



# Hesperia High School

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The study in which you are being asked to participate is designed to investigate the efficacy of using Moodle, an open source Learning Management System, as an extension of the English classroom. This study is being conducted by Mark Rousseau-Smith under the supervision of Dr. Brian Newberry, Associate Professor of Instructional Technology, California State University, San Bernardino.

**PURPOSE:** While Edline™ has proved to be an effective communication tool between staff, parents and students, the more robust features of a full LMS, Learning Management System, such as wikis, blogs, full media-rich forums, and other new interactive technologies are limited or non-existent in our current system. In order to be successful, the English department needs to provide an immersive literary experience to our students in which they are asked to engage in academic writing and conversation beyond the classroom walls. This project is designed to provide training modules to help select teachers engage in a pilot test of Moodle with their students in the 2009-2010 school year.

**DESCRIPTION:** Three teachers have volunteered to be participants in this design and development thesis project. They will be provided with training modules guiding them how to use specific features of Moodle, a system of communication to provide support to obstacles they encounter, a "sandbox" area for them to experiment setting up features and exploring Moodle's design before they run a live classroom with their students, and a domain and server space for them to do the aforementioned: [www.hesperiaenglish.com](http://www.hesperiaenglish.com). At the end of the pilot project, which should conclude at the end of September 2009, the teachers will be asked to examine the training modules themselves and the implementation of Moodle as an extension of the English classroom.

**PARTICIPATION:** Participation is voluntary, refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject is otherwise entitled, and the subject may discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits, to which the subject is otherwise entitled.

**CONFIDENTIALITY OR ANONYMITY:** No personally identifying information will be used in this project. The teachers involved will be referred to as Teacher A, B, and C. As such, they will remain anonymous. Moreover, the students who use this LMS are not being researched, so there is no need to keep their information confidential since there is no information, outside of anecdotal situations the teachers might describe (the students will be referred to generally), gathered about this population.

**DURATION:** The initial training for this project is expected to begin in June of 2009 and the pilot project is expected to end in September 2009.

**RISKS:** There are no foreseeable risks to the participants

**BENEFITS:** A possible benefit from this pilot project could be a new arena for the English department to utilize to extend the classroom beyond its physical confines

**VIDEO/AUDIO/PHOTOGRAPH:** There will be no video, audio, or photographs taken in this project except screenshots of the LMS itself. As such, no permission is needed. Any screenshot with personally identifying information, such as the names of teachers and students, will be blurred to protect anonymity.

**CONTACT:** If you have any questions about the project and research subjects' rights, please contact Dr. Brian Newberry, Associate Professor, at (909) 537-7630 or newberry@csusb.edu.

**RESULTS:** A full copy of my thesis, once completed, will be available for review in S-16

**SIGNATURE:**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_