Hello,

My name is Amanda Athon, and I am a PhD student at Bowling Green State University in the English Department. This semester I am conducting a research project that examines how college writing instructors can best meet the needs of multilingual students and students who speak and write in dialects. I would like to know how instructors can better design classroom-based assessment practices, such as rubrics, self-assessment, and reflections, for these groups of students. This research project will be for my dissertation, and I am interested in working with you as a college teacher of writing.

This study will take place throughout the fall 2012 academic semester (approximately August 2012-December 2012) and is completely voluntary.

If you wish to participate, I hope to observe your course once a week for fifteen weeks during the semester. During these visits, I will observe the various writing assignments that you give to students. Twice during the semester, at midterms and near the end of the course, I will provide written surveys to your students to observe how they understand your feedback to the writing they produce in your course. Each of these surveys will take approximately ten minutes of class time. Finally, at the end of the course, I will provide you with a written survey to understand how you feel the course went as well as the strengths and weaknesses of your student writers. This survey will take approximately ten minutes to complete. The data from my observations and analysis will be used as a way to understand how our current methods of writing assessment do or do not meet the needs of diverse student populations.

There are no foreseeable risks associated with this study; any risks are no greater than that experienced in daily life. Participation is voluntary. You are free to withdraw your consent at any time without penalty. Declining to participate or deciding to withdraw participation by not completing the survey will have no consequences or impact your relationship with me, the researcher, or Bowling Green State University, in any way.

Although this research may not impact you directly, the possible benefits of this study include understanding how college writing teachers can instruct students with diverse language backgrounds. Instructors will understand how to produce clear, effective assessment of student writing. The information collected may also benefit future students, first-year writing instructors, as well as Writing Programs in training instructors to work with diverse student populations.

Although absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed with this research study, but confidentiality will be protected to the extent permitted by law. Pseudonyms will be used to refer to instructors, student participants, and the institution. Only members of the research team will have access to the information you provide, and your identity will not be revealed in any published results unless you specifically request identification.

If you have questions about the survey, please contact me. You may contact me through email aathon@bgsu.edu or phone at 419 806-4744. You may also contact my research advisor on this project, Dr. Lee Nickoson, at
Department of English
leenick@bgsu.edu, or phone at 419 372-7556. You may also contact the Chair, Human Subjects Review Board, Bowling Green State University, (419) 372-7716 (hsrb@bgsu.edu), if any problems or concerns arise during the course of the study. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Amanda Athon
Informed Consent for Writing Instructors:
“A Study of Best Pedagogical Practices for Assessing the Writing of Diverse Student Populations”

Introduction and Background Information

You are invited to participate in a research study. The study is being conducted by Amanda Athon from Bowling Green State University, Department of English, as part of her dissertation. This study will last one academic semester and is voluntary.

Purpose

The purpose of this research study is to examine how college writing teachers assess the writing of diverse student populations. I hope to learn how college writing teachers understand the needs of multicultural students as well as any barriers teachers may experience when teaching a diverse classroom. I would like to know how we can best assess the writing of nonnative speakers of English and speakers of dialects. This study will consist of a classroom observation lasting one academic semester, two ten-minute student surveys, as well as a final teacher interview lasting approximately ten minutes. This research project will be for my dissertation, and I am interested in working with you as a college teacher of writing.

Procedures

During the beginning of fall 2012 semester (August 2012 – December 2012) I will attend your class once a week. During this time, I will collect data through written notes regarding the types of writing assignments given to students. The observations will be used as a way to understand how pedagogy is influenced by diverse student populations. Twice during the semester, I will survey your students to gather information on how they understand your writing feedback. Additionally, I would like to survey you at the end of the course to discuss the writing assignments and students’ overall progress in the course. To this end, I will provide you with a written set of survey questions to complete after the course is completed. This survey will take approximately ten minutes. We may also meet throughout the semester if you wish to discuss my research.

I will post updates on my research to a blog, so that participants will know what dates I am planning to visit the classroom and what dates I plan to pass out surveys.

By signing the consent form, you agree to participate in this study. You will not be contacted again after completing the study.
Potential Risks

There are no foreseeable risks associated with this study. Any risk of participation is no greater than that experienced in daily life.

Benefits

The possible benefits of this study include a better understanding of how writing instructors should assess the writing of diverse student populations and how these instructors can accommodate language diversity in the classroom. The information collected may not directly benefit you; however, the information learned will benefit future students, writing instructors, as well as Writing Programs in training instructors to teach writing.

Confidentiality

Although absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed, confidentiality will be protected to the extent permitted by law. Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Signing of the consent form indicates consent to participate. The survey data will be password-protected to keep your responses secure; however, there is risk that confidentiality could be breached. Pseudonyms will be used to refer to instructors and students. Only members of the research team will have access to the information you provide, and your identity will not be revealed in any published results unless you specifically request identification.

Voluntary Participation

Your participation in this research study is voluntary. You are free to withdraw your consent at any time without penalty. Your participation will have no impact on your relationship to me, the researcher, or Bowling Green State University in any way.

Research Subject’s rights and Contact Persons

You acknowledge that all your present questions have been answered in language you can understand and all future questions will be treated in the same manner. If you have any questions about the study, please contact Amanda Athon at 419 806-4744 or (email): aathon@bgsu.edu. You can also contact Dr. Lee Nickoson, my project advisor, at leenick@bgsu.edu or (419)372-7556.

If you have questions about the conduct of this study or your rights as a research participant, you may contact the Chair of Bowling Green State University's Human Subjects Review Board at (419) 372-7716 (hsrb@bgsu.edu).

Consent

By signing and submitting your consent form, you indicate that you have read and have been informed of the above information and hereby consent to voluntarily participate in this study. You also agree that you have been given a copy of the consent.
Informed Consent for Instructor:

Date

Signed

___ I agree to respond to the teacher survey.

___ If chosen, I agree to have my classroom observed.
Hello,

My name is Amanda Athon, and I am a PhD student at Bowling Green State University in the English Department. This semester I am conducting a research project that examines how college writing instructors can best meet the needs of multilingual students and students who speak and write in dialects. I would like to know how instructors can better provide feedback to students through rubrics, self-assessment, and reflections. This research project will be for my dissertation, and I am interested in working with you as a student in General Studies Writing. This study will take place throughout the fall 2012 academic semester (approximately August 2012 - December 2012) and is completely voluntary. This means that you do not have to participate if you do not wish.

If you wish to participate, I will provide a written survey to you, during class, at midterms and at the end of the course. Each survey consists of ten questions and asks you to describe how you understand your teacher’s feedback and grading practices throughout the course. The data from my observations and these surveys will be used as a way to understand how our current methods of writing assessment do or do not meet the needs of students.

Each survey will take ten minutes to complete. Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Signing the consent form indicates consent to participate in these surveys. There are no foreseeable risks associated with this study; any risks are no greater than that experienced in daily life. Participation is voluntary. You are free to withdraw your consent at any time without penalty. Declining to participate or deciding to withdraw participation by not completing the survey will have no consequences or impact your relationship with me, your teacher, or Bowling Green State University, in any way.

Although this research may not impact you directly, the possible benefits of this study include helping college writing teachers provide more helpful feedback to students. The information collected may also benefit future writing instructors, as well as Writing Programs in training instructors to work with diverse student populations.

I have passed out consent documents to the class. As the consent form implies, absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed with this research study, but confidentiality will be protected to the extent permitted by law. Pseudonyms will be used to refer to instructors, student participants, and the institution. Only members of the research team will have access to the information you provide, and your identity will not be revealed in any published results unless you specifically request identification.

If you have questions about the survey, please contact me. You may contact me through email aathon@bgsu.edu or phone at 419 806-4744. You may also contact my research advisor on this project, Dr. Lee Nickoson, at leenick@bgsu.edu, or phone at 419 372-7556. You may also contact the Chair, Human Subjects Review Board, Bowling Green State University, (419) 372-7716 (hsrb@bgsu.edu), if any problems or concerns arise during the course of the study. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Athon
Informed Consent for Students:
“A Study of Best Pedagogical Practices for Assessing the Writing of Diverse Student Populations”

Introduction and Background Information

You are invited to participate in a research study. The study is being conducted by Amanda Athon from Bowling Green State University, Department of English, as part of her dissertation. This study will last one academic semester and is voluntary.

Purpose

The purpose of this research study is to examine how college writing teachers provide writing feedback to diverse student populations. I hope to learn how college writing teachers understand the needs of multicultural students as well as how we can best assess the writing of nonnative speakers of English and speakers of dialects. As part of this study, I will visit your classroom approximately once a week. Your participation in this study will consist of taking two surveys, one given at midterms and one near the end of the course, during class. This research project will be for my dissertation, and I am interested in working with you as a student enrolled in General Studies Writing.

Procedures

During the beginning of fall 2012 semester (August 2012 – December 2012) I will attend your class approximately once a week. At midterms and at the end of the course, I would like to provide written surveys to students who give their consent to participate. Each survey consists of ten questions and will take approximately ten minutes to complete. These surveys ask you to describe the feedback you’ve received throughout the course and to summarize your writing strengths and weaknesses as a writer. The purpose of these student surveys is to see how teachers can provide more helpful feedback to students.

I will post updates on my research to a www.wordpress.com blog, so that participants will know what dates I am planning to visit the classroom and what dates I plan to pass out surveys.

By signing the consent form, you agree to participate in this study. You will not be contacted again after completing the study.

Potential Risks

There are no foreseeable risks associated with this study. Any risk of participation is no greater than that experienced in daily life.
Benefits

The possible benefits of this study include a better understanding of how writing instructors should assess the writing of diverse student populations and how these instructors can accommodate language diversity in the classroom. The information collected may not directly benefit you; however, the information learned will benefit future students, writing instructors, as well as Writing Programs in training instructors to teach writing.

Confidentiality

Although absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed, confidentiality will be protected to the extent permitted by law. Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Signing of the consent form indicates consent to participate. The survey data will be password-protected to keep your responses secure; however, there is risk that confidentiality could be breached. Pseudonyms will be used to refer to instructors and students. Only members of the research team will have access to the information you provide, and your identity will not be revealed in any published results unless you specifically request identification.

Voluntary Participation

Your participation in this research study is voluntary. You are free to withdraw your consent at any time without penalty. Your participation will have no impact on your relationship to me, the researcher, your teacher, or Bowling Green State University in any way.

Research Subject’s rights and Contact Persons

You acknowledge that all your present questions have been answered in language you can understand and all future questions will be treated in the same manner. If you have any questions about the study, please contact Amanda Athon at 419 806-4744 or (email): aathon@bgsu.edu. You can also contact Dr. Lee Nickoson, my project advisor, at leenick@bgsu.edu or (419)372-7556.

If you have questions about the conduct of this study or your rights as a research participant, you may contact the Chair of Bowling Green State University's Human Subjects Review Board at (419) 372-7716 (hsrb@bgsu.edu).

Consent

By signing and submitting your consent form, you indicate that you have read and have been informed of the above information and hereby consent to voluntarily participate in this study. You also agree that you have been given a copy of the consent.

Informed Consent for Student:

Date
Signed

I agree to respond to the surveys.
HUMAN SUBJECTS REVIEW BOARD
Application for Approval of Research Involving Human Subjects – As of January 2012

Please answer all applicable questions and provide the material identified.
Please complete electronically and use current form.

- Applications judged to be incomplete, or vague will be returned to the Principal Investigator (PI) for revision.
- All boxes are expandable so be sure to include complete information.
- SUBMISSION DEADLINES: For Full Board projects – submit at least 2 months before your planned start of recruiting and data collection. For Expedited Review projects – submit at least 5 weeks before your planned start of recruiting and data collection.
- For projects reviewed via the expedited review process - You should receive notification of the results of the initial review of this application 15 – 21 business days from the date of receipt of the application by the Office of Research Compliance.

Ia. General Information:
Name of applicant (Principal Investigator): Amanda Athon
The Principal Investigator is (check one):
☐ Faculty ☐ BGSU Staff ☐ Undergraduate Student ☒ Graduate Student
☐ Off-campus applicant (check this box if you are not affiliated with BGSU but propose to conduct research involving BGSU Faculty, Staff, or Students)
Department or Division: English Campus Phone: (419)372-6864
E-mail: aathon@bgsu.edu Fax:
Have You Completed BGSU Human Subjects Training?
☒ Yes (Office of Research Compliance will confirm training date)
☐ No (This application will not be reviewed. See HSRB website for training information.)

Title of the Proposed Research Project:
"A Study of Best Pedagogical Practices for Assessing the Writing of Diverse Student Populations"

Names of Other Students or Staff Associated with the Project (Student PIs note – Do not include your advisor for this research project here): None

Have you requested, or do you plan to request, external support for this project?
☐ yes ☒ no

If yes, external Funding Agency or Source:
(Note: if the funding source requires certification of IRB approval or if federal funding is requested, this application will go to the full Board for review)
Department of English

Ib. If you are a BGSU student, please provide the following information:

This research is for:  □ Thesis  □ Dissertation  □ Class Project  □ Other

Advisor’s Name (This is the advisor for this research project): Lee Nickolson

Department or Division: English  Phone:  Fax:  E-mail:

Has Advisor Completed BGSU Human Subjects Training?

☒ Yes (Office of Research Compliance will confirm training date)
☐ No (Please see IMPORTANT NOTE, page 1)

II. Information on Projects Using Pre-existing Data

(Skip to Section III if this project does NOT use pre-existing data. Pre-existing data includes retrospective medical chart reviews, public data sets, etc. Sometimes it is referred to as secondary data or archival data.) Some projects involving the use of pre-existing data may not require review by the HSRB. However – it is the HSRB’s responsibility to make that determination – not the researcher’s.

NOTE: If you are obtaining medically-related information from a “Covered Entity” (a health plan, health care clearinghouse or a health care provider who bills health insurers – e.g., hospitals, doctor’s offices, dentists, the BGSU Student Health Service, the BGSU Speech and Hearing Clinic, the BGSU Psychological Services Center), the HIPAA Privacy Rule may apply.

a. Name(s) of existing data set(s) [Include any ancillary data sets you might be linking the main data set(s) to]:

b. Source(s) of existing data set(s):

c. Please provide a brief description of the content of the data set(s):


d. When you obtain the data, will the individual records be anonymous or will they have identifiers/codes attached?

☐ Anonymous (i.e., no identifiers or codes attached to any records in any of the listed data sets)

If your project also involves direct data collection, please go to section III and complete the rest of the application. Otherwise, please go to and complete sections VII.a, VII.b, and IX.

☐ Identifiers/codes attached (examples would include, but not be limited to, record numbers, subject numbers, case numbers, etc.)

d.1 If the records have identifiers or codes attached, can you readily ascertain the identity of individuals to whom the data pertain (e.g., through use of a key that links identifiers with identities; linking to other files that allow individual identities to be discerned)?

☐ Yes, I can ascertain the identity of the individuals.
Please explain in the box below how you will protect the confidentiality of subjects. The Human Subjects Review Board is concerned about 2 dimensions of confidentiality: (1) that the researcher has legitimate access to the records, i.e., the records are not protected by any special confidentiality conditions, and (2) that the researcher will not reveal individual identities unless permission has been granted to do so.

Please continue with section II.e

☐ No, I cannot readily ascertain the identity of the individuals.

Please describe in the box below, the provisions in place that will not allow you to ascertain identities e.g., key to decipher the code/identifier has been destroyed, agreement between researcher and key holder prohibiting the release of the key.

(If your project also involves direct data collection, please go to section III and complete the rest of the application. Otherwise, please go to and complete sections IV (as appropriate), VIIa, VIIb, and IX.)

e. Are the data from a public data set? (A public data set is data available to any member of the public through a library, public archive or the Freedom of Information Act. Data obtained from private companies, hospital records, agency membership lists or similar sources are not usually public data)

☐ Yes

Are you requesting permission to conduct multiple research projects with these data?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

(If your project also involves direct data collection, please go to section III and complete the rest of the application. Otherwise, please go to and complete sections VIIa, VIIb and IX.)

☐ No (if no, please answer the following questions)

f. If you are obtaining access to non-public information, please explain in the box below how you will obtain access to the information (e.g., permission from the CEO, permission from the Board of Education). Note: a condition for approval will be written documentation of this permission – this can be an email from the relevant authority.

☐ YES

☐ NO

g. Before the data were collected, did respondents give their permission for the information to be used for research purposes?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

h. Are you recording the data in a manner that will allow you to identify subjects, either directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

i. If your project also involves direct data collection, please continue completing the rest of the application. Otherwise, please go to and complete sections IV (as appropriate), VIIa, VIIb, and IX.
### III. General Project Characteristics:
Does the research involve any of the following? (If the response to any of the following is “yes,” provide a justification and/or rationale in the box provided below)

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### IV. HIPAA:
If you answer “Yes” to any of the following questions, your project is subject to HIPAA and you must complete the HIPAA Supplement (available online at [www.bgsu.edu/offices/orc/nsrb](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/orc/nsrb)).

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#### b.2
(Complete this only if you answered “Yes” to IV. b—otherwise, skip this item). If the study involves the provision of health care, will a health insurer or billing agency be contacted for billing or eligibility?

### V. Subject Information:
(If the response to any of the following is “yes,” the researcher should be sure to address any special needs of the potential subjects in the informed consent process. For example, if subjects are over the age of 65, then it may be appropriate to use a larger font in all correspondence with subjects to ensure readability.)

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#### a.
Under 18 years of age included in the target population (If “yes” signed, active parental consent is required for those individuals who are under 18 unless a waiver is granted by the HSRB. If you are requesting a waiver of parental consent, this application will go to the full Board for review.)

#### b.
Over 65 years of age as the target population

#### c.
Persons with a physical or mental disability as the target population (If “yes” this application will go to the full Board for review.)
d. Economically or educationally disadvantaged as the target population.

e. Unable to provide their own informed consent
   (If "yes" and the subjects are not children, this application will go to the full Board for review).

f. Pregnant females as the target population
   (If "yes" this application will go to the full Board for review).

g. Victims of crimes or other traumatic experiences as the target population

h. Individuals in institutions (e.g., prisons, nursing homes, halfway houses)
   (If "yes" this application will go to the full Board for review).

VI. Risks and Benefits: (Note: the HSRB retains final authority for determining risk status of a project)

Yes   ☒   No

   Please answer the following questions about the research.

   a. In your opinion, does the research involve more than minimal risk to subjects?
      ("Minimal risk" means that "the risks of harm anticipated in the proposed research are not
greater, considering probability and magnitude, than those ordinarily encountered
in daily life or during the performance of routine physical or psychological
examinations or tests.") If the answer is "yes," explain in the box below and provide
an explanation of the benefits of the research to the subjects and to society.)

   b. Are any emergencies or adverse reactions (physical, psychological, social, legal,
or emotional) probable as a result of the research? (If "yes," explain the measures
to be taken in case of emergency in the box below.)

   c. Will participation in this research result in any appreciable negative change in
      the subject's emotional state? (If "yes," explain the nature of the change and the process
      for assisting subjects in the box provided.)

   d. Economically or educationally disadvantaged as the target population.

   e. Unable to provide their own informed consent
      (If "yes" and the subjects are not children, this application will go to the full Board for review).

   f. Pregnant females as the target population
      (If "yes" this application will go to the full Board for review).

g. Victims of crimes or other traumatic experiences as the target population

h. Individuals in institutions (e.g., prisons, nursing homes, halfway houses)
   (If "yes" this application will go to the full Board for review).

VI. Project Description: (Please provide as much information as you feel will adequately answer the
following questions.)

a. What are you going to study? What is (are) the research question(s) to be answered /
hypotheses to be tested?

   I will study one section of General Studies Writing 1100W, for nonnative speakers of English,
   and one section of General Studies Writing 1100, for native speakers of English during the Fall
   2012 academic semester at Bowling Green State University. I will observe each instructor and
   the students enrolled in the two sections who voluntarily give their consent to be research
   participants. I would like to answer the questions: How can we develop pedagogical approaches
to writing assessment that best meet the needs of diverse student populations? How can we
   respect students' native languages and personal identities when teaching academic English?
   How do students value academic English?

b. Discuss the benefit(s) of this study. Why is this study important? (provide scholarly support)
   Include a discussion of benefits to individual participants as well as to society as a whole.
   NOTE: Compensation or incentives (e.g., gift cards, research credit, extra credit, etc.) offered for
   participation are not considered to be benefits.

   University student populations are becoming increasingly multilingual and our teaching practices
   should better accommodate these students. Even native speakers of English do not naturally
   speak academic English. This study will help instructors and teachers develop teaching
pedagogies that better accommodate nonnative speakers and speakers of diverse dialects, such as African American English or Appalachian English. Scholarship claims that we unknowingly enforce policies of “English Only” in our writing classrooms because we do not design activities and assessments for these student populations. The benefits of this study are greater knowledge of how we can develop writing assessment practices for both students and teachers to better accommodate language diversity.

c. Are there any risks associated with this study? If so, explain how you will minimize the risks to subjects.

The risk of participation is no greater than that experienced in daily life.

d. Who will be your subjects?

I send direct emails to General Studies Writing instructors seeking research participants for this study. I plan to study one section of General Studies Writing 1100W, which enrolls only nonnative speaker of English, and one section of General Studies Writing 1100, which enrolls native speakers of English. During the course, I will ask students to consider participating in a short survey at midterms and near the end of the semester. The instructor and students who voluntarily provide consent will be my research participants.

e. List the maximum number of subjects you hope to enroll.

(Recruiting is not enrollment – you will likely recruit more individuals than will be enrolled in the project. Also, factor in the possibility of withdrawals, which may require enrolling of additional subjects in order to achieve your desired sample size. **If, during the course of the project, you need to increase the number of subjects to be enrolled, you must request Board approval for the increase.**)

I wish to study two GSW 1100 courses at BGSU. Each course has 15 students and one instructor, resulting in a maximum of 32 research participants.

f. How will you recruit your subjects? Please describe the method(s) you will use to recruit (examples include via telephone, mailings, sign-up sheets, etc.). Please include recruitment letters, scripts, sign-up sheets as appropriate with the application.

I will send direct emails to Bowling Green State University General Studies Writing instructors to recruit participants. I will then ask students during classtime to consider participating in a short survey at midterms and near the end of the semester. Students who wish to participate must sign consent forms.

g. Describe the process you will use to seek informed consent from the subjects (Example – provide consent document to potential participants, allow them to read over the information, ask them if they have any questions, answer questions to their satisfaction, then request them to sign the consent document). (See IRBNet library for consent document skeleton.)

I will send documentation explaining my informed consent process via email and have participants sign paper copies. Participants will contact me via email if they are interested in participating. I will provide copies of the informed consent process to interested participants' campus mailboxes.

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g.1. Are you seeking consent/assent from all relevant parties? (If “No”, explain why not in the box provided below)
g.2. Are you having your participants **physically sign hard copies** of consent/assent form(s)?

If "No," you are requesting a waiver of written consent. Please select one of the justifications below.

- [ ] That the only record linking the subject and the research would be the consent document and the principal risk would be potential harm resulting from a breach of confidentiality.
- [ ] That the research presents no more than minimal risk of harm to subjects and involves no procedures for which written consent is normally required outside of the research context.

Please indicate how you will document consent in the box below.

*(For example, in an electronic survey, clicking the next button indicates consent to participate.)*

h. If deception or emotional or physical stress is involved, subjects must be debriefed about the purposes, consequences, and benefits of the research and given information on procedures they can follow or resources that are available to them to help them handle the stress. Please include a copy of all debriefing materials, if applicable.

Debriefing form:  
- [ ] Yes  
- [x] No

i. Explain in the box below the procedures you will follow to protect the confidentiality of your subjects. Include considerations associated with data and/or consent form collection and storage, and dissemination of results. Explain whether or not the study is anonymous. *(Note: It is not always necessary to protect the confidentiality of your subjects, but they must be informed if you plan to quote them directly or reveal their identities in any way.)*

This survey is confidential but not anonymous. I will keep the data from my research participants in this study on a password-protected computer in my home. Only my research team will have access to this data. I will not record data from students who do not give their consent to participate.

j. Describe what subjects will be asked to do or have done to them from the time they are first contacted about the study until their participation in the study ends. Note – a summary of this information should be included in information provided to the subjects as part of the consent process.

Research participants will be sent an email that explains the project including any potential risks and benefits. This email will include a copy of a consent form. If research participants would like to participate, I will give them a hard copy of the consent form to sign. I will attend the instructor's course approximately once a week throughout the semester to write observations of students reactions to the assignments. I will interview the instructor at the beginning, mid-term, and end of the course to gain his or her insights into the course and writing assessment process. I will also survey students, if they give their written consent, to understand how these students assess their own writing and how they understand their teacher's feedback. Their responses will be confidential and I will not provide these students interviews or surveys to the instructor. The study will conclude at the end of the semester.