



Informed Consent Form for Social Science Research

The Pennsylvania State University

Title of Project: Facilitating Penn State and Makerere University in Uganda Transcultural Dialogues about Contemporary Visual Culture

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1. Purpose of the Study: The focus of this action research project is to facilitate transcultural dialogues about contemporary visual culture, including art, in U.S. and Ugandan contexts to erode assumptions, ignorance, and misunderstandings about each other's lives, beliefs, and values.

2. Procedures to be followed: Student bookmarked sites are set-up to feed into a blog. Students are asked to bookmark visual culture that conveys how they perceive those in the other country, and to comment on a Diigo sticky note why they selected the particular representation that is bookmarked. Each student is also asked to look at what is bookmarked regarding their own country, to read the rationales for why the representations were selected, and comment in response on the same sticky note regarding if and how the representation relates to their life. This content becomes the source for collaborative artworks using *Dabbleboard* combined with non-digital art making process, in which images are uploaded and collaboratively developed in *Dabbleboard*. Collaboratively created artworks in various configurations of cross-cultural groups, can then be uploaded into *VoiceThread*, with questions as prompts for voice commentary surrounding the artwork. Some suggestions for questions include: How is subjectivity constructed in the image, and whose subjectivity is constructed? What prior knowledge is assumed? This assignment is intended to facilitate transcultural critical dialogue about visual culture with emphasis on cultural identity and local and global injustices.

If you agree to participate in the study you will do the assignment above and allow your responses to be observed and included in presentations (oral, written, and visual exhibitions). You will be given the option of using a pseudonym for anonymity and confidentiality. You will also serve as a consultant for planning the next iteration of the assignment.

4. Benefits: You might learn more about yourself, and or about others, by participating in the study. You will be contributing to a virtual learning community of interest to those teaching and learning about contemporary visual culture.

5. Duration: It will take approximately 10 hours to complete the assignment over a period of several days. It will take about 1 hour to serve as consultant on the next iteration of the assignment in which you will provide recommendations in writing or audiorecorded.

6. Statement of Confidentiality: Your responses will remain confidential unless you select otherwise. That is, your name or other identifiable information will not be linked to your responses. Data will be reported in summary form only, or if individual quotes are used, a masked name, or pseudonym will replace your real name. Your confidentiality will be kept to the degree permitted by the technology used. No guarantees can be made regarding the interception of data sent via the Internet by any third parties. Collection of digital artworks, written responses, and voice transcriptions will be stored on my password-protected computer, only accessible to me, and destroyed in 2015. There will not be paper documents with identifiers.

7. Right to Ask Questions: Please contact Karen Keifer-Boyd at (814) 861-2649 with questions or concerns about this study.

8. Voluntary Participation: Your decision to be in this research is voluntary. You can stop at any time. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer. Refusal to take part in or withdrawing from this study will involve no penalty or loss of benefits you would receive otherwise.

You must be 18 years of age or older to take part in this research study.

Participating in the assignment and signing this consent indicates that you are willing to take part in the research. You will be given a copy of this form for your records.

Yes, I give my permission to have my work on the assignment included in the research study but without any identifiers.

Yes, I give my permission to have my work on the assignment included in the research study and I want my name as _____ to be cited with my comments and artwork.

If you consent to participate to the terms you have checked above, please sign your name and indicate the date below.

Signature

Date

I the undersigned, verify that the above informed consent procedure has been followed.

Signature

Date