Informed Consent

Introductory Computer Programming Education Study

Introduction

You are invited to participate in a research study conducted by John Edwards and Chad Mano, Professors in the Computer Science Department at Utah State University. The purpose of this research is to evaluate new techniques in teaching Computer Programming.

This form includes detailed information on the research to help you decide whether to participate in this study. Please read it carefully and ask any questions you have before you agree to participate.

Procedures

Your participation will involve filling out a 10-minute survey at the beginning and at the end of the semester course. You will also be asked occasional survey questions while doing course projects that will take about 2 minutes per week. If you agree to participate, the researchers will also analyze data on how you use the Phanon software to do course exercises and projects. Researchers will also gather information about your ACT scores, high school GPA, and college major from the Registrar's Office at USU. We anticipate that 800 people will participate in this research study.

Risks

This is a minimal risk research study. That means that the risks of participating are no more likely or serious than those you encounter in everyday activities.

Benefits

There is no direct benefit to you for participating in this research study. More broadly, this study will help the researchers learn more about Computer Programming Education and may help future students in their learning experience.

Confidentiality

The researchers will make every effort to ensure that the information you provide as part of this study remains confidential. Your identity will not be revealed in any publications, presentations, or reports resulting from this research study.

We will collect your information through the Phanon web-based software tool. This data will be securely stored on a restricted-access server located on the USU campus. Identifying information will be removed from the data at the conclusion of the semester. This form will be kept for three years after the study is complete, and then it will be destroyed. Deidentified data will be kept indefinitely.

It is unlikely, but possible, that Utah State University or the National Science Foundation may require us to share the information you give us from the study to ensure that the research was conducted safely and appropriately. We will only share your information if law or policy requires us to do so.

The research team works to ensure confidentiality to the degree permitted by technology. It is possible, although unlikely, that unauthorized individuals could gain access to your responses because you are responding online. However, your participation in this online survey involves risks similar to a person's everyday use of the Internet.

Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal

Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. If you agree to participate now and change your mind later, you may withdraw at any time by informing the course instructor or John Edwards via email. As results will be deidentified at the end of the semester, you will not be able to withdraw your data after that point.

IRB Review

The Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the protection of human research participants at Utah State University has reviewed and approved this study. If you have questions about the research study itself, please contact the Principal Investigator at 385.207.8331 or john.edwards@usu.edu. If you have questions about your rights or would simply like to speak with someone other than the research team about questions or concerns, please contact the IRB Director at (435) 797-0567 or irb@usu.edu.

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By signing below, you affirm that you are at least 18 years of age and that you agree to participate in this study. You indicate that you understand the risks and benefits of participation, and that you know what you will be asked to do. You also agree that you have asked any questions you might have, and are clear on how to stop your participation in the study if you choose to do so. Please be sure to retain a copy of this form for your records.

O Yes, I am at least 18 years of age and agree to participate in this study.

_____	_____	_____
Participant's Signature	Participant's Name, Printed	Date

O No, I am not at least 18 years of age or I do not agree to participate in this study.