Dear Student,

Your math instructor, Dr. Alden Gassert, is taking part in a research study about mathematics teaching strategies, conducted by our research team at the University of Colorado Boulder. The study is working to describe teaching practices in college mathematics classrooms. We want to know what we can learn about teaching from different types of data, so that we know how best to measure changes in teaching practices over time. We are testing which study methods are most informative and accurate by comparing survey responses, class materials, and interview data to observed classroom practices.

This semester, we will be observing your class by recording videos. Your instructor will place a small video camera in the back or side of your classroom so that we can see what your instructor is doing during class.

Since the goal of our project is to study the teaching techniques your instructor uses, the camera will be focused mainly on the instructor. However, it is possible that you may be visible on the camera depending on where you are located in the classroom and what is happening in class. If you would like to be sure that you are not included on the video, please sit in a location that is not visible to the camera. This will not be held against you. Your instructor will be recording multiple classes throughout the term, and he will notify you at the beginning of any classes that are being recorded. You are free to sit off-camera during any of these classes, and you can change your mind at any time.

The videos will be sent to us, the researchers, so that we can observe the teaching activities your instructor is using, and how often they occur. Nobody outside our team will view the videos, and the video data will be deleted after we watch the videos and code the data. We have no information about who you are, and your personal or academic information will not be shared with us. We will have no way to individually identify your appearance or voice on the videos.

Please indicate that you give permission to appear in the classroom video, and that you understand you can sit off-camera to avoid appearing in the video, by completing the online consent form at

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GassertStudentVideoConsent

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you for your consideration! And have a great semester learning math.

Sandra Laursen, Ph.D., study director

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