**PgCert Academic Practice in Art, Design and Communication**

**Action Research Project Ethical Enquiry Form**

**Participant name:** E-Sinn Soong\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Cohort:** 2

**Tutor name [delete as appropriate]:** John O’Reilly / Mallika Kanyal

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| 1. **What is your research question?**   When teaching a practical skill, how will supplying the student with an illustrated, non-verbal preview of the lesson affect their learning outcome?  The aim of this research is to determine whether independently observing the practical skill prior to the teaching session affects the ability of the student to understand and complete the activity more successfully. Introducing a visual preview, without verbal explanations, encourages students to look closely, and may increase the equity of opportunity to learn for students with different language abilities and approaches to learning. |
| 1. **Who will be providing you with information to help you answer your question, and how will you approach and/or select them?**   Students at UAL  I will ask for voluntary participants from fashion students who are undertaking garment construction workshops delivered by myself or my fellow technicians. I will make an announcement at the beginning of their workshop to let them know about my research and the activity I am proposing to undertake. I will then explain why I am doing it, what will take place, how long it will take and the feedback (in the form of a questionnaire) I would like them to give me.  I will be asking for volunteers to stay for a few minutes after their class ends, to take part in my research and will not turn anyone away who expresses interest. They will have time to consider whether they would like to take part during their class and to read and understand the information and the consent form. The student volunteers will be recruited mainly from the first and second years of various fashion programs at London College of Fashion. |
| 1. **What will you be asking participants to do?**   The research will be structured around the teaching of a short hand sewing process. Participants will be shown how to sew a chain stitch belt loop, which can also be used in other areas of mens and womens garments. The incentive to take part will be the opportunity to learn a skill which will be useful to improve the quality of their work.  I will demonstrate how to make the stitch, explaining the process verbally throughout the process. This should take about 2 minutes. The participants will then be supplied with materials to practice the skill, with the additional support that I would normally offer in a workshop setting in order to help them complete the sample.  I will deliver three different sessions, all demonstrating the same process, but two of the sessions will be accompanied by additional supporting material. Students will take part in only one of the three sessions and the difference in responses between the sessions will determine if there is any measurable difference in the students learning outcome. The first one will offer only a live demonstration. This will act as the baseline from which to compare the results of the two interventions. The second session will offer a video showing the process, with no explanation offered, prior to the live demonstration. The third will show students a printed step by step guide, illustrated through photographs with no accompanying words, prior to the demonstration.  On completion, the participant will be asked to fill in a short questionnaire about their learning experience. The questionnaire will ask some yes/no questions and also a number which can be answered by shading in a bar like a graphic sliding scale. Samples questions:  Yes/No questions:   1. Were you aware of how to sew a chain stitch belt loop prior to this demonstration? 2. Have you ever tried to sew a chain stitch belt loop before? 3. Were you able to complete a sample of the chain stitch belt loop today?   Slider questions:   1. How clear did you find the demonstration? Muddy-Clear 2. After watching the demonstration how confident are you that you understand how to sew a chain stitch belt loop? Confused face- Smiley face 3. How much additional instruction did you need to help you complete a sample of the stitch? None- A lot   Open box for additional comments:   1. Is there anything you feel would help you learn better or anything that you feel makes it more difficult to learn a sewing skill?   I will ask to take a photograph to document the standard of the artefacts achieved, but there will be no pressure applied if participants do not consent to this. I will also be making additional notes of my observations on how successful I felt the teaching activity was. |
| 1. **How will you get informed consent from these participants?**   I will be giving all students an information sheet explaining my research project, what I will be using the data for and how it will be stored and that by returning a completed questionnaire they are giving implied consent to their anonymous participation in my research. The questionnaire will have a tick box to give consent. Once the questionnaire has been returned to me, because the responses are anonymous, the participant will not be able to retract their consent.  If participants consent to having their sample photographed, I will have a separate Consent Form prepared which will state the intended use of the image and how it will be stored, for them to sign. |
| 1. **What potential risks to the interests of participants do you foresee and what steps will you take to minimise those risks?** A participant’s interests include their physical and psychological wellbeing; their commercial interests; and their rights of privacy and reputation.   The area where the research will take place has been Health and Safety assessed for the kind of activity that I will be undertaking, so there should be minimal physical risk to the participants.  To reduce any potential risk to participants’ mental wellbeing, I am structuring the demonstration around a very short procedure and will be anonymising the completed questionnaires and providing envelopes for them to be returned in, so participants can be confident that I cannot identify and associate their completed questionnaire with the individual, to reduce anxiety around being judged for their answers.  The photographs of the samples that the participants complete, will be taken on a blank background with no note made of who produced it attached to it. The participant will be given the option of refusing permission for it to be photographed. All efforts will be made to remove any pressure to allow permission, by being sensitive and observant of their feelings. |
| 1. **What potential risks to yourself as the practitioner do you foresee and what steps will you take to minimise those risks?**   I do not foresee any risk to myself. |
| 1. **Does your project involve children or vulnerable adults e.g. a person with a learning disability?**   NO. Some of the participants may have a learning disability which has not been disclosed, but as they will have already taken part in a class which involved a similar setting and activity, the student should not be under any additional risk. |
| 1. **How will you store the information you gather from participants?**   The data from the questionnaires and the photographs of the final outcomes will be stored on the UAL secure server. The questionnaires will be retained so that the data can be used in future research. |
| **I confirm my responsibility to deliver the project in accordance with the Code of Practice on Research Ethics of the University of the Arts London (the University). In signing this form I am also confirming that:**   1. **The form is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.** 2. **I understand and accept that the ethical propriety of this project may be monitored by the relevant College Research body and/or the University’s Research Ethics Sub-Committee.** |
| Signed: ­­E-Sinn Soong\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: Oct 9, 2023\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **I support this project and have** **reviewed it with the participant:**  Signed: ­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |