

Digital Futures Program, Graduate Studies, OCADU
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Participant Information Sheet

Study title:	Documentation Tools for Makers
Locality:	OCADU - Toronto
Ethics committee ref.:	REB board (cpineda@ocadu.ca)
Student researcher:	Omid Ettehadi
Contact:	3170557@student.ocadu.ca / +1 (647) 545-2703

Hello!

My name is Omid Ettehadi, and I am a second-year Digital Futures student at OCAD University. As part of my thesis project, I would like to invite you to take part in a study that explores makers design process, their use of tools, and how they document their making. In this context, making refers to any kind of self-directed activity that results in building physical artifacts.

Participation in the study session is voluntary. You have the right to withdraw from the study at any time during the interview, or after the interview until the end of December 2019 to give the researcher enough time to find another volunteer in your place.

This Participant Information Sheet will help you decide if you'd like to take part in this study. It explains why we are doing this study, what your participation would involve, what the benefits and risks to you might be, and what would happen after the study ends. Please take the time to go through this document. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to sign a Consent Form. You will be given a copy of both the Participant Information Sheet and the Consent Form to keep. This document is four pages long; please make sure you have read and understood all the pages.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY?

This study aims to understand how makers design an object, what tools do they use, and how do they document their process. We want to build documentations that help people be more reflective and embed both the “How” and “Why” aspects of making. We also want to build a tool that brings aspects of their documentation into the physical objects that they create. This study has received approval from the Research Ethics Board of OCADU (Application Ref No: 101645).

WHAT WILL MY PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDY INVOLVE?

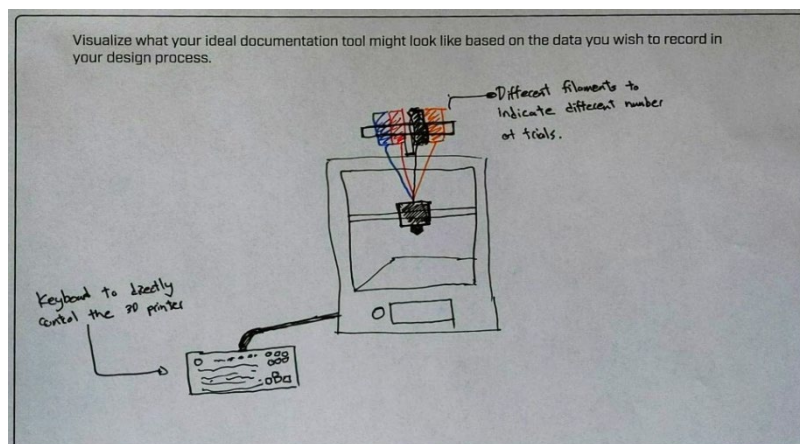
The study will take place in October 2019. If you agree to participate in this study, depending on a suitable time and date for you, we will invite you to a ~40 to 60 minutes study session at OCAD University (the study can also take place online only if the participant is not located in Toronto). In this session:

1. You will be briefly reminded of the goals of the project and your rights ~5-minutes.
2. You will be engaged in a ~20-minute interview about your current design process and how you document your process.
3. You will be engaged in a ~20-minute brainstorming session wherein you with the assistance of the researcher will come up with what data you want to capture from your design process, how those data can be captured and how they can be visualized in your final object built. You will also be asked to draw a few sketches of what an ideal documentation would look like for you and also how the final outcome might look. We will provide you with templates and drawing materials for this activity. We are not expecting any refined diagrams and want to create simple sketches that capture your ideas.
4. Finally, we will briefly discuss any final thoughts and questions you may have.

All sessions will be **audio recorded** and **photographs of the sketches** will be taken for later data analysis.

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS AND EXAMPLE OF BRAINSTORMING

1. What is your main purpose of documenting your projects?
2. What kind of data do you usually collect during your design process?
3. Try to visualize what your ideal documentation tool might look like based on the data you wish to record in your design process. Here is an example of a sketch.



WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS AND RISKS OF THIS STUDY?

Many narratives of the Maker Movement identify sharing and learning as the primary motivations for makers. Documentation is the main format where makers share their project. It is where most of the learning also happens. We think that addressing the challenges of documentation for makers can help improve not only their technical knowledge/skills, but also enhance their ability to reflect on their experience of making. By taking part in this study, participants can provide direct feedback for the design and development of the next generation of documentation tools for makers.

This study involves a 40 to 60 minutes interview and brainstorming session. The participants might experience fatigue during the interview. The participants might feel stressed during the brainstorming session for not knowing what to write and to sketch. To make sure the participant is comfortable during the interview and is not fatigued, we will inform the participant that we can take a break at any point of the session. In case the participant is uncomfortable with sketching during the brainstorming session, we will allow them to express their ideas in any way that they are comfortable with, for example instead of drawing they can just write down their ideas. If the participant feels uncomfortable at any point during the session, they can also withdraw from the study without any implications. Details on how your provided information will be handled are outlined below.

WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS?

- Participants are free to decline answering any questions or participate in any component of the study.
- Participants are free to refuse to continue participating in the interview and brainstorming session if they no longer feel comfortable. In which case their data will be deleted immediately.
- Participants can withdraw from the project at any time before the end of December 2019, to provide sufficient time for the researcher to find other participants before the thesis submission deadline in February 2020. In which case their data will be deleted and not included in the thesis.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE STUDY?

- Any notes taken during the session, and the audio recording will be transcribed and coded for data analysis purposes. No personal identifiers such as your name and email address will be attached to the document. The documentation will be kept secure on a password-protected hard drive.
- We will keep the email addresses of those participants who would like to be notified of any published research that comes out of the project. These identifiers will be stored separately from the study data to reduce the possibility of identifying individuals from raw data.
- Results of the data analysis will be included in the thesis document due April 2020, which will be posted publicly on OCAD University Open Research Repository.
- This study may be published in academic journals and conferences.

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION, TO SIGN UP, OR IF I HAVE CONCERNS?

If you would like to sign up to participate, have any questions or concerns about the study at any stage, you can contact:

Omid Ettehadi - +1 (647) 545-2703 – (3170557@student.ocadu.ca)

If you want to talk to my supervisors, you can contact them at:

Dr. Sowmya Somanath, at the Inclusive Design (ssomanath@faculty.ocadu.ca)

Dr. Adam Tindale, at the Digital Futures (atindale@faculty.ocadu.ca)

You can also contact the research ethics board (REB) that approved this study on:

Phone: (416) 977-6000 x 4368

Email: cpineda@ocadu.ca