



## Informed Consent

You are being asked to participate in a project conducted through Maryville University by [REDACTED], working under the direction of my faculty research advisor, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] The University requires everyone who agrees to participate in this project to provide signed consent to do so.

### Purpose

**The overall purpose of this research is to explore the effects of including social justice topics while learning science.**

The overall goal is to see if students become more interested in science, by looking at science as a human endeavor thereby seeking further study in the science fields. Also, I aim to get students to understand problem solving while using the scientific process.

### Participation

Your participation will involve a pre assessment on the scientific process, a pre survey about student interest in STEM, an open ended prompt(based off of the unit we are studying) where you will identify elements of the scientific method(that will be used as a pre and a post assessment), an end of the year student choice project that focuses on an current issue, and a post survey to see if attitudes about STEM have changed. Throughout the student choice project, I will be making observational notes about student attitudes about using the scientific process to solve a societal issue.

**The students will take part in these activities whether they are a part of the study or not.** This information will help to inform me of ways to raise students' interest in science. The question is more of whether you and your student are comfortable with me using their assessments, their surveys and my observational notes as part of my data. The amount of time of your participation will be 5, 45–50-minute assessments and 45-minute class discussions on reading prompts,

### Risks

This research study may include some risks or discomfort. The risks associated with this research are minimal. The study possesses a minimal risk to participants. In my experience, many Kirkwood students hold themselves to a very high standard and may get nervous about succeeding through the study. Especially, if pretest scores are less than favorable. I will reinforce to that the study is voluntary and whether they participate or not, will have no bearings on their marks for the class.

### Benefits

The possible benefit for you from this research is perhaps an increase of understanding of how science can be used to solve societal issues that they may one day not only face but have a hand in solving. We do not promise you will receive benefits from this study.

*To maintain confidentiality about your personal records the researcher safeguard the student's privacy and confidentiality in this study. I will report the data using pseudonyms without identifying information so that the privacy of the students will be protected, and no one will be able to tell who an individual could be. The observations, surveys, and assessments will also be kept safe, in my password protected computer, and not be shared with anyone. All data will be deleted after 2 years.*

Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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### Dissemination

The results of this study will be printed in a doctoral project; will be shared with my research advisor, members of my research cohort at Maryville University and potentially be used during professional development activities at [REDACTED]. The results of the study will also be shared with school district administrators. Additionally, de-identified data collected from this study could be used for future research studies or distributed to another investigator for future research studies without additional informed consent from the subject or the legally authorized representative.

### Questions

If you have any questions regarding this study, or if any problems arise, you may call the researcher, [REDACTED] or my research advisor, [REDACTED]

### Integrity

Maryville University recognizes its federally mandated responsibility to ensure that research be conducted in an ethical and scholarly manner, respecting the rights and welfare of all the human participants.

Maryville University investigators, and their colleagues who are conducting research, recognize the importance of your contribution to the research studies which are designed to improve educational learning environments. Maryville University investigators and their staffs will make every effort to minimize, control, and treat any complication that may arise as a result of this research.

By signing this form, you acknowledge that you have read and understand this form, and that you have had an opportunity to ask questions about the research project. You are voluntarily agreeing to participate in a study based on the information presented to you. You may choose to withdraw at any time without prejudice or penalty. You will receive a copy of this form, which will include the name and phone number of the researcher and the IRB at Maryville University, should you have any questions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Student Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Researcher's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*The date approval stamp on this consent form indicates that the project has been reviewed and approved by the Maryville University Institutional Review Board.*

Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_