University of Hawai‘i

Consent to Participate in Research: Internet Information Searching

My name is Justine Maeda, and I am pursuing a Master's Degree in Educational Technology and Library Information Sciences at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa (UHM). I am conducting a research project on Internet search skills. The purpose of this project is to evaluate a web-based module teaching basic Google Internet search skills for middle school students. The target audience for this module is students from 6th to 8th grade at Dole Middle School. Although the intended audience for my module is middle school students, due to the obstacles in obtaining Hawaii DOE permissions, I will conduct a small group test with 12-15 college of education graduate students or other adults (rather than DOE public school students.)

Project Description - Activities and Time Commitment: If you participate, you will be one of a total of 12-15 adults who will provide feedback on the module’s appropriateness and effectiveness for middle school students. You will be asked to complete the attitudinal and demographic questions in the pre survey, the instructional module entitled “Strategies for the Savvy Searcher,” as well as the post-module attitudinal survey. Completion of all items may take from 1-2 hours. One example of the type of question I will ask in the survey is, “Have you had any formal training or instruction in using Boolean strategies for Internet searching?”

Benefits and Risks: Benefits to participating in this research project include gaining an understanding of Internet Search Skills, which may support you in your personal and academic search skills. The results of this project will help me and other researchers learn more about perspectives on using Internet search skills and instructional module effectiveness. I believe there is little or no risk to you in participating in this project. If you are uncomfortable or stressed by answering any of the survey questions, you may take a break or withdraw from the project altogether.

Confidentiality and Privacy: I will keep all data from survey instruments in a secure location throughout the course of this research project. Only I will have access to the data. However, legally authorized agencies, including the University of Hawai‘i Human Studies Program, will be able to review research records.

When I report the results of my research project, I will not use your name or other personally identifying information in the project results. I will instead use a pseudonym for your name. If you would like a summary of the findings from my report, please feel free to contact me at my phone number or email address, which is listed toward the end of this consent form.
**Voluntary Participation:** Participation in this research project is voluntary. You may freely choose to participate or not to participate. At any point during this project, you may withdraw your permission with no consequence.

**Questions:** Please feel free to contact me at via phone (808) 721-5457 or e-mail (jklmaeda@gmail.com) if you have any questions about the project. You may also contact the University of Hawai‘i, Human Studies Program, by phone at (808) 956-5007 or by e-mail at uhirb@hawaii.edu if you have any questions about your rights as a research participant.

Please keep the top portion of this consent form for your own records.

If you agree to participate in this research project, please sign the signature portion of this consent form below, and return to Justine Maeda.

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**Signature for Consent:**

I agree to participate in the project entitled, “Internet Information Searching for Middle School Students.”

I understand that at any time, I may change my mind about participating in this project by notifying the researcher.

**Your Name (Print):** ______________________________

**Your Signature:** ______________________________

**Date:** ______________________________