

Participant Information Sheet & Consent Form

Research Question: Can community education through the deliverance of a Digital Media Technology ePortfolio, bridge the gap between the transitions of further education to employment, from a tutor and students perspective?

Invitation to take part in a research project

November 2013 to July 2014

Researcher: Geraldine Mc Cann

I am currently undertaking a Masters in Science and Computing in Applied eLearning studying at Dublin Institute of Technology. As part of this programme, I am hoping to conduct some research with tutors from the CDET B based on a new FETAC Level 4 Module Digital Media Technology 4N1858 to be delivered as a standalone workshop and the delivery via an online learning platform called Edmodo. In which I would deliver the module and artifacts available for free. I am inviting you to contribute to the research project and in order for you to decide whether to partake, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information and contact me if there is anything you would like me to clarify.

What is the purpose of the study?

Based on the new module descriptor Digital Media Technology 4N1858 and using an action research approach, I have implemented changes to foster the development of the tutor and student Digital Media Technology ePortfolios. I would like to determine if the use of online links sent to colleges and prospective employers would provide the tutors and students with the added advantage of bridging the gap between the transitions of further education to employment. This is the development of creative practices with tutors and students on the Digital Media Technology 4N1858. I would also like to review and compare how the same module could be delivered in other FETAC Centre's as the Tutors involved would be engaging in their own teaching practice. This study will examine if the teaching strategies I have implemented are fostering creative practices during community education through the deliverance of Digital Media Technology and bridge the gap between further education and

employment, from a tutor and students perspective. As a result I hope that the nurturing of creative practices will in turn enhance the development of the Digital Media Technology ePortfolio's for tutor's/student's as part of the delivery of FETAC Digital Media Technology 4N1858. I am interested in your perceptions of the teaching strategies used and supports provided, and I will be asking for your opinions via online links to your email to complete the surveys, they will take approximately fifteen minutes and will be anonymous. Interviews will take approximately twenty five minutes each and will be recorded and stored securely. In the next month or so I enquire if the skills you have learnt were of specific benefit to you.

Ultimately it is anticipated that this study will improve the process of the tutor/student Digital Media Technology ePortfolio development for you and future tutors and students from the CDETb community education. It would also help implement a set of standardized templates for the module Digital Media Technology 4N1858 which we can all work from.

Do I have to take part?

It is your choice whether to take part or not. You will be given some time to consider your choice. If you do decide to take part, I will discuss additional details with you. You will be free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason.

What are the benefits of taking part?

The research may provide valuable information to improve the delivery of the FETAC module Digital Media Technology 4N1858, which at present is a new module, for both tutors and students to set up an eLearning platform that allows free and equal access to both tutors and students alike. The content of the Digital Media Technology 4N1858 will include all of the documentation and resources that I have created and also showcase samples of student's work. By taking part in this action research proposal, you will not benefit directly from participating in this research.

What will it involve?

If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to participate in giving your opinions via online surveys, links to be advised to you by email; they will take approximately fifteen minutes and will be anonymous. Interviews will take

approximately twenty five minutes and will be recorded and stored securely to enquire if the skills you have learnt were of specific benefit to you.

I will also investigate the content of your Digital Media Technology resources that you created on the ePortfolios'. As part of my research over the next couple of months, I would like to link in with you and see how you are progressing through your deliverance of the Digital Media Technology 4N1858 within a community education environment.

Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?

Yes. All information that is collected from you will be kept confidential. The general findings of the research will be presented as part of a small scale action research study that I am completing as part of my Masters in Applied eLearning. Your name and personal details will not appear, and I will ensure that it will not be possible for anyone to identify you from your responses. When completed, a copy of the research will be sent to you. It will be also sent to Celia Rafferty of the CDETb Adult Education Officer, my supervisor Dr Claire Mc Avinia DIT and Sinead Mc Cann Project Officer Community Links DIT. On completion of my research proposal it will be developed further into a journal paper for publication.

If you have any questions, you can contact me for further information:

Geraldine Mc Cann

Geraldine Mc Cann

Geraldine Mc Cann
18/10/13 21:24 +01:00

Signature:

I approve the document



Email address: mccann.geraldine@gmail.com

Contact Number: 0876129534

Thank you for reading this and for taking the time to consider participating.

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I _____ hereby consent to participate in this action research project: "Can community education through the deliverance of a Digital Media Technology ePortfolio, bridge the gap between the transitions of further education to employment, from a tutor and students perspective?". To actively participate in the qualitative data methods through surveys and individual interviews that will ask about specific support activities I found useful throughout the year. I would like to participate in online surveys and an interview with the researcher to see how I am progressing through the deliverance of the Digital Media Technology 4N1858. I am fully aware that I will be free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason. I can confirm that on the date of signing this consent form I am in the age category of eighteen years of age and upwards.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Contact number: _____

Geraldine Mc Cann

Geraldine Mc Cann
18/10/13 21:24 +01:00
I approve the document

Signature of Researcher:

