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The Duke Libraries are interested in improving services for students writing honors theses. The Duke Librarians identified above are conducting this research study to understand better the process by which students research and write their theses. The goal of this study is to gather information about how students navigate the entire thesis research project.

The study will involve three 20-minute interviews, one at the beginning of the thesis process, one midway through the process, and one after the thesis is submitted. Your input will help the Libraries improve services for students writing honors theses (and ultimately for all undergraduate students), and we hope that you will find the interviews to be beneficial in reflecting on your research process. At the end of each interview session, the librarian conducting the interview will offer you advice and assistance with any research difficulties that you mentioned during the interview, including referrals to other campus resources that might help you in the research process. We will offer you a digital copy of the audio recordings of your interviews, which might also help you in the research process.

All information obtained through the interviews will be kept confidential: Physical copies of recordings and transcripts will be kept separate from any identifying information in locked storage in the researchers' private offices, and electronic files will be password protected for additional security. Only the three individuals listed above will have access to recordings or transcripts of the interviews. Any published reports about our research will include only summaries of our findings; if quotations are used, they will not be attributed to you and will not identify you. The data will be stored for five years after the last publication of the study, at which time the data will be destroyed.

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary and will not effect in any way your choice to or the manner in which you use the services of any of Duke's libraries. You may skip questions or withdraw from the study at any time. You may request that your interview responses not be included in the study findings.

If you have any questions about this study, please feel free to contact the library staff whose contact information is given above. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the Office of Research Support at 684-3030 or ors-info@duke.edu.

You will be given a copy of this consent form for your records.

Participant's Agreement*

I have read the above form and, with the understanding that I can withdraw at any time and for whatever reason, I consent to participate in the three interviews that are part of this study.

Participant's signature

Date

Interviewer's signature

*Participants must be at least 18 years of age.