**Studying Abroad During A Pandemic**

**Teneisha R Ellis**

*What is the research about?*

You are invited to participate in a study of my PhD concerning the effects of the 2020 global pandemic on students’ learning experience who had opted into a study abroad Programme. Because of the global pandemic, institutions have had to change how they operate. This has affected many international mobility Programmes. The purpose of this study is to better understand the experiences of higher education students’ who participated in a study abroad programme during this time.

*Do I have to take part?*

Participation in this study is voluntary. This form has been written to help you decide if you would like to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be free to withdraw at any time without providing a reason and without penalty. All you will need to do is email me, Teneisha Ellis at: [2000657@uad.ac.uk](mailto:2000657@uad.ac.uk).

*What will I be required to do?*

We will schedule a virtual interview at your convenience. The interview should last approximately 45mins. You are not required to answer every question in the interview. Video and audio recordings will take place but once the interview is concluded and has been transcribed by the researcher and at the completion of my PhD submission, these media avenues will be deleted. The researcher may use software to aid in the transcription process as well. Additional follow-up questions may be asked later for clarification purposes if applicable.

*Reward*

Your participation is voluntary. There are no direct monetary gains to you for participating in this study. No promise of monetary funds will be used to encourage you to participate but know that your experiences have the potential to help future students participating in a study abroad Programme.

*How will you handle my data?*

Your data will be stored in a pseudonymised form and will be accessible to the Researcher, the Researcher’s dissertation Supervisors Andrea Cameron and Dr. Corinne Jola at Abertay University in Dundee, Scotland. Your data will be stored in a secure database at Abertay University with data fully anonymised at the earliest opportunity (i.e. when data that could identify you is no longer necessary for the purposes of the research). Your responses are treated in the strictest confidence - it will be impossible to identify individuals within a dataset when any of the research is disseminated (e.g. in publications/presentations). Abertay University acts as Data Controller (DataProtectionOfficer@abertay.ac.uk).

Please ask questions on any aspect of the study that is unclear to you by contacting me at [2000657@uad.ac.uk](mailto:2000657@uad.ac.uk). If you have any additional questions, concerns, or complaints or wish to report a research related problem later, Andrea Cameron ([a.cameron@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:a.cameron@abertay.ac.uk)) and Dr. Corinne Jola ([c.jola@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:c.jola@abertay.ac.uk)), will be happy to answer them. If at any time you have questions concerning your rights as a research subject or you have questions, concerns, or complaints about the research, the Chair of the University Research Ethics Committee at Abertay University, at k.smith@abertay.ac.uk.

Please retain a copy of this consent form for your records.

*Retention of research data*

Researchers are obliged to retain research data for up to 10 years’ post-publication, however your anonymised research data may be retained indefinitely (e.g., so that researchers engage in open practice and other researchers can access their data to confirm the conclusions of published work). Consistent with our data retention policy, researchers retain consent forms for as long as we continue to hold information about a data subject and for 10 years for published research (including Research Degree thesis).

**Consent statement:**

Abertay University attaches high priority to the ethical conduct of research. Please consider the following before indicating your consent on this form. Indicating your consent confirms that you are willing to participate in the research, however, indicating consent does not commit you to anything you do not wish to do and you are free to withdraw your participation at any time. You are indicating consent under the following assumptions:

* I understand the contents of the participant information sheet and consent form.
* I have been given the opportunity to ask questions about the research and have had them answered satisfactorily.
* I understand that my participation is entirely voluntary and that I can withdraw from the research (parts of the project or the entire project) at any time without penalty and without having to provide an explanation.
* I understand who has access to my data and how it will be handled at all stages of the research project.

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| **PLEASE INITIAL BOX:** | **Yes, I do consent** | **No, I do not consent** |
| I consent to take part in this study conducted by Teneisha Ellis who intends to use my data for further research examining Virtual Exchange Programme experiences. |  |  |
| I Consent for Teneisha Ellis to use audio recording in the process of collecting information. |  |  |
| I Consent for Teneisha Ellis to use video recording in the process of collecting information. |  |  |
| I consent for Teneisha Ellis to use my pseudonymised quotes/transcripts in published materials or presentations (which may be classed as in the public domain e.g., if disseminated online). |  |  |

**Electronic Signature:**

**I confirm that I am willing to take part in this research:**

**PRINT NAME:**

**SIGNATURE:**

**DATE:**

**Privacy notice and legal basis for processing:**

Abertay University (the “University”/”we”) is committed to protecting the privacy and security of your personal data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 (or any successor legislation) and (EU) 2016/679 the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”) (and any other directly applicable EU regulation relating to privacy) (together “Data Protection Law”). This research has been approved by the Ethics Committee of Abertay University. The research team adhere to the Ethical guidelines of the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki, 2013) and the principles of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). The Abertay University Privacy Notice for Research Participants is available at <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/legal/> . General information on Data Protection law is available from the [Information Commissioner’s Office](https://ico.org.uk/).

For research involving living humans, the Data Controller adheres to, and collects, processes and handles/archives data in compliance with:

Article 6 (1) e: processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller.

Article 9 (2) j: processing is necessary for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes in accordance with Article 89(1) based on Union or Member State law which shall be proportionate to the aim pursued, respect the essence of the right to data protection and provide for suitable and specific measures to safeguard the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject.

Where applicable, this form is prepared in consultation with Article 13 of EU GDPR legislation, detailing the information to be provided where personal data are collected from the data subject.

If you have concerns about this research, please contact researchethics@abertay.ac.uk for enquiries (stage 1), or for more formal concerns (stage 2), please contact complaints@abertay.ac.uk. If you are not happy with the way your information is being handled, in the first instance, you should contact the University’s Data Protection Officer (DataProtectionOfficer@abertay.ac.uk). If you remain unhappy with the response received from us, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner’s Office at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF (https://ico.org.uk/).