**CONSENT FORM (IRB xxxxx-xxx)**

The research for which you are invited to participate requires about 45 minutes of time. It is conducted by Maria Czyzewska, Ph.D., [mc07@txstate.edu](mailto:mc07@txstate.edu), a faculty member in the Department of Psychology at Texas State University-San Marcos with the help of research assistants, Ashley Nolan [(an1154@txstate.edu](mailto:(an1154@txstate.edu)) and John Erik Vanston [(jv1206@txstate.edu](mailto:(jv1206@txstate.edu)). Please read this form carefully and ask any questions you might have before agreeing to participate in the study.

The study consists of two parts. The first part will examine various cognitive skills involve in reading web pages. At the beginning of the first part you will be asked to provide answers to questions about your internet use habits, other daily activities (e.g., how many hours per week you work, exercise etc.,) and current physical and mood state (e.g., are you feeling tired, hungry, relaxed etc.,) This will be followed by computerized task. You will be seated in front of a computer monitor with your head comfortably rested on the support device and ask to read several short essays on various topics (e.g., penguins). Your eye movements during processing of information from the web page will be monitor by a special device called an ye-tracker.

In the second part, you will be asked to move to an adjacent area to complete a questionnaire. The questionnaire will include demographic items (e.g., gender, age, ethnicity), question related to the computer task from the first part, overall experience with different computer applications, ability to concentrate and your current well being (e.g. mood, fatigue).

You are under **no obligation to participate in this project** and you **have the right to withdraw** from the research at any time. Participation in this project is entirely voluntary and your decision weather or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with Texas State University.

You will not receive any monetary compensation or payment for participating in this research. However, your instructor might offer compensation in the form of extra credit for participation in this study. If you choose not to participate, you may also obtain the same extra credit by writing a 1-2 page paper about research on internet use by undergraduate students. If you are interested in this alternative to study participation please email Dr. Czyzewska at [mc07@txstate.edu](mailto:mc07@txstate.edu) .

If you find that you are uncomfortable answering any question from the survey or conduct any part of the computer task, you may stop at any time. You may also skip questions you don’t want to answer.

To assure your **anonymity**, you will be assigned a research number. Your responses to survey questions and eye-tracking record will be coded only under your participant number and we will not be able to track it back to any personal identification information. Further, only group-statistical analysis will be performed upon the data. No individual's responses will be identified by a participant name.

The only place where you will be asked to reveal your name, course for which you want to obtain credit for participation and email address is this consent form. We will use the information you provide on this form to (1) inform your instructor that you have completed the research participation and (2) to email you the full description of the purpose of this study and results within two months after data collection is finalized.

The records of this study will be stored securely and only researchers will have access to collected data. Paper records of the data will be retained for a period of five years and will then be destroyed.

At the conclusion of the study (approximately at the beginning of Spring 2011) the full debriefing with description of results obtained in this study will be email to you .

In the event that you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, please contact Dr. Maria Czyzewska, [mc07@txstate.edu](mailto:mc07@txstate.edu) , at Psychology Department. If you would like to talk to someone other than the researchers about this project, you are encouraged to contact **the Office of Sponsored Programs at Texas State University at 512-345-2102.**

***You will have an opportunity to obtain a copy of this information to keep for your record.***

**Statement of Consent**:

I have read this consent form. I voluntarily agree to participate in the study.

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Your Signature Date

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Course for which you’d like to obtain extra credit points & Instructor name

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Signature of Research Assistant Date:

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Signature of Investigator Date