

**LETTER OF INFORMATION / CONSENT FORM
FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE STUDY OF TEAMS AND LEADERSHIP**

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Sponsors: SSHRC

Purpose of the Study: We are interested in investigating physiological responses in groups while performing in a cooperative task.

Description of the Research:

We will ask you some background questions in a survey on your own. You will complete a short task asking you to rank items in a problem solving task on your own. You will then be seated in a room with 2 other participants. You will watch a video introducing you to the group task. You will then complete the short task again as a group. After the group task, you will complete a survey on your own with a set of questions about your attitudes and impressions during the process.

Before you view the video and complete the group task, you will be fitted with the following sensors in groups of about 3:

- A motion-captured cap with small sensors will be placed on your head.
- To measure your heart rate, you will place a single-use sensor near your left shoulder after receiving instructions from the experimenter. Female research assistants will be available for female participants, and you will have access to a private room in case you want privacy.
- A sensor will be placed on the index and middle finger of your non-dominant hand and held in place with a velcro strap to measure minute changes in your skin sweat levels.
- You will also be asked to make various judgments or provide responses about the performance using one of the lab's computer tablets or on paper. The types of questions asked will be demonstrated at the beginning of the study. We ask that you do not look at other people's responses or discuss your responses with those seated around you.

The entire process will take around **1.5 hours**. If at any time during the process you need assistance, please raise your hand and a research assistant will come to help you.

Potential Harms: The risks of participating are minimal. You may choose to not answer questions on the questionnaires if they make you feel uncomfortable. As you are in a theatre with many other participants, other participants will know that you participated.

Potential Benefits: The results will not benefit you directly, but will increase our understanding of how people interact and cooperate which is important for understanding human behaviour and building healthy societies.

Compensation: If you are a McMaster student recruited through SONA, you will be given one and a half (1.5) course credits. Students not needing course credit will receive \$20 (gift card or cash).

Confidentiality: As you are in a theatre with many other people, other participants will see that you are also a participant. However, your responses will be identifiable only by a participant code and the researcher will not know who corresponds to what participant code. All potentially identifying data will be kept confidential and securely stored in the LIVELab and may be used for future research. Data may be uploaded to an online repository and made publically available; however all raw survey data will go through a process of determining potential identifiability and an anonymous dataset created prior to sharing.

Motion capture recordings will contain video that includes your identity; however, these videos will not be distributed without your consent and will remain secured on the LIVELab servers.

Recordings will contain video that includes your identity; however, these videos will be encrypted during transmission and stored on password-protected servers. Videos will never be distributed without your consent.

Confidentiality will be respected and no information that discloses your identity will be released or published without your consent, unless required by law (for example, laws pertaining to the protection of vulnerable individuals including children). You can find more information about data security at <https://www.qualtrics.com/security-statement/> All data and recordings will remain in Dr. Trainor's lab, stored in de-identified form for possible future analysis, until such time as they are destroyed.

Participation and Withdrawal: Participation in research is voluntary. If you choose to participate, you can skip any question you prefer not to answer and are free to withdraw from the study at any time without any negative consequences, even after signing this form or up until November 30, 2024 when I expect to have all data de-identified for analyses.. In the case of withdrawal, all response data will be destroyed. If you wish to withdraw while in the theatre, please raise your hand, and a research assistant will help you disconnect from the recording system and leave the theatre. If you wish to withdraw after, please contact Shuai Ren at rens26@mcmaster.ca

Information about the Study Results: Any results from this study that are published in the future can be accessed via <https://livelab.mcmaster.ca/> You can also indicate in the consent section if you wish to receive newsletters summarizing the results of this and other studies conducted in the LIVELab.

Ethics Review: This study has been reviewed by the McMaster University Research Ethics Board and received ethics clearance (MREB #1975). If you have concerns or questions about your rights as a participant or about the way the study is conducted, please contact:

McMaster Research Ethics Board

Telephone: (905) 525-9140 ext. 23142

E-mail: ethicsoffice@mcmaster.ca

Contact: If you have any questions about this study, you may contact the Student Researcher, Shuai Ren at rens26@mcmaster.ca or the lab via email livelab@mcmaster.ca

CONSENT

- I acknowledge that the research procedures have been explained to me and that any questions that I have asked have been answered to my satisfaction.
- I have been informed of the right not to participate and the right to withdraw at any time without any negative consequences during the experiment or up until November 30, 2024. I am also aware of the potential harms and benefits of participating.
- I know that I may ask now, or in the future, any questions I have about the study or the research procedures.
- I have been assured that individual results will be kept confidential and that no information will be released or printed that would disclose my personal identity without my permission, unless required by law.
- I understand that my de-identified data may be used for future research or uploaded to an online repository and made publically available.
- I understand that I will be offered a copy of this form to keep.

I agree to participate in the study

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Participant (Printed) _____

I consent to being **videorecorded** | **photographed** for the following purposes:

- | | |
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| (i) to be viewed by researchers involved in the project for scientific purposes | (yes/no) |
| (ii) to be presented at scientific conferences or in scientific journals | (yes/no) |
| (iii) to be used for teaching purposes | (yes/no) |
| (iv) to be used for news or publicity purposes | (yes/no) |

If you would be interested in receiving a newsletter summarizing the results of this and other studies conducted in the LIVELab, please fill in your email address in the space below.

I wish to receive emails from the LIVELab (**yes** / **no**)
Use this email address to send me updates about LIVELab: _____