



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

This is a participant information sheet from the University of Turku, Doctoral Programme on Learning, Teaching and Learning Environments Research (OPPI), concerning the research study “Teachers’ Learning on a Short Online Course about the Brain, Learning and Teaching”. Last modified 12.02.2024.

Invitation to participate in research

Participants are invited to take part in a study about the teachers’ learning on a short online course “The Brain, Learning and Teaching”. The aim of the study is to collect qualitative data from doctoral researchers at the University of Turku and current students of Pedagogy courses at UTU and Vaasa University. This information will be used for both development and research purposes.

Voluntary participation

Participation in the study is voluntary. Participants can refuse to participate in the study or stop taking part in the study at any time before the course “The brain, learning and teaching” ends. The given consent can be withdrawn at any time before the course ends, by contacting Trang Nguyen (e-mail: tngthi@utu.fi, telephone: +358504348820). The above mentioned i.e., refusal, suspension and withdrawal will not have any negative impact on the participant.

The questionnaires include participants’ information and therefore the answers sent can be returned to the participant if the participant decides to stop taking part in the study, before the course ends.

Responsible researcher and the funder of the research

This study is carried out by Trang Nguyen, a doctoral researcher of Doctoral Programme on Learning, Teaching and Learning Environments Research (OPPI), Faculty of Education, University of Turku. Trang Nguyen is working on a PhD study about a pedagogical training course for current and future university teachers with a funding from UTUGS. There are no conflicts of interest.

Research process

The research study is designed based on the participation in the course “The Brain, Learning and Teaching”. Participants will register their enrolment to the course” via Webropol and provide permission that their responses in the course (e.g. answers to quizzes, and assignment) can be used for the corresponding research study. Data from registrations that do not give consent to the research study will not be included in the study.

Participants will study on the course for six weeks. During the learning on the course, participants will answer quiz and assignment questions about their understanding of Learning and Memory. There will be pre-test and post-test quiz in the course. The registration and the course will be conducted in English. The research study will utilize participants’ background (e.g. prior studies in pedagogy or psychology) and their answers to quizzes and assignment during the course. Data will be anonymous when using in the data analysis and writing the results as well as publication.

Possible benefits and risks

The aim of the study is to measuring the effectiveness of the course about knowledge of the brain in learning on future university teachers with their teaching's practices. The course aims to increase participants knowledge of the nature of learning and reduce misconceptions of learning and memory which may support future teachers' practices. Participation in the survey will not cause any harm to the participant.

Incentives for participation

No fee is paid for participating in the research.

Processing of the personal data

Personal data of participants in the research study is collected through the registration to participate in the course "The Brain, Learning and Memory" in the Webropol, providing their name, faculty, university, student number, email, number of years working at the university, teaching positions, previous pedagogical/educational, previous psychology/neuroscience studies and consent to use their responses in the course for corresponding research.

Personal information (name, faculty, university, student number, and email) is collected as the basic information when registering to the course and to grant a certificate when participants finish the course.

For participants who do not want to give consent, their data will be only used for the original purpose (i.e. to communicate between the course facilitator and participants, and to grant the certificate when finishing the course). Personal data will not be stored after the course finishes.

For participants who give consent to the study, after the course finishes, the researcher will combine data from participants who give consent to the study, and remove all the personal information in the dataset before conducting the data analysis for the study. Thus, there is no personal data is used in the corresponding study. The research combined teachers' background and their answers on quizzes and assignment in the course "The Brain, Learning and Teaching". This dataset will be used to measure the learning of teachers on the course. Data about teachers' background (number of years working at the university, teaching positions, previous pedagogical/educational, previous psychology/neuroscience studies) is used for statistical analysis of the corresponding study. Data will be anonymous when using in the data analysis and writing the results as well as publication. Only data about teachers' background, answers to quizzes and assignments are stored.

All the research materials will be stored following the University of Turku's data security guidelines. The author of the study "Teachers' Learning on a Short Online Course about the Brain, Learning and Teaching" are bound by strict confidentiality. Only the researcher Trang Nguyen, is allowed to handle data containing personal data. For further information about the person involved, please contact the responsible researcher (Trang Nguyen, e-mail: tngthi@utu.fi, phone +358 504348820). In addition, people who are not known at this stage (e.g., thesis authors) may become people that conduct this research during the course of the study.

Storage of the research data and reporting the research results

The research data will be kept for five years (until 2029). Access to the research data is restricted to the responsible researcher, Trang Nguyen, who is conducting the study "Teachers' Learning on a Short Online Course about the Brain, Learning and Teaching". The electronically stored data will be

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stored on a web drive provided by the University of Turku, accessible to the researcher with personal usernames and passwords.

The results of the study will be published in international and/or national peer-reviewed scientific journals and scientific meetings.

Contact person for further enquiries

If you have questions about the research, you can contact:

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