
INFORMATION SHEET

(for Pre-Service Teachers)

Title: Teaching how to learn: Designing learning environments to promote student engagement self-agency

Researcher(s)

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Description of the study

A two-week online program, starting on Monday July 27, provides participants with research-based information about how to design instruction that promotes student cognitive engagement and agency. Participants read about the cognitive engagement theory, participate in one online collaborative session, score video-observations of classroom teaching, and revise one of their lesson plans. A time commitment of 6-hours across two weeks is estimated. Each two-week program will commence on a Monday and finish on a Sunday with the online collaborative session being offered on Fridays and Mondays at 10am and 4pm. The project is funded by a grant from the Australian Research Council (ARC).

Purpose of the study

The research project investigates the effectiveness of an online program to help pre-service teachers learn how to design learning environments that promote student engagement and agency. We hope to be able to find effective ways to communicate helpful information to pre-service teachers about specific practices that can promote student learning, have an impact on how they design their lesson plans, and have a long-term effect on their knowledge and beliefs about learning and teaching.

What will I be asked to do?

The research team is inviting enrolled pre-service teachers to participate in the study. You will be asked to complete an online program. Access to the online program will be given after the completion of a 15-minute online survey. The same survey will be completed at the conclusion of the online program and again two months after the program. A detailed description of the program is available at: <https://teachinghowtolearn.edu.au/>.

What benefit will I gain from being involved in this study?

The online program will provide research-based information about teacher practices that increase student knowledge about teaching and learning and will enhance your ability to design learning environments that promote student engagement and agency. We anticipate that this will be useful in your teaching practicums and in your later teaching. A Certificate acknowledging your participation and aligning the expected learning outcomes with the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, and two eVouchers will be provided to participants. The Certificate and first eVoucher (\$20) will be provided on completion of the online program. A second eVoucher (\$10) will be provided on submission of the third online questionnaire.

Will I be identifiable by being involved in this study?

Other participants in the collaborative online session will be aware of your involvement in the study. All collected data concerning you will be de-identified so that others cannot identify you. Your name and other personal details will always be kept confidential. No part of the reports on this project will allow identification of any participant. The information we collect will be stored in a secure database at the University for 7 years and then it will be destroyed. Project information will not be available for use by people outside of the research team.

Are there any risks or discomforts if I am involved?

We don't anticipate any risks will arise from your involvement in this study. You do not have to answer any questions that you don't want to. There will be a commitment of time for the online program, estimated to be seven hours, and questionnaire completion.

How do I agree to participate?

Participation is voluntary. You may answer 'no comment' or refuse to answer any questions and you are free to withdraw from any project activity at any time. A consent form accompanies this information sheet. If you agree to participate, please read and mark the box acknowledging your consent on the consent form. The consent form is available online at [Teaching How to Learn Online Program Consent Form](#).

How will I receive feedback?

Once the results of the project are finalised, outcomes of the project will be provided to all participants via email.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet. We hope that you will accept our invitation to be involved.

This research project has been approved by the Flinders University Social and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee in South Australia (Project number 8320). For queries regarding the ethics approval of this project, or to discuss any concerns or complaints, please contact the Executive Officer of the committee via telephone on +61 8 8201 3116 or email human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au