

Appendix (i) Participant Information Sheet

Participant Information

Ethics reference number: ERGO/FoPSE/8636	Version: 1	Date: 28 January 2014
Study Title: Forms of Student Engagement: development and application of the Southampton post-course research (UKSE) iSurvey.		
Investigators: Dr Julie Wintrup Principal Teaching Fellow Centre for Innovation and Leadership in Health Sciences Dr Kelly Wakefield Senior Research Assistant Centre for Innovation and Leadership in Health Sciences		

Please read this information carefully before deciding to take part in this research. If you are happy to participate you may be asked to sign a consent form. Your participation is completely voluntary.

What is the research about? This research aims to explore the different forms of engagement MOOC learners describe and exhibit and discover if these are comparable to more traditional blended education. The study is funded by the Higher Education Academy (HEA).

Why have I been chosen? You have been approached because you are enrolled on a University of Southampton MOOC.

What will happen to me if I take part? If you wish to participate in this research through the iSurvey you should click on the iSurvey link embedded within Week 6 of the MOOC or respond to the dedicated email. It will take about 10 minutes in total. If you wish for your reflective writing to be included in this research, you should opt in by clicking on the button embedded in Week 6 of the MOOC or respond to the dedicated email.

Are there any benefits in my taking part? Not to you, but your participation in this study should benefit the next cohort of learners that take part in a University of Southampton MOOC as we learn more about your experiences. The study will also add to current knowledge about engagement with MOOCs.

Are there any risks involved? As a MOOC learner, you may be worried about the privacy and confidentiality of any views you share with me. My responsibility under the Data Protection Act means

anything you share with me will be entirely confidential and not be shared with anyone else other than in a fully anonymised form which ensures you could not be recognised. It is stored securely and confidentially by me. There is no risk that anything you share as part of the iSurvey could affect your relationships with educators, your educational experience or your achievement on the MOOC.

Will my participation be confidential? All data collected is anonymous. Your data will be kept confidential. It will be held on a password protected computer, and used only for the purposes of this study.

What happens if something goes wrong? Should you have any concern or complaint, contact me if possible Senior Research Assistant, Kelly Wakefield (k.wakefield@soton.ac.uk) or the FoPSE office, Dr Cecilia Di Chio (C.Di-Chio@soton.ac.uk) or any other authoritative body such as Dr Martina Prude, Head of Research Governance (02380 595058, mad4@soton.ac.uk).