



De La Salle University

Research Ethics Review Committee

Research Ethics Office, 3F Henry Sy Sr. Hall
De La Salle University Manila
2401 Taft Avenue, Manila 1004, Philippines
REO@dlsu.edu.ph (632) 524-4611 loc. 513

SOP No.: 2

Form No.: 2(K)

Version No.: 1

Version Date: March 2017

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Checklist G¹

Research Ethics Checklist for Investigators conducting Internet Research

This checklist must be completed AFTER the De La Salle University Code of Research Ethics and Guide to Responsible Conduct of Research has been read and BEFORE gathering data. The University Code of Research Ethics is available at http://www.dlsu.edu.ph/offices/urco/forms/URCO-Code-of-Research-Ethics_August2011.pdf

NOTE: This checklist is completed after the research proponent fills out the General Checklist Form and Checklist A.

Only answer this Checklist if you are conducting Internet Research (research on online communities).

Which of the following online data will you be using in your research? Check all that apply:

- ☐ Social Media Platform (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, 9gag)
- ☐ Blogs & Forum including Comments (e.g. BoredPanda, Reddit)
- ☐ E-mails & Chats
- ☐ Video Blogs (e.g. YouTube)
- ☐ Collaborative (e.g. Wikipedia)
- ☐ Websites (e.g. News, Media, Company, E-Commerce, Government, etc.)
- ☐ Online Recruitment Platform (e.g. Mechanical Turk, Freelancer, E-lance, O-Desk)
- ☐ Open Source Websites (e.g. GitHub)
- ☐ Others: _____

¹ This checklist serves as a guide to make the researcher aware of the ethical issues that may have to be addressed in planning a study.



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Where will you source your data?

- ☐ New
- ☐ Existing
- ☐ Combination

What type of data will be collected?

- ☐ Text
- ☐ Audio
- ☐ Video/Film
- ☐ Photo
- ☐ Metadata (e.g. Profile, Geographic Location, Tags)
- ☐ Presentations (e.g. downloaded PowerPoint or Keynote presentations)
- ☐ Contents of an application such as input, output, log files for analysis software, simulation software, schemas
- ☐ Correspondence, including electronic mail

What is the period coverage of data collection? (indicate in years and months)

How many participants will you collect data from?

What are all the websites you will source your data from? Please list all URLs:



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How will informed consent be obtained? Please check.

- ☐ Electronic Information Sheet with "check box" for consent
- ☐ E-mail with name
- ☐ Consent implied through submitting information
- ☐ Written Consent
- ☐ Audio-recorded Consent
- ☐ Others: _____

How will the participants obtain a copy of the informed consent form? Please check.

- ☐ Hard copy
- ☐ Online copy (If online copies will be given, the users should be able to click on the Print button incorporated in the information page, or an e-mail should be sent to the participant containing the agreement form.)

If a participant wishes to leave the study and wishes to withdraw the submitted information, describe the steps a participant must take to withdraw from the study in the research proposal and in the informed consent form.

	Yes	No	Not Applicable
1. Is the data you are planning to gather publicly available?			
If NO...attach a letter of support from the website or server owner/moderator indicating approval to use this for data gathering			
2. Will the participants be compensated for participating?			
If YES...indicate the type of compensation to be provided and provide information on how appropriate and just			



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compensation (proportionate to the contribution in the research, research budget, and local conditions) will be provided.			
<p>3. Will you have minors as participants in your study? Minors are individuals under the age of 18 years old.</p> <p>If YES...Obtain parental/guardian consent and participant assent to participate in your study. Attach the parental consent and assent forms to your proposal. The consent forms should indicate the measures you will undertake to ensure confidentiality and protect the participants. The electronic versions of the consent forms are acceptable.</p>			
<p>4. Will data collection involve students?</p> <p>If YES... let the participant sign an informed consent form that assures that his/her academic status will not be affected by participation or non-participation in the study.</p>			
<p>5. Will data collection involve persons who belong to a vulnerable group (PWDs, minorities, abuse victims, students, etc.)</p> <p>If YES... ensure that the participants are briefed about the study and the data gathering protocols, and will be provided special assistance should they require it. Please submit a corresponding detailed research protocol.</p>			
	Yes	No	Not Applicable
<p>6. Will data be collected using an automated system? (e.g. hardware, software, or meta search engines)</p> <p>If YES... provide details on the automation system (web crawler, etc.)</p>			
<p>7. Will there be information about the study that will be deliberately withheld from the participants?</p>			

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If YES... what information will be withheld, what are the benefits for doing so, and how will debriefing be done?			
8. Will your data be stored after this study? If YES, please indicate in the research proposal how long data will be stored, and how it will be stored. Include this information in the informed consent form and provide a plan for data confidentiality.			
9. Will the data be made available for future research? If YES... indicate in the informed consent form that the results of the study will be used for future studies. Specify that the identity of the participant will be anonymized in future studies. Provide participants with the option to allow the results to be used for further studies and the option to withdraw their results from future studies.			
10. Will you anonymize the participants in your data? If YES...provide details on how you will assure the confidentiality and anonymity of the participants.			
10. Will the results of this study have a commercial value? If yes, do you intend to apply for a patent for the output of this research? Please check: _____ Yes _____ No			

<i>I certify that I have read and understood the De La Salle University Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and will abide by the ethical principles in this document.</i>	
Name and Signature of Principal Investigator	Date

FOR GRADUATE and UNDERGRADUATE DLSU STUDENTS ONLY



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I confirm that the student(s) is/are capable of undertaking this research in a safe and ethical manner.

Adviser's Name

Signature

Date