Student Experiences of Threshold Capability Development with Intensive Mode Teaching

Student Focus Group

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORM

Purpose of the project: This project will promote and support improved students’ experiences of capability development in units involving intensive mode teaching (IMT). IMT engages students in facilitated learning activities or classes intensively over longer than a few hours in a day, and over fewer days than a traditional course.

Project team: The project is funded by the Australian Government Office for Learning & Teaching SP14-4624. The Project is led by Dr Sally Male at UWA and also undertaken by W/Professor Caroline Baillie, W/Professor Phil Hancock, Professor Cara MacNish and Professor Jeremy Leggoe (The University of Western Australia (UWA)); Dr Stuart Crispin, Professor Dev Ranmuthugala and Mr David Harte (University of Tasmania); and A/Professor Firoz Alam (RMIT University).

Aim of the project: A good practice guide on supporting the student experience of capability development with IMT will be developed.

Participant recruitment: Participation is voluntary. Students who are or have been enrolled in a unit with intensive mode teaching or a unit that is taught in traditional as well as intensive mode teaching will be invited to participate in a focus group by email from a staff member using class email lists.

Consent: Focus group participants indicate consent to participate by signing a consent form.

What happens to the data? The focus group will be recorded and transcribed. The facilitator will remove all identifying details from the transcripts before sharing these with the Project Team, not including any member of the teaching team for the unit, for analysis. The transcripts are the property of the researchers and will be stored securely on the UWA Institutional Research Data Store.

Is the anonymity of participants protected? You will be asked to complete a demographic questionnaire at the start of the focus group. No names will be collected except on the consent forms which will be stored separately from the data. Information that you provide will not be released by the investigators in any form that may identify you. The only exceptions to this principle are if documents are required by law.

Can you withdraw from the project? You are free to at any time withdraw consent to further participation without prejudice in any way. You need give no reason or justification for such a decision. In such cases, your records are destroyed, unless otherwise agreed by you.

What are the risks and inconveniences of the project? In the focus group, participants will be asked to identify transformative concepts and capabilities that are developed in the unit and are critical to future learning or practice. Participants will then be asked to identify factors that helped or hindered development of these. There is no health risk involved and the only inconvenience is volunteering your time. The focus group will be no more than 90 minutes long. Students’ enrolments, grades, and relationships with staff members will be in no way affected by their participation or non-participation in this research. Light refreshments will be provided and participants will receive $20 vouchers.

What are the long term outcomes? We hope to improve students’ experiences of IMT.

Questions or concerns: Approval to conduct this research has been provided by the University of Western Australia, in accordance with its ethics review and approval procedures. Any person considering participation in this research project, or agreeing to participate, may raise any questions or issues with the researchers at any time.

In addition, any person not satisfied with the response of researchers may raise ethics issues or concerns, and may make any complaints about this research project by contacting the Human Ethics Office at the University of Western Australia on (08) 6488 3703 or by emailing to humanethics@uwa.edu.au

All research participants are entitled to retain a copy of any Participant Information Form and/or Participant Consent Form relating to this research project.