



CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE AND APPLICATION OF LIBRARY INSTRUCTION

You are asked to participate in a research study conducted by Erin Fields and Jeremy Buhler, from UBC Library at the University of British Columbia. If you have any questions or concerns about the study, please feel free to contact:

Erin Fields
Principal Investigator
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Jeremy Buhler
Co-Investigator
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PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The “First-Year Experience and Application of Library Instruction” study is designed to help us better understand first-year student research skills and use of library services after taking a library workshop. The goals of the study is to gauge the library instruction information you considered most useful in your academic work, if and how you use the information from the workshops, and if this leads you to use library services more often.

PROCEDURES

Focus Group

The focus group will take place in the Chilcotin Boardroom (Rm 256) in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre and will be no more than 90 minutes in length. For UBC-O campus, the focus group will take place in UBC Okanagan Library (Rm 219).

Both investigators will be in attendance. The focus group will be composed of six first-year students from a variety of departments.

The focus group will be audio recorded and observation notes will be taken to allow us to review the information provided during the session.

Prior to the beginning of the focus group, you will be debriefed as to the purpose of the study, confidentiality, and research participation consent form. You will be asked to sign the consent form at this time.



During the focus group you will be asked to discuss questions with the other participants. Each question is related to previous research experience, library instruction and services. The investigators may also ask follow-up questions.

The investigators will stop the focus group five minutes before the end of the session to discuss any questions or concerns you may have and to review the confidentiality agreement and use of the study data. You will also be provided with contact information should you have any additional questions.

Research Findings

The research findings may be in used in both internal and external publications, including journal articles and conference papers. All identifying information will be removed from the data collected. If you are interested in the research findings and would like to have them made available to you, please contact Erin Fields or Jeremy Buhler.

POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS

We understand that you may feel anxious about participating in a discussion that may critique workshops that have been co-developed with your course instructors. Additionally, you may recognize the investigators in the study as librarians who have taught you in one of these workshops.

All responses you provide to us are strictly confidential and will have no identifying information that would associate you to the study. Please read the section on confidentiality in this document.

Additionally, your feedback will help librarians who develop and teach library workshops to design first-year workshops that better meet your needs and the needs of future students. Your honest feedback is both encouraged and welcomed.

PAYMENT FOR PARTICIPATION

You will receive a \$10 UBC Food Services card as a thank you for your time. A light meal will also be provided.



CONFIDENTIALITY

Every effort will be made to ensure confidentiality of any identifying information that is obtained in connection with this study. Your personal information, including contact information used for scheduling, is completely confidential. Access to your data is restricted to Erin Fields and Jeremy Buhler.

Audio will be recorded during the focus groups. Two copies of the recordings will be stored on a non-networked drive in the investigators locked offices. Any responses used for the purpose of the study will be transcribed and participants will be given an anonymous identifier (e.g. Student A, Student B, etc.) in all reports of the findings. Both electronic copies of the focus group recordings will be deleted 5 years after completion of the research project.

Signed consent forms will be stored in a locked filing cabinet in the primary researcher's office. Signed consent forms will be shredded by the principal investigator 5 years after completion of the research project.

We encourage participants not to discuss the content of the focus group to people outside the group; however, we can't control what participants do with the information discussed.

PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

You can choose whether to be in this study or not. If you volunteer to be in this study, you may withdraw at any time without consequences of any kind. You may also refuse to answer any questions you don't want to answer and still remain in the study. If you accept participation, what you say during the focus group will not affect your academic standing at UBC.

If you have any questions or concerns about what we are asking you, please contact the principal investigator or co-investigator. The names and telephone numbers are listed at the top of the first page of this form.

If you have any concerns about your rights as a research subject and/or your experiences while participating in this study, you may contact the Research Subject Information Line in the UBC Office of Research Services at 604-822-8598 or if long distance e-mail RSIL@ors.ubc.ca or call toll free 1-877-822-8598.



Participant Consent Form

Taking part in this study is entirely up to you. You have the right to refuse to participate in this study. If you decide to take part, you may choose to pull out of the study at any time without giving a reason and without any negative impact on your academic standing at UBC.

- Your signature below indicates that you have received a copy of this consent form for your own records.
- Your signature indicates that you consent to participate in this study.

Signature of Participant

Date

Name of Participant (please print)