SAMPLE CONSENT FORM

Research Project Title: Individual Differences in Memory

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Introduction and Purpose  
Prospective memory is the ability to formulate intentions, plans and promises, to retain them, to recollect and carry them out at the appropriate time or in the appropriate context. In other words it is the ability to remember to do things at a later time. Some people consistently follow through with their agreements and intentions; they can be relied on to be where they said they would be and to be punctual. Other people readily break agreements and fail to follow through with their intentions; they frequently show up late or miss scheduled appointments and social obligations altogether. These observations suggest that an individual’s character or personality might predict her/his prospective memory task performance. Although many notable authors, including Freud, have speculated about the link between personality and remembering to do things, to date only one study has empirically explored the relationship and they only explored a few personality traits. We are interested in extending this line of research and exploring the influence of other personality traits (e.g., being conscientious or outgoing) on prospective memory performance. Our goal is to answer the following question: What is the influence of individual differences in personality on performance of prospective memory tests?

Study Procedures  
If you agree to participate, the experiment will take about 2 hours of your time. During this time you will be asked to complete some questionnaires designed to assess your personality and to complete some simple tests of your memory and cognition. The tests of your memory, and cognition will require you to give the experimenter reminders, remember lists of neutral words (e.g., cat) and numbers, and to perform some speeded word reading and some speeded ‘connect the dots’ tasks. There are no known risks associated with this research. Each of our tasks is designed to be about as challenging or interesting as a simple puzzle or as a quiz you might find in a magazine.
Confidentiality
Your identity will be kept strictly confidential. All of your questionnaire and test results will be kept completely anonymous. None of the forms will contain any information that would permit anyone to link the results with you. To protect your anonymity all documents will be identified only by code number and kept in a locked filing cabinet in a secured laboratory room and/or on a password protected computer. You will not be identified by name in any reports of the completed study. Only the principal investigator, Dr. Peter Graf, his graduate students, and research assistants working on the project will have access to any of your test results. The data resulting from this research may be used as part of the Co-Investigator’s Masters Thesis.

Remuneration
The experiment will take about 2 hours of your time and you will receive 2 course credits for your participation. Your credit will automatically be submitted approximately 24 hours after the end of the session.

Contact Information about the study
This study is being conducted by Dr. Peter Graf, the principal investigator, with Carrie Cuttler as the co-investigator and Amanda LaMarre as the research assistant for the study. Please call any one of them if you have any questions about this study. Dr. Graf may be reached at (604) 822-6635, and Carrie Cuttler and Amanda LaMarre may be reached at (604) 822-2140.

Contact for Concerns about the Rights of Research Subjects
If you have any concerns about your treatment or rights as a research participant, you may contact the Research Subject Information Line in the UBC Office of Research Services at (604) 822-8598

Consent
Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary and you may refuse to participate or withdraw from the study at any time without jeopardy to your class standing.

Please feel free to ask the experimenter any additional questions that you have about the study.

Your signature below indicates that you have received a copy of this consent form for your own records.

Your signature below indicates that you consent to participate in this study.

__________________________________ (Participant signature)  ________________ (Date)

__________________________________
(Participant printed name)