



NSW 2006 AUSTRALIA

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PROJECT: Teaching Approaches in Diverse Disciplines at University

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT

We are carrying out a research project investigating international educators' approaches to teaching at university—experiences, challenges and opportunities. We are focusing our study on introductory courses in mathematics, statistics, engineering, psychology, medical science, teacher education, art and design, law and accounting. An aim of this study is to explore teaching approaches that are found to be effective in each of these disciplines, some of which may be unusual outside that discipline. We are also focusing on student diversity and how this diversity affects teaching and learning.

If you are involved in teaching introductory courses in any of the above disciplines, whether at undergraduate or postgraduate level, we invite you to participate in the project. We plan to carry out interviews via email. We will send you six questions and ask you to respond to them. Then we may send you a few more questions designed to explore your responses in a little more depth, and ask you to respond once again. We may then have one or two more questions at the final stage. You will be asked to respond to at most three emails.

The questions and the responses you make will be copied into a file and any identifying information will be removed: you will be given a pseudonym—you can choose one yourself! The complete collection of interviews will be analysed in this form. The original emails will be deleted from our files (although you are free to keep your copy). Any summary or publication will be in a form in which individual participants are not identifiable (except your own contribution by yourself).

Participants in previous studies have found that interviews of this type can stimulate their thinking and development as educators in higher education. We will also undertake to send you a copy of our analysis when it is complete and alert you to resulting publications. This may give you useful ideas about teaching and learning in your own and other disciplines.

If you are willing to participate in this project, we ask you to read the accompanying **Participant Consent Form** and send an **email** message to Sue on s.gordon@usyd.edu.au indicating your consent to participate in the research. Alternatively, you may sign the **Consent Form**, and **fax** it to **Sue Gordon on 61-2-93515797**.

Participation is purely voluntary, and you may withdraw from the study at any time without penalty or prejudice.

Researchers: Sue Gordon (University of Sydney, Tel: 61-2-93514061, s.gordon@usyd.edu.au), Anna Reid (Macquarie University, Tel: 61-2-98509780, Anna.Reid@mq.edu.au) and Peter Petocz (Macquarie University, Tel: 61-2-9850 9174, Peter.Petocz@mq.edu.au).

Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of a research study can contact the Senior Ethics Officer, Ethics Administration, University of Sydney on (61 2) 9351 4811 (Telephone); (61 2) 9351 6706 (Facsimile) or gbriody@usyd.edu.au (Email).



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PARTICIPANT CONSENT FORM

If you would like to participate in this research please send an **email** message to Sue on s.gordon@usyd.edu.au indicating your willingness to participate in this research and include your full name and email contact details in the message. Receipt of this email will be taken as consent as per this form.

Alternatively you may print a copy of this page, fill in your details as requested below, sign it, and **fax** it to **Sue Gordon on 61-2-93515797**.

(Note 61 is the Australian code, 2 is the area code for Sydney and 93515797 is the fax number.)

- I willingly agree to participate in the study: *Teaching Approaches in Diverse Disciplines at University* to be conducted by Sue Gordon, Anna Reid and Peter Petocz.
- I have read and understood the purpose of the study as explained in the Participant Information Statement and that my participation involves participating in at most three email interviews.
- I understand that all email interviews will be recorded and stored for research purposes.
- I am informed that to ensure confidentiality, no names or other identifying information will be recorded nor mentioned in any publications relating to this project. The information obtained will not be used for purposes other than this research study. Records and documentation will be kept safely and securely for 7 years then destroyed.
- I am aware that I am under no obligation to participate in the study; my participation is purely voluntary, and that I may withdraw from the study at any time without penalty or prejudice. Upon withdrawal, I have the right to request that all or part of the any recorded material of myself is disposed.

Name: _____
(please print your full name)

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Email contact details for the interview: _____
(please print your email address)

Please retain a copy of the Information Statement and Consent Form for your records.