SmarterMeasure Research
Student Informed Consent Statement

INTRODUCTION
The Department of Distance Education at Austin Peay State University supports the practice of protection for human subjects participating in research. The following information is provided to help you decide whether you wish to participate in the present study. You retain the right to refuse to sign this form and not participate in this study. You should be aware that even if you consent to participate in this study, you may withdraw from this study at any time without consequence. If you choose to withdraw from this study, it will not affect your relationship with this department, the services it may provide to you, or Austin Peay State University.

PURPOSE
The purpose of this study is to evaluate student experiences and instructional materials related to the SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator in APSU 1000 – Freshmen Seminar. Additionally, the study will compare student data to other institutions.

PROCEDURES
You are asked to read this informed consent statement and agree or disagree to participate in the research study. It will take you approximately 10 minutes to read and complete the informed consent form. If you agree to participate, researchers will use data from your required course activities related to SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator in APSU 1000. No additional coursework is needed. Required course activities include the SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator, a reflective discussion assignment, and student feedback survey. Your decision to participate in this study will not affect your grade in APSU 1000.

RISKS
The risks associated in this study are minimal, and are not greater than risks ordinarily encountered in daily life.

BENEFITS
This research study seeks to improve APSU 1000 course activities to meet student needs and improve awareness of skills and resources for success in technology-rich courses. Though you will receive no direct benefit from participating in this study, information gathered from the SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator and related course activities will contribute to the overall knowledge of obstacles students face when pursuing technology-rich courses.

COMPENSATION
You will not receive compensation for your participation in this research study. Participation in this study is voluntary and will not affect your grade in APSU 1000.
PARTICIPANT CONFIDENTIALITY
The records of this study will be kept confidential. All data will be saved on the Principal Investigator’s network drive which has been restricted for only their access. Once data is collected, all student identification information will be removed prior to data processing. No identifiers linking you to this study will be included in any reports released.

REFUSAL TO COMPLETE CONSENT
You are not required to complete this informed consent form; however, if you do not complete it, you cannot participate in this study. By completing the form, you can still choose to agree or disagree to be included in the research study.

CANCELLING THIS CONSENT
You may withdraw your consent to participate in this study at any time by contacting the principal investigator as listed below. Once you withdraw from the study, your data will be removed from the study and not used.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PARTICIPATION
If you have any questions about this study, you may direct them to the principal investigator as listed below.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR
Crystal Faulkner
Online Support Coordinator
APSU Distance Education
faulknerc@apsu.edu
931-221-7259

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD
Dr. Joniann Butterfield, Chair
Rebecca Winters, GA
irb@apsu.edu
931-221-7354