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LETTER OF INFORMATION & PARTICIPANT CONSENT

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the research study outlined below. Please read through the information below to determine whether or not you would like to participate. Your participation is entirely voluntary and you can withdraw at any time without penalty.

Inclusion criteria for participating includes: 18-35 years old (University of Toronto PSY 100 subject pool students may be under 18 years old), fluent in English, normal or corrected-to-normal vision, normal color vision, normal hearing, and no history of neurological or psychiatric disorders.

Study Title: The behavioural dynamics of attention and memory during successful learning

Investigator: Dr. Michael Mack, email: michael.mack@utoronto.ca

Purpose of research:

The purpose of this study is to examine how cognitive processes, such as perception, learning, memory, and decision making interact with each other.

Experiment Procedures:

1. Prior to beginning the experimental session, you will be asked to complete a background questionnaire that includes questions about your education, health, and demographics.
2. The computerized experiment will involve observing images of objects, faces, or scenes, or listening to sounds and making judgments about them with key presses or mouse clicks.
3. At the end of the session, you will be fully debriefed as to the rationale and hypothesis underlying this experiment.

Time commitment:

If you choose to participate, you will be asked to complete a testing session that could last for approximately 10-60 minutes. There will be opportunities to rest during the experiment.

Compensation:

You will receive course credit (1 credit/hour) for your participation.

Voluntariness/Early Withdrawal:

This study is entirely voluntary. You are free to leave the experiment at any time, and this will have no bearing on the compensation that you may receive, nor will it have any other undesirable consequences.

Risks/Benefits:

There are no known physical or psychological risks associated with your participation in this study. There are no direct benefits to you for participating in this research study other than the opportunity to learn about the scientific method and its direct application in addressing specific research questions.

Results/Confidentiality:

Data on your performance will be used exclusively for scientific purposes and will be recorded and maintained in confidence and in anonymity by, and available only to Dr. Mack and researchers working under his supervision. No identifying information will be stored with your experimental data. You will be assigned a participant code from the online system and all data collection and analysis will be conducted with this participant code and the date/time of the session. This data is kept in a secure location with restricted access. **The University of Toronto research ethics program may have confidential access to this data to help ensure participant protection procedures are followed.**

Dissemination of Results:

The results of this research will be published in scientific journals or presented at scientific conferences and seminars. Your name or other identifying information will not be included in these presentations. Following the publication of results, digital files containing your data may be made available for other researchers to analyze. Before this data is made available, all names and other identifiable information will be removed.

General information:

If you have any questions about the research, please feel free to contact us by email at macklabuoft@gmail.com.

If you have questions about your rights as a participant, you can contact the Office of Research Ethics at the University of Toronto at 416-946-3273 or email at ethics.review@utoronto.ca.

Participant consent:

I have read and understood the information above regarding the procedures and risks involved in this study and have received satisfactory answers to my questions related to this study.

I understand that if I have any questions or concerns resulting from my participation in this study, I may contact the laboratory members by email at macklabuoft@gmail.com or Dr. Mack at michael.mack@utoronto.ca.

I am aware that I may withdraw from the study at any time without penalty. With full knowledge of all foregoing I agree, of my own free will, to participate in this study.

If you agree to the above statement and would like to continue with this study, please click “I agree”. If you would not like to continue, please click “I disagree”.

☐ I agree ☐ I disagree