

## Standards and Protocols for Wesleyan Division III Research with Human Participants<sup>1</sup>

The following outlines requirements specific to conducting research involving to human participants. These additional guidelines extend the more general Division III guidelines detailed in the *Wesleyan COVID-19 Research Faculty Training* (updated May 22, 2020).

1. Laboratories may convert to on-line or remote research for studies with human participants, provided the appropriate [Wesleyan Institutional Review Board \(IRB\)](#) protocol is followed.
2. If the student researcher/research assistant/post-doc/faculty member (hereafter, “researcher”) is conducting the participant research from a remote location, i.e., not in a laboratory, general university precautions should be adhered to.
3. In cases where the researcher is conducting the remote research from their university laboratory or office, all guidelines in the general *Wesleyan COVID-19 Research Faculty Training* must be met and adhered to, in addition to general university precautions.
4. For all research (in-person or remote) conducted from a laboratory location, faculty members for the laboratory will:
  - a. Complete the on-line [Undergraduate Student Supervised Research Form](#) for all laboratory members who plan to utilize the laboratory space in line with the capacity requirements of the laboratory;
  - b. Determine the capacity and distancing guidelines for their laboratory space in consultation with Brandi Hood or William Nelligan;
  - c. Inform all laboratory members (e.g., student researchers, research assistants, post-docs, and collaborating faculty members) of these guidelines;
  - d. Post these guidelines clearly in appropriate and visible areas of their laboratory;
  - e. Mark off social-distancing parameters as appropriate;
  - f. Request and maintain stock of appropriate PPE, cleaning and disinfecting supplies, touchless thermometer (from William Nelligan).
5. For in-person research where both the researcher and research participant are present in the laboratory space, laboratory (and building) capacity limits will be

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<sup>1</sup> Developed by the Division III task force for Research with Human Participants (Charles Sanislow [Chair], Kyungmi Kim, and Jennifer Rose) in consultation with Dr. Thomas McLarney, William Nelligan, Brandi Hood, Steven Formica, Roseann Sillasen, Youssef Ezzyat, and Janice Naegele.

followed, appropriate social-distancing will be maintained, face coverings will be used, and appropriate [Wesleyan IRB](#) protocol will be followed.

6. Examples of appropriate precautions to be followed for in-person human participant research include:
  - a. Consenting and debriefing the participant from an appropriate social-distance using face coverings;
  - b. Having a pre-sanitized pen for the participant to sign the consent form;
  - c. Covering common use keyboards with plastic wrap replacing prior to each participant use (treating button boxes with disinfectant prior to and after each participant use);
  - d. Establishing and following a disinfecting protocol for desk surfaces, door knobs, and any arms of chairs before and after each participant;
  - e. Using a testing room to separate the participant and the researcher, or using a plexiglass divider;
  - f. Contacting the participant one day prior to the study for a brief screen of symptoms;
  - g. Testing the participant with a touchless thermometer for a temperature within normal limits when they arrive for the study;
  - h. Ventilating laboratory space between study sessions and scheduling 30 minutes between research participants;
  - i. Scheduling in-person human participant research in Judd Hall outside of regular classroom meeting times plus 30 minutes before and after the meeting times (as indicated in the appendix) to comply with building occupancy limitations;
  - j. Retaining a log of participant time/dates and contact information separate from data for back-up contact tracing.
7. In addition to the general Division III requirements and these requirements for Human Participant Research, all in-person human participant research will adhere to the broader University Guidelines; for example:
  - a. During times that visitors are not permitted on campus, research may be conducted only with Wesleyan Students, Staff, or Faculty.
  - b. In-person research will only be allowable on days when the university permits in-person class meetings. In-person research will not be permitted during transition periods when only on-line classes are allowed; if in-person classes are suspended due to elevated risk for COVID-19, in-person research will also be suspended.
  - c. Only those research participants adhering to the campus COVID-19 requirements (including twice weekly testing) and who are not quarantined are eligible to participate.

- d. All researchers conducting in-person research must adhere to the campus COVID-19 requirements, including twice weekly testing.
8. For research where social-distancing is not possible, including research that involves physical contact, a protocol that includes extra-precautions (e.g., face-covering of researcher to include both masking and wearing a clear plastic shield, time-limited contact) will be developed and reviewed by Dr. Thomas McLarney to ensure that it meets acceptable University and State of Connecticut public health standards.
9. No Wesleyan Student who is participating in research for course credit shall be required to participate in studies that are conducted in person, i.e., for studies where students are earning course credit, and will be provided with remote on-line alternatives.

## **Appendix: Classroom Meeting Times for Judd Hall and Allowable Time Periods for Research**

### **Spring 2021**

#### Mondays / Wednesdays:

8:20AM – 9:10AM

1:00PM – 2:20PM

*Human Participant Research between 9:40AM and 12:30PM, or after 2:50PM only*

#### Tuesdays / Thursdays:

11:10AM – 12:30PM

1:00PM – 2:20PM

2:50PM – 4:10PM

*Human Participant Research concluding before 10:40AM, or beginning after 4:40PM only*

#### Fridays:

8:20AM – 9:10AM

*Human Participant Research beginning after 9:40AM only*

## **Archival Schedules**

### **Fall 2020**

#### Mondays / Wednesdays:

8:00AM – 9:20AM

1:00PM – 2:20PM

2:50PM – 4:10PM

*Human Participant Research after 4:40PM only*

Updated February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Tuesdays / Thursdays:

8:20AM – 1:00PM

*Human Participant Research after 1:30PM only*

Fridays:

No Classes

*Human Participant Research not restricted by class meetings.*