

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON - CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

TITLE OF STUDY: Examining Individuals' Composing Processes on Social Media: A Descriptive Case Study

We are inviting you to be a part of a research study led by Dr. Patrick Thomas, Associate Professor of English at the University of Dayton. Participation is not required. Please read the information below to learn more about the study. Before participating, ask questions about anything you do not understand.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

With this study, we aim to understand how people write on social media. If you're a social media user, you already know that writing is the primary way that you participate in each network. However, the kind of writing done on social networks is very different from the kind of writing you do in other places, like school. While we know a lot about how people write for the purposes of school, we do not yet know much about how people write on social media. Therefore, this study will add important knowledge about what people *do* when they write on social media.

PROCEDURES

If you decide to be a part of this study, please do the following:

- Meet with me for approximately 15 minutes to learn how to do a think-aloud and use a screencast application.
- Over the course of one week, do a think-aloud and use the screencast application to record your participation on social media. Each time you participate in a social network, complete a recording.
- Submit your recorded screencasts and think-alouds to me via email (pthomas1@udayton.edu) at the end of the week.
- After my students and I have reviewed your recordings, meet with me for an interview about your experience.

The specific time commitment for this project will depend on how active you are on social media. Meetings with me will take no longer than 1 hour total.

POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS

The potential risks for participating in this project are not beyond the risks you would encounter in your everyday life. Because the project aims to understand your writing process, the research team is not concerned with the content of your social media posts, and no identifying information will be shared with anyone beyond the research team.

ANTICIPATED BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS

There are no direct benefits to you.

PAYMENT FOR PARTICIPATION

You will not be compensated for your participation.

CONFIDENTIALITY

We will not reveal who you are in any publications or presentations. Other people may need to see your research records. This is to confirm requirements of the study are met. They may see your name. These representatives will not reveal who you are to others. While this project requires the use of video and audio recordings, only the screen of your computer or mobile device will be included in the video recording. Audio recordings will be transcribed and you will be assigned a pseudonym. Your identity will be protected as much as possible. Data from this study, in the form of video screencasts and transcribed audio, will be stored on a university-owned, password-protected computer located in Humanities 275.

PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

You do not have to be in this study. If you do not participate, your relationship with us is not affected. You may still receive other services if applicable. You may stop participating at any time without penalty. You may be stopped from participating if the study is not good for you. You may also be stopped if study instructions are not followed.

IDENTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATORS

Please contact the investigator listed below if you have any questions about this research.

Dr. Patrick Thomas, Associate Professor of English, Principal Investigator, University of Dayton, English Department, 937-229-3463, pthomas1@udayton.edu

RIGHTS OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

You may contact the Chair of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at the University of Dayton if you have questions about your rights as a research participant: Candise Powell, J.D., (937) 229-3515, irb@udayton.edu.

SIGNATURE OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANT (or legal guardian)

I have read the information above. I have had a chance to ask questions and all of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I have been given a copy of this form. **I certify that I am at least 18 years of age.**

Name of Participant (please print) _____

Address _____

Signature of Participant _____ Date _____

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

My signature as witness certifies that the Participant signed this consent form in my presence.

Name of Witness (please print) _____

Signature of Witness _____ **Date** _____
(Must be same as participant signature date)