

## Participants Information Sheet

**Welcome and thank you for participating in this research study!** Your involvement is crucial as we explore how people behave under different levels of cognitive load. This study measures your reactions and pose during the task, using both a standard camera and an event camera.

### Overview of the Study

In general, you will perform several rounds of a task called “The Stroop Task”. This task consists of naming the colour of a word (e.g., If the word is written in blue, then the answer is blue). This study is divided into three phases: **Practice Phase, Task Phase 1, Task Phase 2**

### Phase 1: Practice Phase

- **Objective:** You will be familiarized with the Stroop task by having a practice round.
- **Activities:** You will practice similar tasks that will appear in the actual study. This session helps you get comfortable with the study’s format.

### Phase 2: Task 1

**Objective:** Assess your reaction time and accuracy in a Stroop task.

**Activities:** You will identify colours displayed on the screen and press corresponding buttons on the keyboard (**a: red, s: green, d: yellow, f: blue**). Each key has a colour sticker so you can always know which key correspond to which colour.

**Memory Task (optional):** Depending on the session, you may also be asked to memorize and later manipulate a sequence of numbers. It is really important for us that you try your best remembering these numbers if you are asked to. At the end of the Stroop task, we will ask you to recall them.

**Follow-up:** After completing the task, you will fill out a questionnaire about how you feel.

### Phase 3: Task 2

**Objective:** Similar to Task 1, assess your reaction time and accuracy in a Stroop task.

**Activities:** You will engage in another Stroop task.

**Memory Task (optional):** If you haven’t had a memory task in task 1, you may also be asked to memorize and later manipulate a sequence of numbers. It is really important for us that you try your best remembering these numbers if you are asked to. At the end of the Stroop task, we will ask you to recall them.

**Follow-up:** Complete a second questionnaire to provide feedback on this task.

## **Participation Details**

- **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Duration:** 10 minutes Approximately
- **Safety Measures:** We ensure a clean and safe environment with sanitized equipment for all participants.

## **Data Collection and Confidentiality**

- **Data Handling:** All personal data collected during this study will be treated confidentially and according to GDPR regulations. Only the data tracking your movements will be retained unless you also agree for us to collect a video recording of you by signing an additional consent form.
- **Publication:** Results will be summarized and may be published in scientific journals, conferences, presentations, or courses. In accordance with the standards of Open Science practices research data will be made publicly accessible in an anonymized form via a suitable secure data archive.

## **Benefits and Risks**

- **Benefits:** Your participation contributes to the understanding of how cognitive load affects human behaviour.
- **Risks:** There are minimal risks associated with participating in this study, primarily related to the standard use of computer and camera equipment.

## **Volunteering**

- **Participation:** Voluntary and you can withdraw at any time without any disadvantage.
- **Incentives:** Perform well and see your name on the top of the leaderboard. Let us know if you don't want to be mentioned on leaderboard.

## **Contact details:**

- If you have any questions about participation, voluntariness, and data use, please contact the person responsible for the project: [m.aitsam@shu.ac.uk](mailto:m.aitsam@shu.ac.uk)

**Thank you for your valuable contribution to our research. Your participation helps us advance our understanding of cognitive load impacts on human behaviour.**

**Feel free to ask any question before or after the study.**

**Please sign the consent form before starting the tasks.**