

Study Protocol (10%, due on Nov 1 by midnight EST)

Submit a written report on your research study project, with two sections:

Study Protocol and materials. Write a detailed study protocol, detailing every step of the study from start to finish. Include all additional materials (e.g., tasks people have to perform, a semi-structured interview guide, consent form, recruitment message, a spreadsheet assigning participants to conditions/tasks in a counterbalanced or randomized way) necessary to carry out the study. The protocol should be so complete that a person unfamiliar with the project team could reasonably carry out the study. This deliverable mimics the what will be expected of you in a real research project, when you would submit your study details to the ethics review board (at UdeM, this is done via Nagano). If you make Google Forms for subjective measures, save PDF versions of the forms.

You must also **pilot your protocol** and write reflections on what you improved. It is fine to pilot your protocol with a team member (if you don't have a team member, recruit someone from the class).

In addition to your protocol, provide a cover letter with the following sections:

- **A brief description of your project and the major research goals/hypotheses.** It is fine if some of your goals have shifted slightly or refined. (1-2 paragraphs)
- **A summary of your study protocol, summarizing the overall study design, tasks, and measures chosen.** Justify the choices with respect to the goals/hypotheses of your study (2-3 paragraphs).
- **Describe the outcomes of your pilot and what you learned.** How did you refine your protocol in response to piloting? (1 paragraph)
- **A weekly schedule of tasks for the remaining weeks (Nov 3 onwards),** with internal milestones/deadlines for carrying out the study. If you have multiple people, describe who is responsible for what. (You might use table or list format.)
- **Describe any anticipated obstacles to the project, or concerns you have.** How will you address them, if possible? (1-2 paragraphs)

Create a zip file with all these materials and submit them. Again, ensure you have all the materials you would need to carry out the study. The instructor will grade you on the quality of your study (its internal validity and potential to make generalizable claims), your ability to carry out the study within the remaining class time (i.e., before Dec 7), and especially the completeness of the study protocol. Any missing critical materials, such as a counterbalancing procedure or consent forms, will result in deductions.