

## **INFORMED CONSENT for a Research Study entitled “Broadening Studio-Based Learning in Computing Education”**

You are invited to participate in a research study to evaluate a new way of teaching computing, called studio-based instruction, and to compare it with traditional ways of teaching. The study is being conducted by Phillip Conrad, Lecturer in the Dept. of Computer Science at UC Santa Barbara. You were selected as a possible participant because you are enrolled in CMPSC 56 during Spring 2011, or Winter 2012.

### **What will be involved if you participate?**

If you decide to participate in this research study, you will be asked to complete an online survey (approx. 15 minutes duration) at the beginning and again at the end of the course using an ID number given to you. In addition, you will be asked to complete a short web-based questionnaire at the end of the course. The data collected from both the surveys and the questionnaire will be anonymous and saved at a server at Auburn University. Your total time commitment will be approximately 1 hour during the term. The instructor of the course may see data collected from you, but only after your name or any other identifying information has been removed, and only after grading of this course is completed. So your answers to the survey and interview questions WILL NOT influence your grade in this course. Your course grade will be decided based only on graded items as described in the course syllabus. By agreeing to participate in this research study you are consenting to allow the use of your responses to the surveys and questionnaire, your grades in this course for research purposes.

**Are there any risks or discomforts?** The risks associated with participating in this study are minimal or non-existent.

**Are there any benefits to yourself or others?** By participating in the study, you can expect to gain a better understanding of the course materials, and about your own attitudes and motivation toward learning. But we cannot promise you that you will receive any or all of these benefits.

**Will you receive compensation for participating?** To thank you for your time, you will be offered 5% extra credit (in the form of 250 choice points) upon the completion of your participation.

**Is there way to earn this extra credit without participating?** Yes—the instructor will post a list of books related to course material, and instructors for completing a book report. You may earn the same extra credit offered to study participants by reading one of the assigned books, and completing a book report of reasonable quality. The book reports will not be submitted directly to the course instructor so, he/she will not know whether you choose this option until after he/she has determined final course grades for everything other than this extra credit portion.

**Are there any costs?** No.

*(Please turn over... form continues on back of this page)*

**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 will be withdrawn as long as it is identifiable, and you will not receive extra course credit. How to withdraw: You may withdraw by contacting Tiffany Sabado in the CS Dept. Office, by email at [sabado@cs.ucsb.edu](mailto:sabado@cs.ucsb.edu), or by visiting the CS office during office hours and asking to speak to Tiffany.

**Will my decision to participate (or not) or to withdraw later affect my relationship with the instructor, or anyone else?** No. Your decision about whether or not to participate or to stop participating will not jeopardize your future relations with UC Santa Barbara, the Computer Science Department, with those who are conducting this study and their academic departments, or with the instructor of this course.

**Your privacy will be protected.** Any information you submit online in connection with this study will remain anonymous. Any means of connecting you to data (i.e. the list of names and ID numbers) will be destroyed at the end of the course after extra credit has been given. Anonymous data may be kept indefinitely, shared with other researchers at participating institutions and the National Science Foundation, used to fulfill an educational requirement, published in journals, or presented at meetings.

**If you have questions about this study, please ask them now or contact Phill Conrad by email** ([pconrad@cs.ucsb.edu](mailto:pconrad@cs.ucsb.edu)). He may be reached by phone by calling the office of the Dept. of Computer Science (805) 893-4321 and leaving a message with a number and time where you may be reached. (CS Dept. offices no longer have direct telephone lines.) A copy of this document will be given to you to keep.

**If you have questions about your rights as a research participant,** you may contact the the staff of the Human Subjects Committee in the Office of Research. The telephone number is 893-3807 or e-mail [graham@research.ucsb.edu](mailto:graham@research.ucsb.edu).

HAVING READ THE INFORMATION PROVIDED, YOU MUST DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT YOU WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS RESEARCH STUDY.

YOUR SIGNATURE INDICATES YOUR WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH IS VOLUNTARY. YOUR SIGNATURE BELOW WILL INDICATE THAT YOU HAVE DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE AS A RESEARCH SUBJECT IN THE STUDY DESCRIBED ABOVE.

YOU WILL BE GIVEN A SIGNED AND DATED COPY OF THIS FORM TO KEEP.

Signature of Participant (or Legal Representative): \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

(If you are under age 18, you may not give your informed consent without the participation of your parent or legal guardian, so please do not sign and return this paper if you are under 18.)