

Consent Form

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

CONSENT TO BE PART OF A RESEARCH STUDY

1. KEY INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESEARCHERS AND THIS STUDY

Study title: Assessing the impact of a discipline-based education research blog

Principal Investigator: Nicholas T. Young, postdoctoral researcher, University of Michigan

You are invited to take part in a research study. This form contains information that will help you decide whether to join the study.

Taking part in this research project is voluntary. You do not have to participate, and you can stop at any time. Please take time to read this entire form and ask questions before deciding whether to take part in this research project.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY

The purpose of the study is to understand the impacts of the blog PERbites on its readers, including their familiarity with discipline-based education research, their use of discipline-based education research results, and their interaction with peer-reviewed literature. Results of this study will be used to inform future discipline-based education research science communication projects.

3. WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUDY

3.1 Who can take part in this study? Anyone 18 years or older who currently or has read PERbites in the past is eligible to participate.

4. INFORMATION ABOUT STUDY PARTICIPATION

4.1 What will happen to me in this study? You will be asked to answer a series of multiple choice, Likert Scale, and open-ended questions. You are free to skip any question(s) that you do not wish to answer. The entirety of the survey will be performed via Qualtrics.

4.2 How much of my time will be needed to take part in this study? The survey will take 5-10 minutes to be complete. Once you have submitted the survey, your participation in the study will be over.

5. INFORMATION ABOUT STUDY RISKS AND BENEFITS

5.1 What risks will I face by taking part in the study? What will the researchers do to protect me against these risks?

There is no more than minimal risk for participating in this study. Because this study collects information about you, the primary risk of this research is a loss of confidentiality. See Section 8 of this document for more information on how the study team will protect your confidentiality and privacy.

5.2 How could I benefit if I take part in this study? How could others benefit?

You may not receive any personal benefits from being in this study. However, others may benefit from the knowledge gained from this study for future discipline-based education research science communication efforts.

6. ENDING THE STUDY

6.1 If I want to stop participating in the study, what should I do?

You are free to leave the study at any time. If you leave the study before it is finished, there will be no penalty to you. You may leave the study at any time before submitting by closing the browser window with survey. For extra confidentiality, you may also want to clear your recent browser history and cookies. Because the data collected is anonymous, the researchers will be unable to delete your data once you submit the survey.

7. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

7.1 Will I be paid or given anything for taking part in this study? You will receive no financial compensation for your participation in the study

7.2 Who could profit or financially benefit from the study results?

PERbites is part of the ScienceBites sites, some of which receive hosting via the American Astronomical Society, including PERbites. However, at this time, there are no plans to use this data for commercial purposes.

8. PROTECTING AND SHARING RESEARCH INFORMATION

8.1 How will the researchers protect my information? Responses collected via the survey will not include any identifying information that would allow a researcher to ascertain your identity. Any data presented in talks, poster presentations, conference proceedings, reports, or journal articles will be presented in aggregated form or anonymized format for open-ended responses.

8.2 Who will have access to my research records?

There are reasons why information about you may be used or seen by the researchers or others during or after this study. Examples include:

- University, government officials, study sponsors or funders, auditors, and/or the Institutional Review Board (IRB) may need the information to make sure that the study is done in a safe and proper manner.
- Federal or State law may require the study team to give information to government agencies. For example, to prevent harm to you or others, or for public health reasons.

8.3 What will happen to the information collected in this study?

We will keep the information we collect about you during the research for future research projects and for study recordkeeping. We will not keep your name or other information that can identify you directly.

The results of this study could be published in an article or presentation but will not include any information that would let others know who you are.

8.4 Will my information be used for future research or shared with others?

We may use or share your research information for future research studies. If we share your information with other researchers it will be de-identified, which means that it will not contain your name or other information that can directly identify you. This research may be similar to this study or completely different. We will not ask for your additional informed consent for these studies.

We may put the information we collect from you into a repository such as, but not limited to Github. The repository contains information about many people. Your information will be labeled with a code, instead of your name or other information that could be used to directly identify you. Due to an increased risk of identification, responses to open-ended questions will not be included in such repositories.

9. CONTACT INFORMATION

Who can I contact about this study?

Please contact the researchers listed below to:

- Obtain more information about the study
- Ask a question about the study procedures
- Report an illness, injury, or other problem (you may also need to tell your regular doctors)
- Express a concern about the study

Principal Investigator: Nicholas T. Young

Email: ntyoung@umich.edu

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or wish to obtain information, ask questions or discuss any concerns about this study with someone other than the researcher(s), please contact the following:

University of Michigan

Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board (IRB-HSBS)

2800 Plymouth Road

Building 520, Room 1169 Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2800

Telephone: 734-936-0933 or toll free (866) 936-0933

Fax: 734-936-1852

E-mail: irbhsbs@umich.edu

You can also contact the University of Michigan Compliance Hotline at 1-866-990-0111.

10. YOUR CONSENT

Consent/Assent to Participate in the Research Study

By clicking the “*I am at least 18 years older, I understand what the study is about, and my questions so far have been answered. I agree to take part in this study.*” button below, you are agreeing to be

in this study. Make sure you understand what the study is about before you click. Please save a copy of this document for your records, including the contact information in section 9.

Do you agree to take part in this study?

- ☐ I am at least 18 years older, I understand what the study is about, and my questions so far have been answered. I agree to take part in this study.
- ☐ I do not agree to take part in this study

Block 2

First, we're interested in learning about your experience with PERbites and any benefits you may have experienced as a result of reading PERbites.

Please mark the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding your experience with reading PERbites.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	NA
Reading PERbites helps me keep up with discipline-based education research studies.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reading PERbites helps me read research papers that I otherwise wouldn't have.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reading PERbites allows me to read about topics that I otherwise wouldn't have.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please mark the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding how PERbites might have influenced your research or teaching.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	NA
As a result of reading PERbites, I've learned about new instructional strategies.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
As a result of reading PERbites, I've tried a new instructional strategy in my class(es).	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
As a result of reading PERbites, I've learned about a new research method or technique.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
As a result of reading PERbites, I've tried a new research method or technique in my own research.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please mark the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the language and writing of PERbites.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	NA

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	NA
A typical PERbites article is easier to understand than a typical discipline-based education research, peer-reviewed journal article.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
A typical PERbites article uses more accessible/plain language than a typical discipline-based education research, peer-reviewed journal article.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
A typical PERbites article covers the information I care about from the main journal article.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
A typical PERbites article is the ideal length for me.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

How else has PERbites helped you professionally?

Block 1

Second, we are interested in learning how you interact with PERbites.

How did you learn about PERbites?

- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Twitter
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Recommendation from colleague
- ☐ Search engine (e.g. Google, Bing)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

How many PERbites articles do you typically read a year?

- ☐ 1 or 2 PERbites articles a year
- ☐ Less than half
- ☐ About half
- ☐ More than half
- ☐ Practically every article that gets published

How long have you been reading PERbites?

- ☐ Less than a year
- ☐ One year
- ☐ Two years
- ☐ Three years
- ☐ Since the beginning (about 4 years)

What else would you like to tell us about how you interact with PERbites?

Block 3

Third (and almost done!), we are interested in learning more about who our readers are.

What is your current position?

- ☐ High school teacher
- ☐ Undergraduate student
- ☐ Graduate student
- ☐ Postdoctoral researcher/scholar
- ☐ Two-year college instructor/faculty
- ☐ Four-year college/university instructor/faculty (teaching focused)
- ☐ Four-year college/university instructor/faculty (research focused)
- ☐ High school staff
- ☐ College/university staff
- ☐ High school administrator
- ☐ College/university administrator
- ☐ Other

Which of the following best describes your background?

- ☐ Astronomy
- ☐ Biology
- ☐ Chemistry
- ☐ Computer/Information Science
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Geoscience
- ☐ Physics
- ☐ Psychology
- ☐ Other

Do you consider yourself a discipline-based education researcher?

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Might or might not
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Definitely yes

How often do you read discipline, based education research journal articles

- ☐ Never
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ A few times a month
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Daily

What is your gender?

What is your race?

Block 4

Finally, we'd like to give you an opportunity to share anything you haven't been asked about yet. Please remember that your responses are anonymous and we cannot respond directly to anything typed in the box below.

Powered by Qualtrics