

Appendix I: Ethics Form

Protocol No: 06-07 17
ETHICS
(to be supplied by Faculty)

FORM HumLawEd

UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES LAW AND EDUCATION
ETHICS COMMITTEE

Application for approval of a study programme involving human informants

Session 2006 - 2007

This form should be completed in conformity with the Faculty's Principles for Conducting Research involving Human Informants.
Please word process this document.

1. Title of programme:

Chinese Students' Affiliation to Varieties of English in a UK Franchised Transnational Higher Education programme

2. 2(i) should be used by individual applicants, staff or students, who require protocol approval for work which they themselves intend to carry out.(See also Notes for Guidance, paragraph 6).

(i) Applicant
Name **XIANGPING DU**

Status (delete as necessary) (a) ~~undergraduate year 1,2,3,4~~
(b) postgraduate
(c) ~~academic staff~~
(d) ~~other~~

Scheme of study or award e.g. **PhD**

Name/s of supervisor/s: **Dr Paul Roberts, Prof Mary Thornton, Dr Kit Thomas**

3. Chair of Faculty/Departmental Ethics Committee or Chair of Faculty/Departmental Research Committee

Appendix I: Ethics Form

- Name **Dr Tim Parke**
4. Research aims of the programme
- This research is concerned with English as an International Language, used in Transnational Higher Education (THE), in particular, in an English franchised THE programme in China. The aim of this research is to investigate the extent to which Non-Native (Chinese) English speakers feel affiliations towards 'Native Speakers of English', 'English Experts', or Speakers of 'English as a Lingua Franca'.**
5. Number of informants (approximate): **TWENTY at UH, One HUNDRED at FZU (Fuzhou University).**
6. Nature of informants (general characteristics, e.g. University students, other students, members of the public, primary school children, etc.) **University Students**
7. Has confirmation been obtained, if necessary, that the informants required will be available?
YES
8. Probable duration of investigation: **SIX MONTHS**
- from (starting date): **Beginning of September 2007**
- to (finishing date): **February 2008**
- (The dates given here will be monitored by the Faculty Ethics Committee and investigators may need to return to the Committee if the work is not complete within the period initially stated.) Approval must be sought and granted **before** any investigation involving human informants commences.
9. Where will the study take place?
- UH and Fuzhou University, Fujian, China
(UH Franchised THE programme in Fuzhou University)**
10. Description of procedures to be used. Give sufficient detail for the Committee to be clear what is involved in the programme. (Continue on a separate sheet if necessary). (Applicants may if they wish attach section 3 of research degree registration document)

Phase I:

After the pilot study with UH Pre-Master students, a case study based on UH Franchised THE programme in Fuzhou University will be carried out. 50 students in this programme will be asked to fill in the same Questionnaire on basic demographics and initial affiliation tendency.

Appendix I: Ethics Form

Focus Group Discussions will be organized among 10 groups with 5 students in each group. A series of questions in relation to the affiliation to varieties of English will be discussed.

Interviews will be arranged for 10/12 students, who are outstanding from the analysis of the above two methods. Interview questions will vary individually on the basis of students' different cases.

Phase II:

The above 3 steps of procedures will be repeated on the a different group of 50 students, studying for an English degree at FZU and not part of the THE project.

All the data will be collected in a classroom. Focus group discussions and interviews will be recorded using a mini-recorder.

11. Might the study cause discomfort or distress of a mental or emotional character?

~~YES~~/NO

If YES, please indicate its nature and the precautions to be taken.

12. If a YES answer has been given to question 11

- i) is it likely that medical, therapeutic or other aftercare may be needed by informants?

YES/NO

- ii) if aftercare is needed who will provide it

- iii) have those who will be asked to provide aftercare been informed of the nature of the study?

YES/NO

- iv) have such providers confirmed that aftercare can be provided free of charge to informants?

YES/NO

- 13.(a) Will it be necessary to obtain explicit consent from (or on behalf of) informants?

~~YES~~/NO

If a 'YES' answer has been given to question 11 it will almost always be necessary for explicit consent to be given, and for a consent form to be completed and signed by (or on behalf of) all informants. A copy of the consent form should be submitted with the application.

Appendix I: Ethics Form

If it is not proposed to seek explicit consent from informants, explain why here.
(Attach a separate sheet if necessary).

(b) How long before they take part in the investigation will informants' consent be sought?

ONE WEEK

(c) What will informants be told as to the nature of the investigation?

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OR TRANSCRIPT OF THE INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED

Attached. Before asking for informants' consent, I will briefly describe it orally.

(d) Will informants be given an opportunity to put questions to the investigator, arising from what they have been told?

YES/NO

(e) Will informants' consent be requested:

- after briefing orally and in writing?
YES/NO
- after they have been briefed in writing?
YES/NO
- after oral briefing?
YES/NO
- some other way? GIVE DETAILS

14. If the informant is a minor, or if otherwise unable for any reason to give full consent on their own, state whose consent will be obtained (parent and/or guardian and/or head teacher and/or other (to be specified) and how it will be obtained. **N/A**

15.(a) Is the investigator receiving any financial or other reward connected with this project?

YES/NO

If YES, give details. Mention also any grant that has been awarded to further completion of the project, even if no actual reward accrues to the investigator/s.

(b) Will anyone else receive any financial or other reward connected with this project?

YES/NO

If YES, give details.

Appendix I: Ethics Form

16. Are personal data of any sort (including name, age, sex, occupation, etc.) to be obtained from or in respect of any of the informants?

YES/NO

If YES,

- (a) Give details

Participants' sex, age, hometown, education background will be noted, in order to help account for affiliations.

- (b) Indicate what steps will be taken to prevent the disclosure of personal data beyond the immediate investigative team.

- ❖ **Participants' genuine names won't be used in any way.**
- ❖ **Real names will be kept under lock and key until they are no longer needed when they will be destroyed.**
- ❖ **Recordings will be destroyed after transcription.**
- ❖ **Data will be used for my research only.**

- (c) Indicate what assurances about the security and non-disclosure of personal data will be given to informants. **See attachment**

17. Any other relevant matters **NO**

18. **DECLARATION BY APPLICANT**

- (i) I confirm that, in formulating the above proposal, I have complied with the following ethical code(s).

(SPECIFY HERE THE CODE(S), INCLUDING THE FACULTY PRINCIPLES ALLUDED TO ABOVE, THAT YOU HAVE ADHERED TO IN DESIGNING THE INVESTIGATION.)

- (ii) I undertake to abide by accepted ethical principles of the Faculty of Humanities, Law and Education to the best of my ability in carrying out or supervising this programme.
- (iii) Data relating to identifiable subjects will be treated as confidential and not passed on to others without the written consent of the informant. Where the informant is a minor, or is otherwise unable for any reason to give full consent on their own, or to receive full explanation of the nature of the investigation and its risks, '*informant*' in this context is to be understood as referring to the person or persons having responsibility for the subject of the investigation (see section 12 above).

Appendix I: Ethics Form

- (iv) The nature of the investigation and all possible risks will be fully explained to potential informants. Where the informant is a minor, or is otherwise unable for any reason to give full consent on their own, or to receive full explanation of the nature of the investigation and its risks, '*informant*' in this context is to be understood as referring to the person or persons having responsibility for the subject of the investigation (see section 13 above).
- (v) Where appropriate all informants will be informed that they
 - (a) are not obliged to take part
and
 - (b) may withdraw from the programme at any time without disadvantage, or having to give a reason.

Name of applicant: **XIANGPING DU**

Signature of applicant

Date

In the case of an individual applicant this form **MUST** also be signed by the applicant's supervisor.

19. **DECLARATION BY SUPERVISOR**

I confirm that the proposed study has been appropriately vetted within the Faculty in respect of its aims and methods as a piece of research; that I have discussed this application for Ethics Committee approval with the applicant and approve its submission; that I accept responsibility for guiding the applicant so as to ensure compliance with the terms of the protocol and with any applicable Code(s) of Practice.

Name of Supervisor: **Dr Paul Roberts**

Signature of Supervisor

Date

20. **Signature of Chair of Faculty/Departmental Research/Ethics Committee**

I confirm that I am aware of and agree the above proposal.

Name

Position

Signature

Date