



Participant Information Sheet

1. Title of Study

Exploring students' Ego-Identity in Real and Cyberspace on Learning achievement motivation

2. Version Number and Date

Version 1, September 2nd, 2022.

3. Invitation Paragraph

You are invited to participate in a research study. Before you decide whether or not to participate, it is important for you to understand how this research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and feel free to ask us if you would like to have more information. Please also feel free to discuss this with your friends if you wish. We would like to stress that you do not have to accept this invitation and should only agree to take part if you want to.

Thank you for reading this.

4. What is the purpose of the study?

This study aims to explore and examine differences in ego-identity in real and cyberspace on students' learning achievement motivation to provide implications on instructional strategies for blended learning.

5. Why have I been chosen to take part?

To answer these questions, this study will conduct an online survey on 400 Chinese university students above 18 years old.

6. Do I have to take part?

Your participation is voluntary, and you are free to withdraw at any time without explanation and without incurring a disadvantage.

7. What will happen if I take part?

Upon the ethical approval by the university, the researchers will invite students to participate in the online survey with research information sheet to inform research purposes, research outcome utilizations, and data management. Participants' consent will be gained as part of proceeding with an online survey. The survey questionnaires are developed based on

literature reviews and conducted anonymously and completed at the convenience of the participating respondent. The survey is expected to take 20 minutes, maximum. Although the survey does not require participants' personal information such as name and contact number, the survey will ask participants information about gender, year of study, major, students no, level of level of digital competency and internet use time. Thus, the researchers will remove all personal identities, instead, data will be secured in codes and pseudonyms.

8. Expenses and / or payments

There is no expense or payment for participating in this project.

9. Are there any risks in taking part?

There is a minimal disadvantage associated with participants' involvement in this study. The main, low-level risk to participants is an inconvenience. In order to avoid such inconvenience, the interview will be arranged according to the participants' schedules. The online survey will be self-paced according to the participants' schedules.

10. Are there any benefits in taking part?

Participants will benefit from the future research results through a better understanding of the differences between ego-identity in real and cyberspace on learning achievement motivation, which will broaden the participants' vision in future learning and teaching practice.

11. What if I am unhappy or if there is a problem?

If you are unhappy, or if there is a problem, please feel free to let me know at Jinhee.Kim@xjtlu.edu.cn. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint, which you feel you cannot come to me, then you should contact the Chair of the Research Ethics Sub-Committee via ethics@xjtlu.edu.cn. When contacting the Research Ethics Sub-Committee, please provide details of the name or description of the study, the researcher, and your complaint.

12. Will my participation be kept confidential?

The raw survey responses data will be collated on password-protected computers and accessed by the Principal Investigator and the co-investigator. The data will then be systematized and stored in two password-protected external storage drives until the end of the research. Storage drives will be stored in the office of the Principal Investigator.

Disclosure of criminal activity

This study involves no criminal activity.

13. What will happen to the results of the study?

The results will be published and made available to all the participants. Participants will not be identifiable from the results.

14. What will happen if I want to stop taking part?

Participants can withdraw at any time without explanation. Results up to the period of withdrawal may be used, if you are happy for this to be done. Otherwise you may request that they are destroyed and no further use is made of them.

15. Who can I contact if I have further questions?

The contact details of the lead researcher (principal investigator) is:

Name: Jinhee Kim

Email: Jinhee.Kim@xjtlu.edu.cn

Work Address: IR908 (South Campus), Xi'an Jiaotong Liverpool University