**Consent Form**

Computer-Mediated and Interpersonal Communication Research Study

Texas State University-San Marcos and the Department of Communication Studies support the practice of the protection of human rights of research participants. The following information is provided so that you can decide whether or not to participate in this study. You should be advised that if you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw from the study at any time. If you do, it will in no way affect your relationship with the department, the services the department may provide you, or Texas State University-San Marcos. The purpose of this study is to collect data for a graduate thesis project focusing on how people interpret computer-mediated communication. If you have any questions regarding this research project, you may contact Christina Fleuriet (IRB# 1293760) at [cf27@txstate.edu](mailto:cf27@txstate.edu) or call 512.245.2142.

Data will be collected through a paper questionnaire given to you by your instructor or the researcher. The time to complete the 52-item questionnaire is estimated to be between 10 and 15 minutes. Two sample items are “I am not sure that I can always depend on others to be there when I need them,” and “My significant other is committed to making our relationship last.” Data gathered about you, your interpersonal relationship, and computer-mediated communication is anonymous. Survey data will be collected on a one time basis only. You will be asked to briefly respond to questions about yourself, your view of relationships, and your perception of text messaging. All participants will be given the same survey with slight modifications on some of the questions.

You have been asked to be a participant in this research study due to your enrollment in a specific core curriculum course at Texas State University. All survey responses are anonymous. This consent form will be kept confidential and will not be linked to your survey in any way. You may withdraw your consent to participate at any time by notifying the researcher or by simply ceasing your completion of the survey. You may also choose to not answer any question(s) for any reason. Some questions asked may be sensitive to some and may result in one questioning oneself or one’s competence in relationships. There are no foreseen physical risks. If this survey causes any type of distress, the Texas State Counseling Center (LBJSC 5-4.1, 512.245.2208) is free and available to all registered students, yet the number of sessions allowed may be limited.

Research data will be kept in the possession of the researcher for a period of approximately one year until the conclusion of data analysis and writing of research report. All surveys and consent forms will be kept in a secured filing cabinet in the researcher’s staff office on campus to which only the researcher has access. If requested, a summary of the findings of this research will be provided to participants at the completion of the study--please email cf27@txstate.edu. Pertinent questions about this research, your participant rights, and/or research-related injuries may be directed to the IRB chair, Dr. Jon Lasser (512-245-3413 – [lasser@txstate.edu](mailto:lasser@txstate.edu)), or to Ms. Becky Northcut, Compliance Specialist (512-245-2102).

**Participant Certification**

*I have read the Consent Form. I am currently at least 18 years of age. I understand that all information will be kept confidential and anonymous. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and receive answers to any questions I may have had regarding the use and disclosure of my information. I understand that if I have any additional questions, I may contact Christina Fleuriet at 512.245.2142.*

*I agree to take part in this study as a research participant.*

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Participant’s Printed Name Date

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Participant’s Signature

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Researcher’s Signature Christina Fleuriet **IRB# 1293760**