Appendix A: Online Informed Consent Form

CONSENT FORM

Predictors of students' academic performance in large lecture-style classroom settings:
A retrospective analysis

You are invited to participate in a research study on predictors of students’ academic performance in large lecture-style courses. The predictors under investigation in the present study include attendance and early feedback to students (e.g., early quizzes). This study is being conducted by (Course Director, Position, Department) at York University.

To participate in this study, you do not have to complete any further activities. By providing consent to participate in this study, you are agreeing to have your information from the course (Course Name), which consists of your attendance record and marks in the course, included in the analyses that will be conducted as part of this study. If you choose to participate in this study, you will also be asked to provide your age when the course was taken, as well as your gender for the purpose of reporting demographic information of the participants in the study. Your name and student number will not appear in any report or publications of the research. Confidentiality will be provided to the fullest extent possible by law.

Your decision to participate or decline participation in this study is completely voluntary and will have no effect on your current status or future relations with (Course Director) or York University or the mark that you received in (Course Name) or any other courses you have or will be taking at York University. Your participation in this research will be completely confidential and data will be averaged and reported in aggregate. Possible outlets of dissemination may include conference presentations, as well as publication in an academic journal. Although your participation in this research may not benefit you personally, it will help us understand how course instructors can guide their students to achieve academic success in the context of large lecture-style classrooms. The results of the study will also be made available to you as a participant, which may help you in any future courses that you may take.

This research has received ethics review and approval by the Human Participants Review Sub-Committee, York University’s Ethics Review Board and conforms to the standards of the Canadian Tri-Council Research Ethics guidelines. If you have questions about this project, you may contact (Course Director) by email or by phone. If you have any questions about this process, or about your rights as a participant in the study, please contact the Sr. Manager & Policy Advisor for the Office of Research Ethics, 5th Floor, Kaneff Tower, York University (telephone 416-736-5914 or e-mail ore@yorku.ca).

Please print a copy of this consent form for your records, if you so desire.

I have read and understand the above consent form, I certify that I am 18 years old or older and, by filling out the four questions below and clicking the “done” button, I indicate my willingness voluntarily take part in the study.

First name: 
Last name: 
Age when the course was taken: 
Gender: 

<DONE button>