

UW-La Crosse Informed Consent Form

Protocol Title: Using AI to Assess Psychology Majors' Learning

Principal Investigator: Faculty name, department, email

Purpose of the research study:

We are conducting research to explore whether AI tools can be used to assess student learning at similar levels as instructors. This consent form describes the project and asks for your permission to allow us to use academic coursework you produce during this class for research purposes.

What you will be asked to do in the study:

Participation in this study involves completing assignments just as you normally would in the course.

Permission to use course materials:

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You have the option of granting permission to use your coursework for research purposes. If you agree, after the semester ends, the **Eagle Advantage assignment, critical thinking quiz, and exam questions about research ethics** you completed for this course will be evaluated by the researchers and by two AI tools (ChatGPT and Microsoft CoPilot). These evaluations will be independent of any grades you earned on this coursework or in the course. Your grades and experiences in the class will not be negatively affected if you decline permission. You may decline permission now or at any time. Your instructor will not know who has chosen to participate until after final grades are posted for the class.

Confidentiality and data use:

Your identity will be kept confidential. Your name and any other identifying information will be deleted from your coursework before it's evaluated by the researchers or submitted to the AI tools. Your deidentified coursework will be evaluated by the AI tools using a provided rubric to produce a score. Once the deidentified coursework is submitted to the AI tools it can't be individually removed. The deidentified coursework submitted to the AI tools could be used to improve or train the model or used in other ways we cannot predict. The results of this study may be published in scientific literature or presented at professional meetings using grouped data only. Deidentified data may be used in future studies, shared with other researchers, or provided to research journals and/or data sharing sites.

Risks and benefits:

There are minimal risks associated with study participation. There are no direct benefits to you. Faculty may benefit from the project results by learning more efficient ways to do assessments of student learning.

Whom to contact if you have questions:

If you have questions about this study, please contact the principal investigator listed above. If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, contact the UWL Institutional Review Board (irb@uwlax.edu).

Consent decision:

I understand the project and grant permission to use my course material.

Participant (print and sign name): _____ Date: _____

OR

I understand the project and do not grant permission to use my course material.

Participant (print and sign name): _____ Date: _____

Researcher signature: _____ Date: _____

Commented [KK1]: For most SOTL/Assessment projects, students won't be asked to do anything extra in a course, so this statement is sufficient. If consenting students will participate in activities that non-consenting students won't (e.g. take a survey), explain that here along with the time it will take. If you are giving students extra credit for completing research activities in a course, add an "Incentives" section to this form that explains that. Students must have non-research alternatives for obtaining this extra credit if they don't want to participate in the study, and that should be included in the consent form as well.

Commented [KK2]: Be explicit about what coursework you are asking for permission to use.

Commented [KK3]: It's necessary to assure students that their course experiences/grades will not be negatively affected if they choose not to participate. Ideally, the instructor of the course should not know who decides to participate until after grades are submitted to reduce potential bias.

Commented [KK4]: If AI tools will have access to data, the consent form should outline what data the tools will have access to and what the tools will do with the data.

Commented [KK5]: If you might share quotes from student work when publishing/presenting, do not include this phrase. Instead you can say that any results shared will not include identifying information.

Commented [KK6]: If you know for certain that you will not be sharing the data with anyone else or using it for other purposes, you can instead include here that the data will only be used by the study researchers for the purposes described here.

Commented [KK7]: By having students sign the form whether they consent to grant permission or not, all students will turn in a form and instructors won't know each student's decision until they look at the forms (ideally not until after grades have been submitted)