research participant, you may contact the Yale University Human Subjects Committee, 203-785-4688, [human.subjects@yale.edu](mailto:human.subjects@yale.edu). Additional information is available at <http://your.yale.edu/research-support/human-research/research-participants>.

**1. 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.

**2. I hereby give my consent to be the subject of your research.****Agreement to Participate:**

By clicking the "Accept" button below, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the above and agree to participate.