

**Illinois State University Institutional Review Board
Research with Human Subjects
Protocol Submission Form**

IRB Number _____
(Number to be completed by REC)

Federal regulations and Illinois State University policy require that all research involving humans as subjects be reviewed and approved by the University Institutional Review Board (IRB). Any person (ISU faculty member, staff member, student, or other person) wanting to engage in human subject research at or through Illinois State University must receive written approval from the IRB before conducting research. For more information, templates, and forms please go to www.rsp.ilstu.edu

Please complete and forward this form and all supporting documents to your Department/Unit IRB representative. If you have any questions, please contact your Departmental/Unit IRB representative or the Research Ethics & Compliance Office, (REC) 438-8451, Campus Box 3330

I. General Information

A. Protocol Information	
Protocol Title: An Empirical Investigation of the Mitigating or Aggravating Effects of Teacher Immediacy on Academic Dishonesty at a Large Midwestern University	
Is this research part of a thesis or dissertation proposal? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
If yes, has the thesis or dissertation proposal been approved? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	

B. Principal Investigator Information (PI must be an ISU faculty or staff member)	
Principal Investigator:	Department:
Telephone Number	Email Address:
Fax Number:	Mailing Address:
Co-Principal Investigator Information	
Co- Principal	Department:
Telephone Number:	Email Address:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faculty <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Grad. Student <input type="checkbox"/> Undergrad. Student	Mailing Address:
Co-Principal Investigation Information	
Co- Principal	Department
Telephone Number	Email Address
<input type="checkbox"/> Faculty <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Grad. Student <input type="checkbox"/> Undergrad. Student	Mailing Address

II. Principal Investigator Assurance

As Principal Investigator, I certify that to the best of my knowledge:

- The information provided for this project is correct
- No other procedures will be used in this protocol
- I agree to conduct this research as described in the attached supporting documents
- I will request and receive approval from the IRB for changes prior to implementing changes (including but not limited to changes in cooperating investigators or any changes in procedures).
- I will comply with IRB and ISU policies for conducting ethical research.
- I will be responsible for ensuring that the work of my co-investigator(s)/student researcher(s) complies with this protocol.
- Any unexpected or otherwise significant events in the course of this study will be promptly reported to the REC.
- In the case of student research, I assume responsibility for ensuring that any student will comply with University and Federal regulations regarding the use of human subjects in research.
- In the case of externally funded research, I will request a modification to my approved protocol if any relative changes to the project's scope of work are requested by the agency.

Principal Investigator Signature

Date

III. Protocol Description

- A. Provide a **BRIEF** description, in **LAYMAN'S TERMS**, of the proposed research.

The following study is a research project drawing on the contributions of faculty, staff, and students in Criminal Justice Sciences to explore the relationship between teacher immediacy—favorable behavior cues exhibited by teachers that enhance closeness with students, bridging the psychological distance between the two producing positive outcomes (Allen, Witt, and Wheelless, 2006; Mehrabian, 1971) and academic dishonesty (cheating). The project has been enhanced by a small pilot study and will draw a large sample of students from disciplines across campus to voluntarily participate in an anonymous self-report survey.

This study will specifically examining whether teacher immediacy has a mitigating effect on students' decisions to participate in academic dishonesty. It is important to note, this work does *not* propose that immediacy causes academic dishonesty but rather seeks to identify whether there is an association between the two and if so, which immediacy behaviors can be characterized as inhibitors of cheating.

Data will be collected through the use of a survey instrument. The survey will consist of approximately 100 closed-ended questions. Students from across campus will be requested to participate anonymously employing an evaluation rubric to their own participation in academic dishonesty. They will also be asked to identify behavioral characteristics related to instructors in courses where cheating occurs or they believe cheating likely occurs. Hypothesis testing will be done to examine the relationship between student teacher interactions and the impact these relationships have on student's reported academic cheating behaviors.

The PIs and student research assistants will collect the self administered survey data through classroom administered surveys on the Illinois State University campus. Approximately 1000 subjects on the ISU campus during the Fall 08 and Spring 09 semesters will fill out anonymous closed-ended questionnaires using Opscan sheets. Subjects will deposit their completed survey in a sealed box with an opening in the top for deposits at the front of each classroom in which the survey is being administered. Surveys will then be opened by the PIs.

- B. Methodology

1. Participants (**ALL** protocols must have a completed **Appendix A**)

- a. How many participants will be included in the study?

Number: Male ____ Female ____ Targeted Total (n=1000)
(N/A _X_ if not targeting males/females specifically)

Age range:

Students between the ages of 18 and approximately 25 will be the most likely participants but we are not targeting a specific age range of participants.

- b. Where will participants be recruited?

Participants will be recruited from large lecture based courses from across the Illinois State University campus in an effort to gather a diverse sample of students. Anonymity will be provided to each survey participant and insured through batch survey administration and submission.

- c. How will they be recruited? (Attach all recruitment documentation, i.e. letters, flyers, etc.)

Instructors of large lecture based courses will be contacted by telephone by the PI and student researchers during the fall 08 and spring 09 semesters in an effort to obtain permission to disseminate a self-administered 100 question survey taking students approximately 20 minutes to complete. Students will be given a brief oral explanation of the research objective and informed that their participation is

anonymous, voluntary, and that there will be no adverse consequences for their decision not to participate or to quit at any time.

d. What procedures will be used (and in what order) to secure informed consent/assent?

Informed consent will be presented in the form of a paragraph that will be presented as a cover page to the survey for students to read prior to responding to the questions.

If consent (and assent) forms are being used, attach copies. If presented verbally, a copy of any presentation text must be submitted. **Templates for informed consent, parent consent /permission, and minor assent can be found at www.rsp.ilstu.edu**

2. Procedure

a. What are you asking the participants to do? In what order?

Instructors of large courses across in each College will be systematically contacted and permission requested for in-class survey administration. Selected courses in which permission has been granted by instructors will be visited by a small research team for purposes of survey administration and data collection. When possible, students will be asked to spread out prior to beginning the data collection process in an effort to maximize respondent/response anonymity. A brief explanation of the project will be read to the class while members of the research team disseminate survey questionnaires, opscan sheets, and pencils. Three versions of the survey, each consisting of approximately 100 questions and taking approximately 20 minutes to complete, will be used all including the same exact questions though presented in asynchronous formats to assist in response secrecy and in preserving respondent anonymity. Each survey will have an IRB approved full paragraph consent statement at the top of the first page.

Consenting student participants will be asked a series of innocuous general demographic questions for context and comparison followed by a question about whether or not they have participated in academic dishonesty/cheating (examples will be given for clarity and the official ISU definition of academic dishonesty will be stated) while a student at ISU. Students responding "yes" will be directed to continue to the next question. The "yes" respondents will next be asked to think of the last course (most recent) that they cheated in while a student at ISU. With that course in mind, students will complete a series of questions related to their own cheating behavior and the context and/or environment of the classroom followed by a series of questions about the instructor of the course, without identifying the instructors. Respondents will then be asked a series of questions making up both a verbal and a non-verbal teacher immediacy index. Upon completion respondents will place their materials in a sealed box with a slit in the top for depositing the surveys at the front of the classroom.

Respondents answering "no" to the question about their own involvement in academic dishonesty/cheating while at ISU will be referred to an alternative set of hypothetical questions related to their own perceptions or, as the case may be, knowledge of academic dishonesty/cheating in a course at ISU. These respondents will be asked to recall the last (most recent) course they were enrolled in at ISU in which they know/believe/perceive/ or think cheating is most likely to have taken place. With this course in mind respondents will now respond to a series of questions related to the context and/or environment of the classroom followed by a series of questions about the instructor of the course, less any identifying information about the instructor. Respondents will then be asked a series of questions making up both a

verbal and a non-verbal teacher immediacy index. Upon completion respondents will place their materials in the box at the front of the classroom.

b. Will you involve them in a psychological intervention, deception, or biomedical procedure?

No – participants will not be involved in any intervention, deception, or biomedical procedure.

c. Will you audio _____, or videotape _____, or record in any other manner__no___, participant responses? Please check.

Only through their responses on the answer sheets for the survey will student's answers be recorded.

3. Instruments/Apparatus

What forms, surveys, equipment, etc. will you use? (**Attach copies** of all forms, surveys and instruments to be used.)

Attached is a sample survey and sample interview protocol that will be asked of respondents. The questions have been culled from the literature on teacher immediacy and academic cheating and edited by the PIs.

4. Data

a. How/where will the data be stored and kept secure?

All data will be coded and incorporated into a master datafile. The original survey response sheets will be discarded as confidential paperwork through the Department of Criminal Justice Sciences. The master datafile will be maintained by the PIs and will be kept on an ISU issued computer in a locked office. The student researchers will have access to this data during the project for research purposes.

b. Who will have access?

Only the student researchers and PIs will have access to the survey response data. The survey is anonymous and cases in the datafile will have no identifying features or characteristics that would allow individual respondents to be contacted.

c. How will the data be used (during and after the research)?

The data will be analyzed as part of the project and a variety of analytical techniques will be implemented and the results will be presented at professional conferences and published in peer-reviewed outlets. Students researchers will present the work at the University Research Symposium.

d. How will the data be disposed of?

The hard copies of the data will be disposed of as confidential paperwork by the Department of Criminal Justice Sciences. The master datafile will not be disposed of and will be maintained by the instructor of the course on an ISU computer in a locked office.

C. RISKS

1. What are the physical, psychological, or social (loss of reputation, privacy, or employability) risks?

The self-administered surveys are anonymous and the manner of submission, self depositing in a box at the front of the classroom upon completion, is expected to protect student identities so it is not expected that there will be any tangible risks or negative outcomes.

We also intend to have multiple versions of the survey with alternatively numbered questions handed out to make it more difficult for students to know which questions are being responded to with specific responses. Survey administrators will also be looking around the room for students' wandering eyes and students will be instructed to treat the survey completion activity similar to an exam, eyes on your own paper.

2. Will the data be anonymous or confidential ? (Please check one)

D. BENEFITS

1. What do you hope to learn?

We hope to learn about the relationship between student's perceptions of their professors and how their perceptions mitigate (or possibly aggravate) student involvement in academic cheating. Teacher immediacy refers to the dynamic connectedness students feel and perceive from their instructors that serves to impact the learning experience. We believe this dynamic also impacts student's academic cheating practices. Drawing on measures of both teacher immediacy and involvement in academic cheating we intend to examine whether a connection is present. Currently, we have uncovered very little and very limited extant literature studying the nexus between the two.

2. Who might find these results useful?

Given the proliferation of academic dishonesty in recent years, efforts that seek to better understand the contextual environment in which cheating occurs are welcome. This research is being conducted with the intention of identifying behavioral characteristics of teachers/faculty that both mediate or facilitate student cheating. With this in mind we suspect that faculty and teachers across academic disciplines will be interested in the results of the research. Faculty/teachers may even be able to alter student perceptions in a way that would discourage academic cheating.

3. How will the participants directly benefit?

It is not expected that the participants will directly benefit from the research though the information they provide may impact students and faculty in the future.

IV. Checklist

This checklist must be completed and attached to all protocols or Department Representatives will return them to the PI. Please note that for any items checked “yes” you must attach the designated, completed appendices.

- Yes No Informed consent procedures/ documentation have been clearly explained. (**All** protocols must have a completed **Appendix A.**)
- Yes No Is your research being funded? (If yes, complete **Appendix B.**)
- Yes No Are you recruiting and enrolling subjects 0-7 years old? (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix C.**)
- Yes No Are you recruiting and enrolling subjects 8-17 years old? (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix C.**)
- Yes No Are you recruiting and enrolling prisoners as subjects? (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix D.**)
- Yes No Are you recruiting and enrolling pregnant women as subjects? (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix E.**)
- Yes No Are you recruiting and enrolling mentally incapacitated individuals as subjects? (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix F.**)
- Yes No Will the subjects of this study be exposed to the possibility of harm, including physiological, psychological, or social (e.g., loss of reputation, privacy, or employability). (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix G.**)
- Yes No Will the subjects of this study be exposed to any psychological interventions such as contrived social situations, manipulation of the subject's attitudes, opinions or self-esteem, psychotherapeutic procedures, or other psychological influences. (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix H.**)
- Yes No Will this study involve any elements of deception? (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix I.**)
- Yes No Will the proposed research involve any biomedical procedures (e.g., the taking or withholding of medication, ingestion of any food or other substances, injections, blood drawing, or any other procedure which would normally be done under medical supervision). (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix J.**)
- Yes No Will all or some of the subject(s) of the proposed research be audio or videotaped or recorded in any other manner? (If yes, complete and attach **Appendix K.**)
- Yes No Will this proposed research involve any elements of technology? (i.e. web-based subject recruitment, email recruitment, web survey, etc.)

Appendix A: Elements of Informed Consent

The informed consent procedures and documents outlined in this protocol contain all of the following:

- | | | |
|--|-----|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 1. | A statement that the study involves research |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 2. | An explanation of the purposes of the research |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 3. | The duration of the participant's participation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 4. | A description of procedures to be followed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | 5. | Identification of any experimental procedures |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 6. | A description of foreseeable risks or discomforts to the participant |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 7. | A description of any benefits to the participants or any others that may be expected from the research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | 8. | A disclosure of appropriate alternative procedures or courses of treatment, if any that might be advantageous to the subject |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 9. | A statement describing the extent, if any, that confidentiality will be maintained |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | 10. | An explanation about any compensation or medical treatments that may be available if injury occurs, what they may be, and where to get further information |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 11. | An explanation as to whom to contact concerning questions about the research, research participants' rights, and/or a research related injury or adverse effect. This should include the Principal Investigator's name and contact information as well as the Research Ethics & Compliance Office name and number, (309) 438-8451. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 12. | A statement that participation is voluntary |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 13. | A statement that refusal to participate involves no penalty or loss of benefits, |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | 14. | A statement that the subject may discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits. |