Consent and Information: Learning programming from/with instructions

What is the research about?

This research is about learning more about how people teach themselves coding by using instructions such as books, freecodecamp or udemy classes.

What happens in the research

First of all, things that do NOT happen: No tests, no evaluation of coding skills or something like this.

What does happen is usually the following:

1. We go over this document
2. I ask you some basic questions about you   (age, place of living) and about your relation to coding (previous experiences (or not), what sparked your interest…)
3. You start with whatever you are currently learning and share your screen so I can see how you learn. I will occasionally ask if I don't understand something myself or if I'd like to hear your thoughts.
4. You can stop whenever you want (Or I do stop when I e.g. can't focus anymore. Feel free to continue if you like :))

What would I (Jan, the researcher) record?

- I make notes
- If it is OK for you, I would like to record audio and video. It is hard to write down everything that seems relevant, and thus a recording is of great help. The recordings will be kept private and used as a memory aid for transcribing.

How would that recorded data get used?

In Germany, a PhD thesis typically gets published as a book. Aside from general descriptions, I would also like to use verbatim quotes from participants.

What I (Jan, the researcher) needs to know:

By the way, while I ask about this at the beginning of the research session, you can change your mind later.

In your research, please refer to me with:

- ☐ A name ⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚ (can be your first name or a nickname)
- ☐ A random name
- ☐ A name like „Participant 15"

…and as pronouns (multiple possible; in this case indicating a preference would be great.) :

- ☐ They/them
- ☐ He/him
- ☐ She/her
- ☐ other pronouns: ⬚⬚⬚⬚ / ⬚⬚⬚⬚

I am fine with Jan recording audio and video of the session:

◯ Yes, you can record   ◯ No, please don't record

I want a pdf of the final thesis (in some years!):

◯ Yes, send me the thesis   ◯ No, thanks

You can contact me again in case you need a clarification or have follow-up questions:

◯ Yes   ◯ No, thanks

For sending the thesis and/or contacting me, use:

E-Mail: ⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚ or

Social Media handle: ⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚⬚

Other notes: