



Informed Consent to Participate in Research Involving Minimal Risk

Pro # 00026082

You are being asked to take part in a research study. Research studies include only people who choose to take part. This document is called an informed consent form. Please read this information carefully and take your time making your decision. Ask the researcher or study staff to discuss this consent form with you, please ask him/her to explain any words or information you do not clearly understand. The nature of the study, risks, inconveniences, discomforts, and other important information about the study are listed below.

We are asking you to take part in a research study called:

Investigating Transformation: An Exploratory Study of Perceptions and Lived Experiences of Graduate Teaching Assistants

The person who is in charge of this research study is Christina Partin. This person is called the Principal Investigator. However, other research staff may be involved and can act on behalf of the person in charge. She is being guided in this research by Barbara Shircliffe.

The research will be conducted at the University of South Florida.

Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study is to:

- Gain a better understanding of graduate teaching assistants' perceptions of their experiences in that role.
- You are being asked to participate in this study because you have been identified as a graduate teaching assistant who has completed at least one full (academic) year in that role.
- This study is being conducted as partial fulfillment of the degree requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education.

Why are you being asked to take part?

This study aims to gain a better understanding of graduate teaching assistants' perceptions of their experiences in that role. We are asking you to take part in this research study because you have been identified as a person who has worked at the University of South Florida as a Graduate Teaching Assistant. Your insights about your experiences would provide valuable information to help inform this study.

Study Procedures:

If you take part in this study, you will be asked to:

- Participate in 1-2 interview sessions, which are anticipated to last no longer than one hour each or two hours total.
- The interviews will be conducted at the University of South Florida in Cooper Hall 232, or if requested, another on-campus location to provide comfort and convenience to the participant.
- The audio portion of the interviews will be recorded so that they may be transcribed. Only the primary investigator (Christina Partin) will have access to these recordings. The recordings will not contain personally identifying information. As the recordings will be digital, they will be maintained in a password-protected file for 5 years after the final report has been submitted and will be deleted once the study has concluded.

Total Number of Participants

About 10 individuals will take part in this study at USF.

Alternatives / Voluntary Participation / Withdrawal

You do not have to participate in this research study. You should only take part in this study if you want to volunteer. You should not feel that there is any pressure to take part in the study. You are free to participate in this research or withdraw at any time. There will be no penalty or loss of benefits you are entitled to receive if you stop taking part in this study. The decision not to participate will not affect your student status or job status. You are free to decide to participate in this research or to withdraw at any time. There will be no penalty or loss of benefits that you are entitled to receive if you decide not to participate or to discontinue participation at any time. Your decision will not affect your student status, course grade, recommendations, or access to future courses or training opportunities.

Benefits

We are unsure if you will receive any benefits by taking part in this research study. You may find catharsis from the process of talking about your experiences openly in a safe, confidential, and judgement-free environment. Your responses will inform this study which provide insight and contribute to the academic community, which may benefit future graduate teaching assistants. Of course, your responses will be confidential and will be used only for the purpose of the study you are participating in.

Risks or Discomfort

This research is considered to be minimal risk. That means that the risks associated with this study are the same as what you face every day. There are no known additional risks to those who take part in this study.

Compensation

You will receive no payment or other compensation for taking part in this study.

Costs

It will not cost you anything to take part in the study.

Conflict of Interest Statement

The investigators in this study have no external interests or relationships related to this research, and therefore no conflict of interest exists.

Privacy and Confidentiality

We will keep your study records private and confidential. Certain people may need to see your study records. Anyone who looks at your records must keep them confidential. These individuals include:

- The research team, including the Principal Investigator, study coordinator, research nurses, and all other research staff.
- Certain government and university people who need to know more about the study, and individuals who provide oversight to ensure that we are doing the study in the right way.
- Any agency of the federal, state, or local government that regulates this research.
- The USF Institutional Review Board (IRB) and related staff who have oversight responsibilities for this study, including staff in USF Research Integrity and Compliance.

We may publish what we learn from this study. If we do, we will not include your name. We will not publish anything that would let people know who you are.

A federal law called Title IX protects your right to be free from sexual discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence. USF's Title IX policy requires certain USF employees to report sexual harassment or sexual violence against any USF employee, student or group, but does not require researchers to report sexual harassment or sexual violence when they learn about it as part of conducting an IRB-approved study. If, as part of this study, you tell us about any sexual harassment or sexual violence that has happened to you, including rape or sexual assault, we are not required to report it to the University. If you have questions about Title IX or USF's Title IX policy, please call USF's Office of Diversity, Inclusion & Equal Opportunity at (813) 974-4373.

You can get the answers to your questions, concerns, or complaints

If you have any questions, concerns or complaints about this study, or experience an unanticipated problem, call Christina Partin at 813-974-2893.

If you have questions about your rights as a participant in this study, or have complaints, concerns or issues you want to discuss with someone outside the research, call the USF IRB at (813) 974-5638 or contact by email at RSCH-IRB@usf.edu.

Consent to Take Part in this Research Study

I freely give my consent to take part in this study. I understand that by signing this form I am agreeing to take part in research. I have received a copy of this form to take with me.

Signature of Person Taking Part in Study

Date

Printed Name of Person Taking Part in Study

Statement of Person Obtaining Informed Consent

I have carefully explained to the person taking part in the study what he or she can expect from their participation. I confirm that this research subject speaks the language that was used to explain this research and is receiving an informed consent form in their primary language. This research subject has provided legally effective informed consent.

Signature of Person obtaining Informed Consent

Date

Printed Name of Person Obtaining Informed Consent