**PROTOCOL DESCRIPTION (Expedited Review)**

*(Note: incomplete or handwritten responses will be returned without review)*

1. **PURPOSE** Briefly describe the context and goals of your research project. Summarize the background, nature, rationale and significance of the proposed study. In outline form, clearly state the objectives of the research, major hypothesis and research design. Provide three to five references. **Please be advised that the IRB is composed of individuals from many disciplines and thus the description of your research should be written in terms readily comprehensible by non-experts.**

2. **SUBJECTS** Describe the involvement of the human subjects in this project. Selection of subjects must be equitable and, in the case of protected populations such as children, prisoners, pregnant woman etc. should address their special needs. Clearly state the following: Who are the subjects? What will they be doing? How many subjects will be involved in the project? What is the relationship (if any) between the researcher and the subjects?

3. **RECRUITING** Specify how subjects will be recruited (e.g. advertisements, announcements in class, e-mail, internet, etc.). NOTE: Be aware of privacy provisions when designing recruitment activities. The text of any advertisement, letter, flier, oral script or brochure used to solicit potential subjects **must be attached.**

4. **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCESS AND DURATION**: Provide a description of the procedures to be followed. Include copies of questionnaires and/or interview protocol, or a sufficiently detailed description of measures to allow the IRB to under the nature of human subjects participation. Indicate the duration of anticipated research as applicable **from the viewpoint of the participant** (the length of each session and the number of sessions).

5. **SETTING/LOCATION** Describe the setting (e.g., a classroom) and the location (e.g., name of school) where the research will be conducted. (NOTE: If research is to be conducted at another institution or facility (e.g. a school, community center, place of business, etc.) a signed copy of the permission letter from that institution authorizing the researcher to collect data on its grounds must be attached).

6. **OBTAINING CONSENT** State in detail your plans for obtaining each subject's informed consent to participate in this project Describe how this information will be conveyed to subjects. BE SPECIFIC! Outline the steps chronologically (attach copy of informed consent form). NOTE: At least 2 copies of the forms should be handed out to participants, with one for them to sign, date and hand back and one for them to keep for their records. **If research involves minors**, explain in detail the assent process. Attach copy of verbal assent script or written assent form.

7. **BENEFITS** Explain benefits of participating in the study **for participants**. If none, state this. Then explain the benefits of the study in general and to the public. List all possible or expected benefits.

8. **RISKS** One of the key elements of an expedited project is that there are minimal risks to the participants. First, describe any possible risks (physical, psychological, sociological, legal, financial, or other) that can result from participation in this project. Then, describe how there are only minimal risks to participants for taking part in your study.

9. **PRIVACY & CONFIDENTIALITY** These are separate issues. You must address both. **Privacy** applies to the person (e.g., how potential participants are identified and contacted; who is present during the research activities; how public is the setting; is the researcher accessing the minimum amount of information necessary). **Confidentiality** applies to the data (e.g., identifiable data; access to data; under what circumstances data may be shared).

10. **STORAGE** Specify how you will keep your data secure, and maintain confidentiality during and after the research. Be specific and describe how data will be stored throughout the duration of the project and upon its completion. PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL CONSENT FORMS AND DATA MUST BE KEPT UNDER LOCK AND KEY FOR 5 YEARS.

11. **DISPOSAL** Describe how you will ultimately dispose of your data after you have completed your research (e.g. shredding, deleting digital files). PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL RESEARCH RECORDS MUST BE MAINTAINED FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE RESEARCH.

12. **MEASURES** Are you using any scales or instruments you did not create yourself? If so, list the names of those scales and provide a copy of the permission to use the instrument. If it is in the public domain, please indicate below. If you purchased the scale, provide proof of purchase.

13. If applicable, provide the following: 1) a description of the debriefing procedures to be used in cases where deception has occurred: 2) a statement describing what actions you will take should the research reveal the possibility of a medical or other potentially troubling condition.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

**These three documents must be attached. If they are not included, the application will be returned without review.**

* Consent form
* Debriefing form
* CITI Training Certificate

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS - If applicable**, these items must also be submitted with the application for it to be considered complete:

* Assent form (for participants under 18)
* An additional Consent form for participants being photographed or recorded via digital media
* Site permission (if applicant is conducting research anywhere other than Wenzhou-Kean University)
* Copies of all survey instruments, interview questions, recruitment letters, emails, advertisements