IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
LIFELONG LEARNING ONLINE FOCUS GROUPS
INFORMED CONSENT DOCUMENT (Adults 18+)

Focus Group Description

We are asking you to take part in a research study conducted by Dr. Carol Heaverlo, Dr. Constance Beecher, and Dr. Sarah Francis at Iowa State University. You must be 18 or older and currently reside in Iowa to participate. If you agree to take part in this voluntary study, you will be asked to engage in an audio recorded focus group discussion about your online learning experiences. The discussion will last approximately ninety minutes and will be held either in your county or online (Zoom). You may skip questions that you do not want to answer or stop participating in the discussion at any time.

Confidentiality

The recording will be kept secure following transcription of the discussion and will not be shared with other researchers. However, we may use the recording for additional analysis. Written transcripts may be shared with other researchers and/or used for future research.

When we report our findings from the study we will not use your name and will take care to change any details that could indirectly identify you or others. Please know that while we are taking steps to protect your confidentiality, we cannot control what others in the group divulge to others. Please be mindful of these limits to confidentiality when participating. We ask all participants to respect other's privacy and not disclose who was present or what was said during this discussion.

Incentives

Focus group participants will receive a $40 electronic Tango gift card once our discussion concludes, to be distributed via email.

Questions

Please contact Ellen McIntosh via email at emmalven@iastate.edu or by phone at (515) 294-1110. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a research participant, you can contact the Iowa State IRB at (515) 294-4566, IRB@iastate.edu