

**The University of Texas at Dallas**

**CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH**

**Title of Research Project:** Cognitive Biases and Pupillometry

<b><u>Investigators:</u></b>		<b><u>Contact Number</u></b>
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**Key Information:** We are investigating the mental operations involved in attention control, problem solving, and decision making. We will ask you to complete three tasks on a computer. The computer also has an eye-tracker to track the movements of the pupils of your eyes during the tasks. The three tasks will take approximately ten-to-fifteen minutes each. Participation is voluntary. There are possible risks of boredom, or frustration in the study. You may also become tired of being seated in front of a computer for 45 minutes. There are not any direct benefits to you for being in this study.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this research study is to better understand how attention is related to problem solving and decision making. We are also interested in how the pupil of the eye responds to attention in all three of the tasks.

**Description of Study:** We use an eye-tracking camera measure the dilation of your pupils in both eyes to investigate your task-related arousal levels and attention engagement.

You will be instructed to sit in front of a computer monitor. You will be asked to follow specific directions that appear on the monitor for each task. First an attention task will involve watching for a timer to begin on the screen and then pressing a key on the keyboard as soon as you see the timer start. A problem-solving task will present a series of short word problems on the monitor and we will ask you to answer the problems using the keyboard. A decision making task will show you two options involving fictional money. We will ask you to provide responses using the keyboard when prompted. Each task will last approximately 10-15 minutes, and they each measure a different aspect of your attention control.

**Number of Participants:** Approximately 60 participants will be involved in this study.

**Duration of Participation:** The overall time commitment will be no longer than 60 minutes. However, if you would prefer to stop participating in the study at any point, please tell the researchers.

**Inclusion / Exclusion Criteria:** The only criteria to be included in this experiment is to be 18 years or older. There are no exclusion criteria.

**Possible Risks:** The eye-tracking camera is completely harmless and does not involve any risk. Sitting in front of a monitor for approximately 45 minutes may cause boredom and frustration. If at any time, you feel

pain, boredom, frustration and/or get tired, feel free to alert your investigator. We will make sure to pause, address the issue, and/or stop the experiment if necessary

**Possible Benefits to the Participant:** You will not likely receive any direct benefit from participating in this study, but others may benefit by the field of psychology learning more about attention and thinking.

**Alternatives to Participation:** Individuals may choose not to participate. In such cases, there is not any penalty to the individual. They will be able to participate in other approved experiments if they so choose.

**Payments to Participate:** You will receive 1 sona credit for participation in this research study. You will still receive this credit even if you decide to terminate the experiment early for any reason.

**Voluntary Participation:** All individuals have the right to agree or refuse to participate in this study. Individuals who consent to participate also have the right to change their minds while taking part in the experimental procedures. You may tell the investigator that you no longer wish to participate at any point. Your decision about participation will not affect your grades or education in any way.

**Records of Participation in this Research:** All information that you provide to investigators as part of this research study will be protected and held in confidence within the limits of the law and institutional regulation. No personal identifying information will be recorded in conjunction with research responses. We will use coding strategies and assign your computerized data files random case numbers to keep your identity private. All information collected from this session will be stored in a locked computer/file cabinet. All personal identifiers will be removed from any data that you provide in the experiment.

**Information Available to Others:** Members and associated staff of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of The University of Texas at Dallas may review the records of your participation in this research. An IRB is a group of people who are responsible for assuring the community that the rights of participants in research are respected. A representative of the UTD IRB may contact you to gather information about your participation in this research. If you wish, you may refuse to answer questions the representative of the IRB may ask.

**Publications Associated with this Research:** The results of this research may appear in publications but individual participants will not be identified.

**Contact People:** Participants who want more information about this research may contact any of the investigators listed at the top of page 1 of this document. Participants who want more information about their rights as a participant or who want to report a research related injury may contact:

The University of Texas at Dallas Institutional Review Board  
UTD Office of Research

972-883-4579

## Signatures

A participant's signature indicates that they have read, or listened to, the information provided above and that they have received answers to their questions. The signature also indicates that they have freely decided to participate in this research and that they know they have not given up any of their legal rights.

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Participant's Name (printed)

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Participant's Signature

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Date

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Name of Researcher Obtaining Consent

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Signature of Researcher Obtaining Consent

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Date