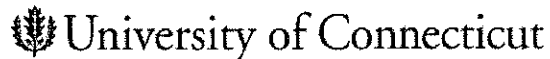


# Consent Form for Participation in a Research Study



**Principal Investigator:** Megan Welsh

**Student Researcher:** Craig Waterman, Glen Davenport and Jessica Flake

**Study Title:** Validating the Use of Outcome Scaling in Student Teacher Evaluations

**Sponsor:** University of Connecticut

## Introduction

You are invited to participate in a research study to validate the use of new measure to evaluate student teachers. You are being asked to participate because you currently work as a cooperating teacher and oversee a student teacher in your classroom. You also possess a specialized knowledge of what level of achievement is typical of students in your specific school and grade level.

## Why is this study being done?

The purpose of this research study is to validate the use of Outcome Scaling for the purpose of evaluating a student teacher's contribution to student achievement. There has been an increased interest in moving towards performance-based certification exams, and in measuring a student teacher's contribution to student growth. However, it is difficult to disentangle a student teacher's effect on learning from that of their supervising teacher. We are conducting this research to investigate how the results of assessments already used in your classroom might be incorporated into student teacher evaluations.

The purpose of this study is to validate this measure in the context of student teacher evaluations, and will not be used to evaluate any individual student teachers, cooperating teachers, or teacher preparation programs.

## What are the study procedures? What will I be asked to do?

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to attend a half-hour online training on Outcome Scaling, followed by a brief quiz. You will then set three classroom-level achievement goals related to instruction that the student teacher will provide using assessments that you already use in your classroom. You will also predict how well your students would meet the goals assuming exceptional, average, or below average instruction from the student teacher.

Once your student teacher has completed their placement you will be asked to rate the level of student growth observed. You will also be asked to complete a short survey which will ask you your opinion of and observations about the measure, and how accurate it is as a measure of student learning.

## What are the risks or inconveniences of the study?

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We believe that the risks to participate in this study are minimal. It is possible that the Outcome Scale will not be an accurate reflection of a student teacher's performance, and poor marks could cause some embarrassment and or tension. However, only you and the research team will see your ratings. We have explained these risks to all participants, and this information will not be used to evaluate cooperating teachers, student teachers or the teacher preparation program.

What are the benefits of the study?

You may not directly benefit from this research; however, we hope that your participation in the study will improve measures of teacher effectiveness and student teacher evaluation.

Will I receive payment for participation? Are there costs to participate?

You will receive 75 dollars at the end of the study. There is no cost to you for participating.

How will my personal information be protected?

The following procedures will be used to protect the confidentiality of your data. The researchers will keep all study records locked in the principal investigator's office. Names will only be used to match records. Once records have been recorded in the data base, identifying information will be removed and replaced with a non-identifying number. All electronic files (e.g., database, spreadsheet, etc.) containing identifiable information will be password protected. Any computer hosting such files will also have password protection to prevent access by unauthorized users. Only the members of the research staff will have access to the passwords. Individual's data will not be shared with others, however results will be aggregated across all participants and summaries of findings will be shared. At the conclusion of this study, the researchers may publish their findings. Information will only be presented in summary format and you will not be identified in any publications or presentations.

You should also know that the UConn Institutional Review Board (IRB) and the Office of Research Compliance may inspect study records as part of its auditing program, but these reviews will only focus on the researchers and not on your responses or involvement. The IRB is a group of people who review research studies to protect the rights and welfare of research participants.

Can I stop being in the study and what are my rights?

You do not have to participate in this study if you do not want to. If you agree to participate, but later change your mind, you may stop participating at any time. There are no penalties or consequences of any kind if you decide that you do not want to participate.

Whom do I contact if I have questions about the study?

Take as long as you like before you make a decision. We will be happy to answer any question you have about this study. If you have further questions about this study or if you have a research-related problem, you may contact the principal investigator, Megan Welsh at 860-486-6125 or

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the student researcher, Craig Waterman at 860-634-9998. If you have any questions concerning your rights as a research participant, you may contact the University of Connecticut Institutional Review Board (IRB) at 860-486-8802.

**Documentation of Consent:**

I have read this form and decided that I will participate in the project described above. Its general purposes, the particulars of involvement and possible risks and inconveniences have been explained to my satisfaction. I understand that I can withdraw at any time. My signature also indicates that I have received a copy of this consent form.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name:

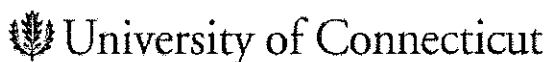
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Date:

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Signature of Person  
Obtaining Consent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name:

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Date:

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Approved Until 1/19/14  
Approved By J. Waterman



**Principal Investigator: Megan Welsh, Ph.D.**

**Title of Study: Validating the Use of Outcome Scaling in Evaluating Student Teachers**

You are invited to participate in a study that explores a new way to evaluate teaching quality called Outcome Scaling. A team of researchers from the University of Connecticut are studying this approach as an alternative to measures that evaluate teachers based on standardized test scores. This measure relies on the expert knowledge of teachers to set growth targets using classroom assessments.

If you consent to participate, the cooperating teacher overseeing you in your student teaching placement will set goals for classroom performance related to the instruction you provide and will rate the class's attainment of these goals. They will also complete a short survey to share their opinions about this approach.

In addition, we will ask you to complete a brief survey about your student teaching experience and will access your academic records to determine if there is a relationship between the data collected from cooperating teachers and student teacher's college grades, student teaching evaluations, and/or certification exam scores. These records will be kept confidential and will only be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the method we are piloting. Information collected for this study will not be shared with you, the teacher preparation program, or the school administration

*If you consent to participate in the study you will be entered into a raffle to win an iPad2 16G Wi-Fi.*

You do not have to participate in this study, or can elect to share only a portion of the information we request. If you have further questions about this project or if you have a research-related problem, you may contact Megan Welsh at 860-486-6125 or [megan.welsh@uconn.edu](mailto:megan.welsh@uconn.edu). If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant you may contact the University of Connecticut Institutional Review Board (IRB) at 860-486-8802. The IRB is a group of people who review research studies to protect the rights and welfare of research participants.

Please check one of the lines below to indicate whether or not you agree to participate in the study, and also provide your signature.

I agree to participate

I do not agree to participate

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Your signature

Date

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Approved Until	1/19/14
Approved By	JLW/HW