



## **Course Project for MSCI 630: Human-Computer Interaction**

Department of Management Sciences

University of Waterloo

Course Instructor: Professor Oliver Schneider

Email: [oliver.schneider@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:oliver.schneider@uwaterloo.ca)

### **Participant Information Letter and Consent Form (Lab Study)**

#### **Overview**

You are being asked to volunteer in a study as part of a course project at the University of Waterloo. The intent of the course project is to learn how to design usable interactive systems, or services related to those systems, that enhance people's lives, whether at work, home, or play. The course instructor is Professor Oliver Schneider.

Designing effective interactive systems is a process that requires interviews, observations, and the evaluation of new prototypes. In this phase of the project, we are performing a study to evaluate the usability of a system.

#### **Study Details**

Participation in this study is completely voluntary and you may stop at any time. If you agree to participate in this study, we will briefly describe the interactive system, and the particular design problem we are focused on improving, and then we will ask you to perform a few tasks with the system while we observe what you do. You may also be asked to speak your intentions out loud as you use the system. At the end of the study, we will ask you to fill out an anonymous online questionnaire to provide some feedback about the system. The session will last between 30-60 minutes.

With your permission, we will use recording devices to record the study session. These recordings will allow us to more easily recall facts when we later analyze data. Data may also be collected through computer logs, such as how long it takes you to complete a task and where you were interacting (e.g., clicking or touching on the screen).

You may decline to answer particular questions, if you wish, and may withdraw participation at any time.

#### **Risks**

There are no known or anticipated risks to you as a participant in this study other than those associated with the normal use of computing devices.

#### **Confidentiality and Data Retention**

All data collected is considered confidential. Codes, rather than names or other identifying information, will be used in notes and/or recordings. Even though we may present our findings to the class or publish our results in papers, only the course instructor and our project group will have access to the data collected. Your name or any other personal identifying information will not appear in any publication resulting from this study. However, with your permission, anonymous quotations, pictures

and/or video clips may be used. Notes, images, and/or recordings collected during this study will be retained indefinitely in a secure location in Professor Hancock's office.

The anonymous questionnaire uses Verify App and Solidify App of Zurb™ which is a United States of America company. Consequently, USA authorities under provisions of the Patriot Act may access this survey data. If you prefer not to submit your data through Zurb™, please contact one of the researchers so you can participate using an alternative method (such as through an email or paper-based questionnaire). The alternate method may decrease anonymity but confidentiality will be maintained.

## Remuneration

You will not receive remuneration for participation in the study. However, the information you provide will help us understand how to improve the usability and user experience of the types of interactive systems, and related services, that you may use in the future.

## Questions

If you have any questions about participation in this study, or would like additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please contact Professor Oliver Schneider at 519-888-4567 ext. 38505 or via email at [oliver.schneider@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:oliver.schneider@uwaterloo.ca).

I would like to assure you that this study has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through, the Office of Research Ethics at the University of Waterloo. However, the final decision about participation is yours. In the event you have any comments or concerns resulting from your participation in this study, please contact Dr. Maureen Nummelin, the Director, Office of Research Ethics, at 1-519-888-4567, Ext. 36005 or [maureen.nummelin@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:maureen.nummelin@uwaterloo.ca).

Student Name(s):

Email

David Bell

david.a.bell@uwaterloo.ca

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## Consent Form

I have read the information presented in the information letter about a study being conducted by

David Bell

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for the course MSCI 630 (Human-Computer Interaction) at the University of Waterloo. The course instructor is Professor Oliver Schneider. I have had the opportunity to ask any questions related to this study, to receive satisfactory answers to my questions, and any additional details I wanted.

I am aware that I have the option of allowing my study session to be recorded using audio and/or video recording devices to ensure an accurate recording of my activities and responses.

I am aware that excerpts from the interview may be included in any publications to come from this study, with the understanding that the quotations will be anonymous.

I am aware that I have the option of allowing pictures to be taken to complement interviews.

I am aware that I have the option to allow video and/or digital images in which I appear to be used in teaching, scientific presentations and/or publications with the understanding that identifying characteristics will be made anonymous, and I will not be identified by name.

I am aware that I may withdraw my consent for any of the above statements or withdraw my study participation at any time without penalty by advising the students or course instructor.

This project has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through, the Office of Research Ethics at the University of Waterloo. I was informed that if I have any comments or concerns resulting from my participation in this study, I may contact Dr. Maureen Nummelin, the Director, Office of Research Ethics, at 1-519-888-4567, Ext. 36005 or maureen.nummelin@uwaterloo.ca.

	Please Circle One		Please Initial Your Choice
<b>With full knowledge of all foregoing, I agree, of my own free will, to participate in this study.</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	_____
<b>I agree to have the interview video recorded, photographed, and audio recorded</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	_____
<b>I agree to the use of anonymous quotations in any presentation or report that comes of this study.</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	_____
<b>I agree to let the video/audio recordings and/or digital images be used for presentation of the research results.</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	_____

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print)

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print)

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_