

University of Hawai'i

Student Assent to Participate in Research Project:

Problem-Based Learning for Healthy Hearts

In addition to being your Anatomy and Physiology teacher at Punahou School, I also am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, in the Department of Educational Technology. One requirement for earning my Master's degree is to do a research project. The purpose of my research project is to evaluate the effectiveness of problem-based learning in helping high school students learn factual knowledge about the cardiovascular system. I am asking your permission to participate in this project.

Activities & Time Commitment: If you participates in this project, here is what we will do and how long it will take:

First, I will give you a pre-unit survey to assess what you already know about the cardiovascular system, problem-based learning, and collaborative learning.

Next, I will observe you for 7 consecutive classes (90 minutes each) for the month of November 2012 as we cover the concepts of the cardiovascular system. The materials covered will be very similar to that of other Anatomy and Physiology courses taught at Punahou School in recent years. The only difference is instead of learning factual knowledge through lectures, you and your peers will be working in teams to gather necessary information.

During these observations, I will collect classroom observations and your written assignments as data on collaboration, problem-solving, and critical-thinking.

At the end of the unit, you will take a unit test on the Cardiovascular System. Your score and written answers will be collected as data. I will also give you a post-unit survey to assess attitudes and reflections on the unit.

Risks and Benefits: I believe there is little risk to you in participating in this project. However, if you become uncomfortable being a research participant for any reason, you can withdraw your participation at any time. If you decide to not participate from the beginning of this project, as a member of my classroom, you will be expected to participate in the classroom activities and assignments along with all the other students. I will simply not collect any data from you.

There may be no benefit to you if you participate in my research study. It is my hope that you will benefit from the problem-based learning experience by learning a different way to learn. I also hope that this research study will contribute to research findings and help teachers and students, in the future, use problem-based learning as a tool for student-centered instruction.

Voluntary Participation: Participation in this research project is voluntary. You can choose freely to participate or not to participate. In addition, at any point during this project, you can withdraw your permission, and you can stop participating without any penalty of loss of benefits. I recognize that I am the researcher in this project and, at the same time, your teacher. Thus, I will ensure that your participation or non-participation in my research project does not impact your grades, or our teacher-to-student relationship at Punahou School.

Confidentiality and Privacy: When I report findings from this project in my master's paper and at an online conference in April 2013, I will take steps to ensure your privacy and confidentiality. I will not use your real name or other personally identifiable information in any report. Instead I will use a pseudonym/fake name. During this project, I will keep data that I collect in a secure location. Only my advisor and I will have access to research records, although legally authorized agencies, including the University of Hawai'i Human Studies Program, have the right to review research records. If you would like a copy of my final report, please contact me at the e-mail address or phone number listed below.

Questions: If you have any questions about this project, please contact me, Nan Ketpura-Ching, via phone (808) 396-5042 or e-mail (nketpura-ching@punahou.edu). You can also contact my advisor at the University of Hawaii, Dr. Peter Leong, at (808) 956-3902 or via e-mail at peterleo@hawaii.edu. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you can contact the University of Hawai'i, Human Studies Program, by phone at (808) 956-5007 or by e-mail at uhirb@hawaii.edu.

Please keep this portion of this assent form for your records.

If you assent to participate in this project, please sign the signature portion of the assent form on the next page and return it to me.

Signature(s) for Assent:

I give permission to participate in the research project entitled, *Problem-Based Learning for Healthy Hearts*. I understand that I can change my mind about participation, at any time, by notifying the researcher of my decision to end participation in this project.

Name of student (Print): _____

Student's Signature: _____

Date: _____