

Dear Prospective Participant:

My name is Branka Sarac and I am a doctoral student at the College of Education, Argosy University-San Francisco Bay Area. I am working on my dissertation. This study is a requirement to fulfill my degree and will not be used for decision-making by any organization. This study is for research purposes only.

You are cordially invited to volunteer your participation in my dissertation research. The purpose of this research is to develop and evaluate a taxonomy of digital games for second language acquisition (TLAG). The modified Delphi method will be used to review, evaluate and refine the TLAG in two rounds of questionnaire. The revised TLAG will then be validated by utilizing it in categorizing actual SLA games. The attitudes of participants toward the TLAG itself, as well as the evaluation, refinement and validation processes for the TLAG will be explored using Likert-type survey items and open-ended qualitative questions. This study explores ten existing digital educational games delivered on iPod/iPad for second language acquisition in order to validate the new taxonomy and its effectiveness. This study has three phases. You are invited to participate in Phase II of the research.

What Will Be Involved If You Participate?

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. If you participate in this research, you will be asked to complete the following:

- Taxonomy Evaluation Criteria Instrument (TECI)
- The TLAG Refinement and Evaluation Survey (TRES)
- To evaluate the TLAG itself

How Long Will This Study Take?

The research will be conducted between August 5, 2013 and September 24, 2013. You will be asked to participate during this timeframe.

What If You Change Your Mind About Participating?

You can withdraw at any time during the study. Your participation is completely voluntary. If you choose to withdraw, your data can be withdrawn as long as it is identifiable. Your decision about whether to participate or to discontinue participating will not jeopardize your future relations with Argosy University San Francisco Bay Area. You can do so without fear of penalty or negative consequences of any kind.

How Will Your Information Be Treated?

The information you provide for this research will be treated confidentially, and all data (written and recorded) will be kept securely. Written documentations will be stored in a locked file cabinet, accessible only by me, in my home. Recorded data and transcribed data will be stored on my personal password protected computer, which is accessible only by me, then transferred to the locked cabinet after the research is completed. Results of the research will be reported as summary data only, and no individually identifiable information will be presented. In the event your information is quoted in the written results, I will use pseudonyms or codes to maintain your confidentiality.

All information obtained will be held with the strictest confidentiality. You will be asked to refrain from placing your name or any other identifying information on any research form or protocols to further ensure confidentiality is maintained at all times. All recorded information will be stored securely for three years, as per Argosy University San Francisco Bay Area requirements. At the end of the three years, all recorded data and other information will be deleted and all written data will be shredded.

What Are the Benefits in This Study?

There will be no direct or immediate personal benefits from your participation in this research, except for the contribution to the study. For the professional audience, the potential benefit of this research will provide additional knowledge to the literature on game based learning and second language acquisition.

You also have the right to review the results of the research if you wish to do so. A copy of the results may be obtained by contacting Branka Sarac at:

Email: branka.s@me.com or Phone: 831-241-8118

Additionally, should you have specific concerns or questions, you may contact my dissertation/CRP/thesis chair, Dr. Aniello Malvetti at Argosy University San Francisco Bay Area, by phone at 510-217-4700 or email at amalvetti@argosy.edu, or Dr. Sylvie Merchant, IRB Chair, Argosy University-San Francisco Bay Area, 1005 Atlantic Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501 or by phone at 510-217-4751, or email at smerchant@argosy.edu

I have read and understand the information explaining the purpose of this research and my rights and responsibilities as a participant. My signature below designates my consent to voluntarily participate in this research, according to the terms and conditions outlined above.

Participant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

(The participant should retain one of the two copies of the consent letter provided by the principal investigator.)