

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS

REC Reference Number: MR/17/18-280



YOU WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET (IN PRINTED OR ELECTRONIC FORM)

Title of study

Modern Languages Research: Digital Mediations

Invitation Paragraph

We would like to invite you to participate in this study which is part of our current research into attitudes towards digital culture and technology among modern languages researchers, practitioners and teachers. Your participation is fully voluntary, and you are under no obligation to participate, but if you choose to be part of the research project, your knowledge and insights shared during the process will be well valued and carefully protected. And if you do choose to participate, it is our responsibility to provide you with any information you need about the study. The following will provide some basic information about this project: please read it carefully, and if you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to raise them with us.

What is the purpose of the study?

This research aims to explore two questions:

- How do digital culture and technology transform Modern Languages Research?
- How can Modern Languages Research help us better understand digital culture?

It is part of the 'Digital Mediations' strand on the 'Language Acts & Worldmaking' research project: <https://languageacts.org/digital-mediations/>

Why have I been invited to take part?

The study consists of interviews, focus groups and questionnaires with a range of participants involved in Modern Languages research in order to explore their attitudes to, and experiences with, digital culture and technology, and your opinion and insights would be extremely valuable to this study.

Do I have to take part?

No one has to be in this research study. Refusing to take part will NOT cause any penalty or loss of benefits that you would otherwise have. You may start and then change your mind and stop at any time. To stop being in the study, you should tell the interviewer or researcher immediately.

What will happen to me if I take part?

This study will only be used for academic research, it may be published, but any quotations used will be anonymous and it will never be used commercially.

Activities are designed to last about an hour and interviews or focus groups will be recorded subject to your permission. All recordings and notes will only be used for research purposes and will never be disseminated for any other use.

We may re-contact interviewees to clarify points afterwards, or to delve deeper into particular points.

What are the possible benefits or risks of taking part?

There are no direct benefits from participating in this study, beyond contributing to knowledge. There are no foreseeable risks in participating in the study.

Will my taking part be kept confidential?

The content of this study will be strictly confidential and will be held securely or deleted once the research is finished. Your personal information will also be strictly protected.

The UK Data Protection Act 1998 will apply to all information gathered within the interviews and held on password-locked computer files and locked cabinets within King's College London. No data will be accessed by anyone other than the researchers; and anonymity of the material will be protected by using false names or random identifiers.

What will happen to the results of the study?

The research will be used for scholarly publications and project reports, and quotations may be used anonymously, where permission is given.

Who should I contact for further information?

If you have any questions or require more information about this study, please contact the 'Digital Mediations' strand lead using the following contact details:

Paul Spence
Department of Digital Humanities
King's College London
paul.spence@kcl.ac.uk

What if I have further questions, or if something goes wrong?

If this study has harmed you in any way or if you wish to make a complaint about the conduct of the study you can contact King's College London using the details below for further advice and information:

Research Ethics Office
Room 5.11 Franklin Wilkins Building
Waterloo Bridge Wing
Waterloo Road
London SE1 9NH
crec-minrisk@kcl.ac.uk

Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research.