

Consent Form

Dear Mathematics Instructor,

This survey is part of a study on the mathematics preparation of prospective elementary teachers. The purpose of this study is to gain an understanding of what is being taught and learned in undergraduate mathematics courses for prospective elementary teachers, and how those courses relate to current state and national standards for mathematics teaching and learning. At the end of the survey, we will ask you how long it took to complete this survey, so please note what time you begin. It is not necessary to complete the questionnaire in one sitting.

There is little risk to you in completing the survey, primarily the time it takes to do it. although you are asked to provide your name and section number, this information will only be used to connect your responses to your students' responses and will never be reported in reports of the research. Your name will never be used in conjunction with this research, and your identity will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by law. Once data collection is complete, your name and identifying information will be deleted. Additional risks include the possibility that your students' results become known to your current or future employers. Although the risk to you is minimal as we will store all data in a locked cabinet to ensure privacy and confidentiality, there is a chance that someone reading the research might be able to figure out that your institution was included in the project and might attribute some part of the research conclusions to your section. We will minimize such risk as indicated above by keeping names of students, instructors, section numbers, and institutions confidential. Reports that we provide to you about your section will be given only to you, not to anyone else inside or outside of your institution. Further, if asked about the participation of any individual, we will neither confirm nor deny that individual instructors participated in our research. Your participation in this research is voluntary. You may choose not to participate at all, or you may refuse to participate in parts of the study or answer certain questions or discontinue your participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits. By signing below, you indicate your voluntary participation in this research.

The benefits of participating in this project are: a) you will receive reports about your students' performance on the pre- and post-tests related specifically to what you tell us about your teaching on the survey; b) the mathematics community will benefit enormously from the results of the project which will help us design and teach more effective classes for prospective elementary teachers; c) the mathematics education community will learn about the work of mathematicians who teach these classes, and you will be able to learn about the goals and methods of mathematics education research. As an incentive for you to participate, we will send you a gift certificate to amazon.com for \$15 once we receive your completed survey. We will also send you a gift certificate for \$25 for administering the student survey to your students. The gift certificate will be to a book store of your choice (amazon.com, NCTM, or KLUWER) that has materials to help you with your teaching.

If you have any questions about this research, please contact the Principal Investigator, Dr. Raven McCrory (517-353-8565, mccrory@msu.edu, 513G Erickson Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824.) If you have questions or concerns regarding your rights as a study participant, or are dissatisfied at any time with any aspect of this study, you may contact – anonymously if you wish – Peter Vasilenko, Ph.D., Director of Human Research Protections, (517)355-2180, fax (517)432-4503, e-mail irb@msu.edu, mail 202 Olds Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1047

Thank you for your help with this study!
Raven McCrory

Signature _____

Date _____