

Information Sheet about the Graduate School Boot Camp and the Research Study Evaluation {IRB # 111}

The School of Nursing is providing you with an additional form of orientation to help you prepare for entering graduate school. This orientation is called, "The Graduate School Bootcamp." As part of the Bootcamp, we will be asking you some questions which will help us evaluate the effectiveness of the educational program. The evaluation and research component of the Bootcamp is under the direction of Dr. Christine Pintz, developer of the learning modules and program director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. The faculty in the program have decided to require that you complete the Bootcamp as part of your orientation. The results of your responses to the evaluation questions will be used to evaluate the program and will be reported in an aggregate manner, meaning that your individual responses will not be reported. In addition, your academic standing will not, in any way, be affected should you choose not to participate or if you decide to withdraw from the study at any time. If you do not wish to participate in the evaluation portion of the study, you may contact the investigator, Dr. Pintz.

The purpose of this research study is to evaluate an online multimedia learning module called the Graduate School Boot Camp. This learning module was designed to help new graduate students become better prepared for graduate studies. The bootcamp was designed to include a series of on-line learning modules. The on-line format will allow you to have access to the learning materials anywhere you have internet access. The learning module is divided into five sections. The interactive, multimedia learning module was developed to include the following topics: learning strategies and time management, academic writing, managing technology challenges, basic research concepts, and using library resources. The titles of each section are: Warming Up to Graduate School, Tech-Savvy: Tools for the Trek, the Wright Track, Cycling for Sources & Success and Diving into Research.

The information in the modules is available to students to help them with aspects of graduate studies that we have found were difficult for students in previous classes. You will not receive a grade for completing the module. As part of the module, we will ask you to take a test before and after you have completed the module to see if your knowledge of the material has improved after working through the module. In addition, we will ask you about whether you liked or disliked different aspects of the module. The approximate amount of time it will take to complete the modules is 2 to 3 hours. You may discontinue working on the module at any time. You can complete the module all at once or you may take breaks and go back to it.

You will receive a certificate stating that you have completed the Graduate School Bootcamp. You will not otherwise benefit directly from your participation in the study. There is a benefit to science and humankind that might result from this study. This study may help us better understand whether providing graduate students with a self-directed module on skills needed during graduate study will help them achieve better success in their programs.

Possible risks or discomforts you could experience during this study include loss of confidentiality. Every effort will be made to keep your information confidential, however, this cannot be guaranteed. Only the primary investigator and co-investigator will have access to this data and the primary investigator, Dr. Pintz, will only have access to data that has no identifying information. Data will be stored on a password-protected computer. None of your instructors will have access to the data. No paper files will be kept. A coding system will be developed and all identifying information will be removed from the data after you complete the assessment. If results of this research study are reported in journals or at scientific meetings, the people who participated in this study will not be named or identified.

The Office of Human Research of George Washington University, at telephone number (202) 994-2715 or email ohrib@gwumc.edu can provide further information about your rights as a research participant. Further information regarding this study may be obtained by contacting Dr. Christine Pintz, Principal Investigator, at 202-994-7805.

Your willingness to participate in this research study is implied if you decide to proceed. Thank you.

*Please keep a copy of this document in case you want to read it again.