

“Play and Technology” Research Project – Information for Participants

The person bearing this letter is a student at the University of Michigan enrolled in the class, “Play and Technology” taught by Prof. Christian Sandvig in the Department of Communication Studies. As part of this course, the person bearing this letter is working on a research project about how people play with technology (such as electronic or other games). The university seeks your help with this project. To participate, you must be 18-64 years old. The purpose of this project is to better understand playful behavior and the use of technology, including how games are played and how people think about them.

If you participate in this project, the bearer of this letter may talk to you about play or games, they may correspond with you via e-mail or via social media, they may ask to observe you while you play games, and they may record (audio and/or video), or photograph these conversations and observations on occasions and at locations convenient to you. Your participation in this student project should take about the same amount of time as you would normally spend playing in one session or game on one day. If you are interviewed as part of this project, the interview should take less than one hour.

Participation in this research project is voluntary. You may refuse to participate or you may discontinue participation at any time without penalty. You may agree to participate without agreeing to be photographed or recorded. You will not be compensated for participation in this study, however you may find the experience interesting, and we hope that this research project will help students learn about play, technology, and the conduct of research projects.

In order to share the results of this research project, some of the materials collected by student researchers (such as notes, audio, video, or photographs) may be posted on the Web. The only risk associated with this study is that participants may disclose information that is embarrassing or harmful to them in some way (for example, you might find a photograph unflattering). To protect against this risk, the names of participants will not be disclosed by student researchers. In any publicly shared results from this project, real names will not be used and identifying information will be removed from any quotes that are presented. Photographs and recordings may be presented from this study, but real names and exact locations will not be associated with them.

If you have any questions about this research or if you wish to have quotes, recordings, or photographs removed from this project at a later date, please contact Prof. Christian Sandvig at (734) 763-0861 or via email to csandvig@umich.edu. You will receive a copy of this letter for your own records.

Please check one answer for each line:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes | I am 18-64 years old. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no | I grant permission to be photographed. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no | I grant permission to be videotaped. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no | I grant permission for students to record our conversations. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no | I grant permission for students to post these materials on the Web as part of their class projects without my real name or exact locations. |

(Printed Participant Name)

(Participant Signature)

(Date)