

RESEARCH PARTICIPANT CONSENT FORM

Curriculum and Models of Masters-Level Graduate Instructor Training in FYC

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Key Information

Please take time to review this information carefully. This is a research study. Your participation in this study is voluntary which means that you may choose not to participate at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You may ask questions to the researchers about the study whenever you would like. If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to sign this form, be sure you understand what you will do and any possible risks or benefits.

As you may recall from your earlier participation in Phase Two, this exploratory study will examine the existing methods used to train graduate student instructors to teach first-year composition at institutions that offer, at most, a master's degree in English studies, Writing studies, or an equivalent or adjacent field. Most work on graduate instructor training in first-year composition has historically focused on preparation for PhD work or sited in PhD programs, but the master's-granting institution is an understudied context with its own distinct needs. In conducting this study, we hope to better understand the ways that graduate instructor training functions within this specific context to encourage further study and support for these programs as they evolve to meet the needs of their students.

The study is estimated to run for up to four years: survey and interviews will take place in 2023 with analysis to follow. More detailed information about the study can be found below.

What is the purpose of this study?

This study is largely exploratory in nature, using publicly available information and institutional context alongside curricular information to better understand the current methods for training graduate student instructors in master's programs. We hope that this work will serve as a foundation for future work on both graduate instructor training and the nature of master's-level graduate programs in English studies and related fields.

You are being asked to participate because you indicated your interest when completing Phase Two, the survey.

What will I do if I choose to be in this study?

If you choose to participate in Phase 3 of this study, the interview, you will complete one interview. In that interview, you will provide more extended context on your responses and documents submitted in the Phase Two survey. For example, if you submitted orientation materials during the Phase Two survey, you will discuss the orientation process in more detail, with specific attention to how graduate students might engage with those materials. You may also be asked to expand on institutional context information (e.g., teaching loads, course offerings, cohort size) from the Phase Two survey.

Once we have analyzed interview data, we will share a transcript of your interview and invite your comment about the way you are represented in our study, including the possibility of a short, non-recorded member check interview that allows you to engage directly with us. Such participation is not required.

How long will I be in the study?

Our Phase 3 interview will take about 60 minutes, and one interview will be conducted. At any point, you may request to end an interview permanently or to resume it at a later time.

If you choose to review the transcript we provide, that should take about 30 minutes. Similarly, the optional member check interview will take no more than 30 minutes.

What are the sites where this study will take place?

The interviews for this study will take place on the videoconferencing software Zoom.

What are the possible risks or discomforts?

Risks for this study are minimal; however, there are risks present, including social and psychological risks to participants. Discussing work-related topics may cause feelings of stress or anxiety in participants.

During the interview, you will always be free to:

- Not answer a question;
- Redact or amend an answer you have already given;
- Request to end the interview and finish at a later date;
- Request to end the interview and have your survey and/or interview data removed from the study.

Breach of confidentiality is always a risk with data, but we will take precautions to minimize this risk, as described in the confidentiality section below.

Are there any potential benefits?

There are potential benefits to participating in this study. You will reflect on the curriculum, structure, and material conditions of their graduate instructor training programs. You may find this reflection useful for future changes to those training programs.

This study addresses a gap in research on graduate instructor training, and we hope to draw more attention within our field to the ways that training programs can differ based on institutional context. We hope that by identifying how programs are training graduate students in Master's programs, we can then better develop curricula and training that meet their growing diverse professional needs both in and outside higher education.

Our hope is that through ensuing conversations and future research stemming from this work, our field can help develop a broader network of resources and support for those training graduate students to teach first-year composition.

Will I receive payment or other incentive?

All participants who schedule an interview will receive a \$25 gift card, delivered electronically, using the name and email address previously shared with us, or another of your choosing. You may decline the gift card.

According to the rules of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), payments that are made to you as a result of your participation in a study may be considered taxable income.

Are there costs to me for participation?

There are no anticipated costs to participate in this research.

This section provides more information about the study

Will information about me and my participation be kept confidential?

As with the Phase Two survey: yes. We will use a combination of identification numbers, pseudonyms, and careful data handling practices to maximize confidentiality.

Interviews will be conducted and recorded over Zoom videoconferencing software, and Zoom's auto-transcription service will be utilized. After interviews, recordings and transcripts will be deleted from Zoom Cloud Storage, and moved to secure servers provided by Purdue.

We will continue to use pseudonyms and automatically generated identification numbers to enhance confidentiality. When publishing, if referring to your survey responses, shared documents, or interview responses individually, we will use pseudonyms and/or identification

numbers instead of your name and your institution name, so that it will be extremely unlikely for readers to know you participated in the study.

The project's research records may be reviewed by departments at Purdue University responsible for regulatory and research oversight.

What are my rights if I take part in this study?

You do not have to participate in this research project. If you agree to participate, you may withdraw your participation at any time without penalty. If you choose to withdraw, you can notify the researchers at any time and your data will no longer be included in the study. All recordings and transcripts of your interviews will be destroyed.

Who can I contact if I have questions about the study?

If you have questions, comments or concerns about this research project, you can talk to one of the researchers. Please contact Kailyn Shartel Hall or hall554@purdue.edu, or Bradley Dilger at 309-259-0328 or dilger@purdue.edu.

To report anonymously via Purdue's Hotline see www.purdue.edu/hotline. If you have questions about your rights while taking part in the study or have concerns about the treatment of research participants, please call the Human Research Protection Program at (765) 494-5942, email (irb@purdue.edu) or write to:

Human Research Protection Program - Purdue University
Ernest C. Young Hall, Room 1032
155 S. Grant St.
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2114

Documentation of Informed Consent

I have had the opportunity to read this consent form and have the research study explained. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the research study, and my questions have been answered. I am prepared to participate in the research study described above. I will be offered a copy of this consent form after I sign it.

Participant's Signature _____ Date _____

Participant's Name _____

Researcher's Signature _____ Date _____