

Dear Parents,

Your son or daughter has enrolled in an Introductory Psychology course this term at the University of Michigan-Flint. As part of the requirements for this course, students can opt to (1) participate in the Psychology Department's Introductory Psychology Subject Pool, wherein they will participate in 2 hours of psychology experiments, or (2) complete an alternative written assignment where students are asked to summarize the goals and findings of a research article from one of many historical studies in psychology. .

Your child has elected to participate in the Introductory Psychology Subject Pool. Because your son or daughter is currently under the age of 18, federal law requires that we receive parental consent before your child can participate in any type of experimental research. The Introductory Psychology Subject Pool was developed on the premise that students taking psychology courses should learn first hand about psychological research and how it is conducted. It is our belief that the best way to do so is to be a participant in such research. Topics that are studied as part of the experiments in the subject pool include research on memory, perception of objects, attitudes, reading, decision-making, emotions, stereotypes, etc.

The experiments affiliated with the subject pool are designed and conducted by psychology faculty and senior honors students and data collected from these studies may be used for research journal articles, doctoral dissertations, and senior honors theses. Every study affiliated with the subject pool has been reviewed and approved by the University of Michigan-Flint Institutional Review Board to assure compliance with the use of human subjects in research. Prior to participating in any of the experiments, your child will also be given an informed assent statement and afterward, would receive written feedback about the study that they are free to share with you. No identifying information about participants is ever linked directly to any individual student participating in the subject pool and all participants are free to terminate their participation in any given study at any time.

To participate in the subject pool, introductory psychology students complete an online enrollment form at the psychology department's research data base system – Sona Systems for identifying information that will eventually be used to create an individual sign-up account and to qualify them for available studies. This account then allows each student to view those experiments currently included in the psychology's subject pool. Students are free to pick and choose in which of these experiments they would like to participate. The choice is completely up to them and there is no required participation in any specific study. We have provided a detailed description listing the student guidelines for participating in the Introductory Psychology Subject Pool with this letter. In order to allow your child to participate in the subject pool, we require your signature on the enclosed consent form. Please read through the consent form thoroughly. If you wish additional information, please feel free to call the Univeristy of Michigan – Flint Psychology Department at (810) 762-3424.

If you would like more information about the rights of your child as a participant in research studies and the approval of studies included in the psychology subject pool in general, please contact Mary Mandeville, IRB Core Support Staff in the Research Department at the University of Michigan – Flint at (810) 762-3384 or irb-flint@umflint.edu.

Sincerely,

Allen Bellamy
Administrator for Psychology Research Subject Pool

INFORMED ASSENT

Contact Information: Introductory Psychology Subject Pool, University of Michigan-Flint, Department of Psychology, 411 Murchie Science Building, Flint, MI 48473.
Office Phone: (810) 762-3424.

I, _____, hereby willingly agree to participate in the Introductory Psychology Subject Pool for course credit and understand that this requires participation in 2 hours of psychological research. I understand that there is an alternative written assignment available to satisfy the course requirement, but I have freely chosen to participate in the subject pool. I understand that I am expected to abide by all rules and regulations pertaining to participation in the Introductory Psychology Subject Pool and I have been provided with a copy of these rules and regulations. I also understand that any violation of these rules and regulations entitles the Department of Psychology to terminate my participation in the subject pool and as a result, I will be expected to complete the alternative assignment instead. I understand that I am free to choose which experiments or psychological studies I would like to complete for course credit and that I am not required to participate in any single study to satisfy the course requirement. Further, I understand that I am free to refuse to answer specific questions or participate in certain parts of the research studies so described. I also understand that any information collected from me will remain confidential except as may be required by federal, state or local law.

Date

Student's Signature

Please print your name here

Please complete the following information, which is needed for our records in the Undergraduate Office in Psychology to ensure that you receive credit for you participation.

Student's name: _____

E-mail(UMflint accounts only): _____

Term of Participation (circle one): Fall Winter Spring Summer Year: _____

Student UM ID number: _____

Instructor: _____

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Contact Information: Introductory Psychology Subject Pool, University of Michigan-Flint, Department of Psychology, 411 Murchie Science Building, Flint, MI 48473.
Office Phone: (810) 762-3424.

This is to certify that we, the parents of _____, hereby agree to allow our child to participate in the Introductory Psychology Subject Pool at the University of Michigan-Flint. We understand that guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services require parental consent for children and adolescents under the age of 18 to participate in psychological research. We also understand that all research projects affiliated with the Department of Psychology's Subject Pool have been approved by the Institutional Review Board at the University of Michigan-Flint. As a participant of the subject pool, we understand that our child will be involved in psychological research conducted by faculty, graduate students, and senior honors students in the Department of Psychology and that our child will be expected to abide by the rules and regulations for subject pool participation. We understand that violation of these rules and regulations entitles the Department of Psychology to terminate my child's participation in the subject pool, requiring them to complete the alternative written assignment instead. A detailed description of what these rules and regulations are has been provided. We understand that our child will be expected to participate in 2 hours of psychological research as part of the course requirements and that they have freely elected this option over the alternative written assignment. We also understand that our child is free to choose in which studies they would like to participate and that they are not required to participate in any single study for course credit. We further understand that our child is free to refuse to answer any questions or participate in any part of the research studies so described. Further, we understand that all information collected from our child will remain confidential except as may be required by federal, state, or local law.

Date

Parent's/Guardian's signature

Please print your name here

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please have your son or daughter complete the information bellow before returning this form to our office. This information is need for our records in the Undergraduate Office in Psychology to ensure that your child receives credit for their participation.

Student's name: _____

E-mail(UMflint accounts only): _____

Term of Participation (circle one): Fall Winter Spring Summer Year: _____

Student UM ID number: _____

Instructor: _____