

Reed College  
Institutional Review Board (IRB)  
Appendix B  
Research with Non-English-Speaking Participants and/or International Research

**SECTION I: RESEARCH INVOLVING NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING SUBJECTS**

All subjects of your study, regardless of their knowledge of English, need to understand their role and rights as participants. When conducting research involving non-English-speaking subjects, you must plan to manage communications with participants in each stage of your study. In addition to recruitment and consent, this includes study visits, questions, and unexpected issues. You must be prepared to communicate with participants throughout your study.

Communications with non-English-speaking subjects must be translated and/or interpreted by a person who is fluent in both English and the subject's language. If you are not fluent in both languages, you can engage the services of a qualified translator (for written communication) and/or interpreter (for oral communication).

Communication with non-English-speaking participants, even for studies conducted in the U.S., can also be impacted by cultural differences. Awareness of these differences can help to minimize potential miscommunications.

1. Will you enroll non-English-speaking subjects in your study?

(If not, please skip to Section II.)

Yes

2. In what language(s) will your research be conducted?

English and Spanish

3. Are you fluent in this language? If not, will a translator and/or interpreter be used?

I am fluent in Spanish and will not be using a translator/interpreter.

4. If a translator and/or interpreter will be used:

a. What are their qualifications?

b. How will they be trained to maintain confidentiality?

c. Will use of a translator and/or interpreter pose additional risks to participants?

d. How will these risks be minimized?

5. Please indicate how any written communications, including informational materials, consent documents, and research instruments will be translated.

I will translate all written communications myself. Written materials will be written and translated as simply and straightforward as possible to allow all participants, regardless of language, to best understand my project and their role in my research.

6. Please indicate how any oral communications, including information, oral consent, study visits, follow-up questions, and communication about unexpected issues will be interpreted.

I will interpret oral communications to allow for the best understanding of the meaning behind what is said. If a literal interpretation/translation is not appropriate or possible (such as terms/phrases not mutually intelligible in both Spanish and English), I will ask additional questions/offer additional information to allow for a clear understanding of what is being communicated between a participant and myself.

7. Please outline your knowledge of the culture of potential non-English-speaking participants, and how you intend to minimize potential miscommunication resulting from cultural differences.

Any potential Spanish-speaking participants in my project will exclusively be living in the city I am from (primarily in the same area of the city I am from). As Albuquerque has a significant Spanish speaking population, I have had classmates, friends, and family members who were raised in homes where Spanish was the primary, if not only, language spoken. Through the conversations I've had with individuals about their experiences growing up in households where English was not spoken often, if at all, as well as my own experiences growing up in Albuquerque in a home where both English and Spanish were spoken, I am familiar with many of the social/cultural norms and expectations that guide the lives of Spanish speakers in the area, as well as area-specific terms/slang. To minimize the potential for miscommunications, I will not assume meanings/intent behind words/phrases that I am not familiar with, rather I will ask follow-up questions for clarification. Additionally, I will not assume that participants understand area-specific phrases/concepts, and will work to explain concepts in as universally intelligible Spanish terms as possible.

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## **SECTION II: RESEARCH CONDUCTED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

Research conducted outside the United States must comply with U.S. and international standards of ethics, as well as with local regulations. Such research also requires knowledge of local culture and context, and awareness of how participants' national, racial, ethnic, and/or linguistic

groups may differ from yours. Depending on the location and nature of your research, your study may require review by an IRB or equivalent ethics committee of the host country or countries.

**Note: This section is not required for research conducted via standard online platforms (e.g., MTurk, Prolific) with participants located outside the U.S. if they are NOT located in the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA), United Kingdom (UK), or People's Republic of China (PRC). If participants will be located in *any* of the above-mentioned areas OR your research will *not* be conducted via standard online platforms, please complete this section.**

1. In what countries outside the U.S. will your subjects be located?

2. Will any of your subjects be located in the EU, EEA, or UK?

☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Will any of your subjects be located in the PRC?

☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Will your subjects be anonymous?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, will your subjects' data be anonymized after being collected?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If your subjects will be located in the PRC **and** their data will not be anonymous or anonymized, please explain how you plan to obtain participant consent to transfer personally identifiable data from the PRC to the U.S.

5. Has your research proposal undergone review by an IRB or equivalent ethics committee in the host country or countries? If so, please submit a copy of this review with your IRB application. If such review is not possible or appropriate, please provide a rationale.

6. Please outline your knowledge of the local context and culture in which you will conduct research.

7. Please identify any additional risks participants might face as a result of the study's local context and/or within the local culture, and how you intend to minimize these risks.

8. Please specify whether and how research data will be transferred between countries, including any procedures in place to maintain confidentiality.