

## Information Sheet for Student Participants

**University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
Information about a Research Study**

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**IRB Study 08-0121**

**Consent Form Version Date: 6/3/2008**

**Title of Study:** Digital Library Curriculum: Module Evaluation

**Principal Investigator:** Barbara M. Wildemuth, Ph.D.

**UNC-Chapel Hill Department:** School of Information & Library Science

**Study Contact telephone number:** 919-962-8072

**Study Contact email:** wildem@ils.unc.edu

**Other members of the project team:** Jeffrey Pomerantz, Ph.D., UNC-CH; Edward A. Fox, Ph.D., Virginia Tech University

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**What are some general things you should know about evaluation studies?**

You are being asked to take part in an evaluation study. To join the study is voluntary. You may refuse to join, or you may withdraw your consent to be in the study, for any reason, without penalty.

Evaluation studies are designed to obtain new knowledge. This new information may help people in the future. You may not receive any direct benefit from being in the evaluation study. There also may be risks to being in research studies.

Details about this study are discussed below. It is important that you understand this information so that you can make an informed choice about being in this evaluation study. You should ask the researcher named above, or other members of the project team, any questions you have about this study. You can ask your questions at any time.

**What is the purpose of this study?**

Your teacher, [instructor name], is using a module of a digital library curriculum in your course this semester. This learning module includes a set of learning objectives, readings to be assigned, notes on topics to be covered, and possible learning activities and assignments. We would like your feedback about the effectiveness of this module, and your suggestions about how it can be improved before it is disseminated more widely.

**How many people will take part in this study?**

All the students in your class, [course title], are being asked to participate. In the full evaluation of the module, we hope to include several (2-3) classes who are using it this semester or next, at various universities.

**What will happen if you take part in the study?**

Just after the class has completed the module, I will contact you by email (using the address provided by your instructor). The email message will contain a link to a very brief questionnaire that you will fill out. At that time, you will also be asked for your permission for us to use your

academic work in the module (learning activities and assignments) to help assess the module's effectiveness in supporting your learning.

All correspondence concerning your participation in the evaluation study will be between you and the research project team. Your instructor will not be informed about whether you are participating in the evaluation or not.

**How long will your part in this study last?**

The questionnaire will take about 5 minutes to complete.

**What are the possible benefits from being in this study?**

Evaluation studies like this one are designed to provide feedback about a particular product – in this case, a curriculum module. Your participation is important to help us improve the quality of this module prior to its wider dissemination.

**What are the possible risks or discomforts involved from being in this study?**

We do not think you will experience any discomfort or risk from completing the questionnaire.

**How will your privacy be protected?**

Once the data collection process is complete for this evaluation, all identifiers that link you or your university to the data set will be destroyed. This includes your name and email address. No information identifying you, your course, or your university will be included in reports of this evaluation study.

**Will you receive anything for being in this study?**

After filling out the survey, you will be eligible for a random drawing among the members of your class, for a \$5 gift card at Starbucks' Coffee.

**Will it cost you anything to be in this study?**

There are no costs for being in the study.

**What if you have questions about this study?**

You have the right to ask, and have answered, any questions you may have about this research. If you have questions, or concerns, you should contact me at wildem@ils.unc.edu. If you'd prefer, you can contact other members of the project team (Jeff Pomerantz, jpom@email.unc.edu, or Ed Fox, fox@vt.edu) with questions.

**What if you have questions about your rights as a research participant?**

All research on human volunteers is reviewed by a committee that works to protect your rights and welfare. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a research subject you may contact, anonymously if you wish, the UNC-CH Institutional Review Board at 919-966-3113 or by email to IRB\_subjects@unc.edu.

**Thank you for helping us with this evaluation study.**

## **Information Sheet for Instructor Participants**

**University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
Information about a Research Study**

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**IRB Study 08-0121**

**Consent Form Version Date: 12/20/2007**

**Title of Study:** Digital Library Curriculum: Module Evaluation

**Principal Investigator:** Barbara M. Wildemuth, Ph.D.

**UNC-Chapel Hill Department:** School of Information & Library Science

**Study Contact telephone number:** 919-962-8072

**Study Contact email:** wildem@ils.unc.edu

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Details about this study are discussed below. It is important that you understand this information so that you can make an informed choice about being in this evaluation study. You should ask the researcher named above, or other members of the project team, any questions you have about this study. You can ask your questions at any time.

**What is the purpose of this study?**

You are using a module of a digital library curriculum in your course this semester. We would like your feedback about the effectiveness of this module, and your suggestions about how it can be improved before it is disseminated more widely.

**How many people will take part in this study?**

If you decide to be in this study, you and all the students in your class will be asked to participate. In the full evaluation of the module, we hope to include several (2-3) classes who are using it this semester or next.

**What will happen if you take part in the study?**

I will phone you for an interview, at your convenience. At that time, I will ask you if you are willing to participate in the study, and if you are willing to have your interview recorded. If you agree to participate, I will ask you questions related to: 1) the module's objectives, 2) the body of knowledge presented, 3) the readings assigned, 4) the learning activities suggested, 5) the logistics and practical aspects of implementing the module, and 6) the overall structure of the module. I will audio record what you say. You do not have to answer any questions that you do not wish to answer,

for any reason. If you would prefer not to be recorded, I will take notes during the interview.

In addition, I will ask you to provide me with the work your students complete during this module, along with any grades you assign to that work. If a student decides not to be in the study, this documentation will be destroyed immediately. If a student decides to be in the study, it will be used, in combination with his or her responses to a questionnaire, to understand the module's effectiveness from a student perspective.

**How long will your part in this study last?**

The interview will take 30-45 minutes. You can choose to stop the interview at any time.

**What are the possible benefits from being in this study?**

Evaluation studies like this one are designed to provide feedback about a particular product – in this case, a curriculum module. Your participation is important to help us improve the quality of this module prior to its wider dissemination.

**What are the possible risks or discomforts involved from being in this study?**

We do not think you will experience any discomfort or risk from the interview.

**How will your privacy be protected?**

Once the data collection process is complete for this evaluation, all identifiers that link you or your university to the data set will be destroyed. This includes your name, phone number, and email address, as well as your students' names and email addresses. No information identifying you, your course, or your university will be included in reports of this evaluation study.

**Will you receive anything for being in this study?**

You will not be paid for your participation, but your information is very important to us.

**Will it cost you anything to be in this study?**

There are no costs for being in the study.

**What if you have questions about this study?**

You have the right to ask, and have answered, any questions you may have about this research. If you have questions, or concerns, you should contact me at wildem@ils.unc.edu. If you'd prefer, you can contact other members of the project team (Jeff Pomerantz, jpom@email.unc.edu, or Ed Fox, fox@vt.edu) with questions.

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