

Recruitment Email Text

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Research on Neurodiversity-Inclusive Instructional Design

Dear [Insert Name Here],

My name is Cheryl Burris, and I am conducting a university-approved research study as part of my doctoral work in the College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University. Supervised by Dr. Dawn Hathaway, this study has two goals: (1) to explore how instructional designers meet the needs of neurodivergent learners, and (2) to gather your perspectives on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in inclusive instructional design.

For this research study, we are seeking a few instructional designers to participate in one-on-one interviews. We are seeking participants who have at least one year of experience, are currently employed by George Mason University, are directly responsible for designing instructional content, and are willing to participate. As a result of your role, I am writing to invite you to join and share your insights. Your contributions will help identify current practices, challenges, and opportunities for supporting neurodiversity in digital learning environments.

For your consideration, here is some information for your review:

- **Study Number:** STUDY00000827 - AI Approaches to Learning Gaps
- **Time Commitment:** The interview will last about 45-60 minutes, including the introduction and administrative details.
- **Participation:**
 - Your participation is entirely voluntary.
 - You can withdraw from the study at any time without facing any consequences.
 - You can stop the interview or refuse to answer any question without penalty.
- **Schedule:** Interviews will be held at a convenient time for you, except on Mondays and Tuesdays after 3:00 PM
- **Compensation:** None offered.
- **Risks/Benefits:** There are no expected risks. While there are no direct benefits to participants, contributing knowledge benefits and enhances neurodiverse and inclusive design practices.
- **Setting:** The interviews will be conducted via Zoom and will utilize the built-in recording and transcription features for documentation. You may choose to be on-camera or off-camera.
- **Confidentiality:**
 - All responses will be completely anonymized, used solely for research, and securely stored on a password-protected university server.
 - Pseudonyms will be used, and no names or personal identifiers will be connected to the research data.
 - Only the research team will have access to the identification key.

- **Consent:** While highlights are above, you may request an advanced copy of the consent form to review in full before our scheduled interview.

If you need more information, please feel free to contact me or Dr. Dawn Hathaway (email listed below). If you're interested, please [complete this short form](#) to provide your digital consent as well as screening and contact information. Based on your preferred days, we will contact you to schedule a convenient time for an interview.

Please share this opportunity by forwarding the interest form link to other instructional designers who work at George Mason and may be interested in participating. Thank you for considering participating in this critical study!

Sincerely,

Cheryl Burris, M.Ed.

Student Researcher

Doctoral Student | [Learning Technologies Design Research](#)

Graduate Research Assistant | [College of Education and Human Development](#)

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