

## Mass Testing Information

Here is the official information on mass testing. Please announce these opportunities for students to earn two of their four required research points. Mass testing is scheduled as follows:

<b>THURSDAY February 13</b>	<b>{207 Franklin}</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.; 5:00 p.m.; 6:15 p.m.</b>
<b>FRIDAY February 14</b>	<b>{207 Franklin}</b>	<b>9:45 a.m.; 10:55 a.m.; noon; 1:10 p.m.; 2:15 p.m.</b>
<b>SATURDAY February 15</b>	<b>{104 Nixon}</b>	<b>12:15 p.m.</b>

For those of you, who are new to COMM 15000, here's a few Frequently Asked Questions about mass testing:

- 1. What is Mass Testing?** Mass testing is a way for COMM 15000 undergraduate students to gain research points. As a researcher, you can submit a survey or questionnaire (that has been approved by the Human Subjects Board) and get COMM 15000 students to complete your survey/questionnaire. Rather than going from classroom to classroom trying to collect data, mass testing allows researchers to an easier way gain a lot of information all at once.
- 2. If I have a survey or questionnaire that I want to collect data on, who do I turn it into and when?** You can submit your questionnaire to me (Denise Polk, D207) no later than **Wednesday, February 5!** See the following page for details.
- 3. How much is mass testing worth?** Mass testing is worth 2 points.
- 4. Why is mass testing important?** COMM 15000 students are required to complete 4 research points. Otherwise, they will be docked an entire letter grade! Even if a student has 3 research points, he/she will still be docked! In addition, many future research studies will require students to have had participated in mass testing. Please stress to your students that mass testing is VERY important!
- 5. Is Mass testing the only way students gain research points?** No. Students may opt to do future research experiments or studies. It is important to note that some future studies will require participants to have had participated in mass testing. In addition, students may complete alternative research assignments in order to get research credit. However, there are room capacity limitations. Students will be served on a first-come, first-served basis.
- 6. What are alternative research assignments?** There are two options: Option 1-Selected research articles will be placed on electronic reserve beginning the tenth week of the semester. Students must select and read an article. Then, they must type a summary of the article. Option 2-Students must turn in a typed analysis of a public speech analyzing the five canons of rhetoric. Speeches must be 25 minutes; church/religious services are not acceptable speaking occasions. Required alternate assignment cover sheets and guidelines/requirements for students are located on WebCT. Extra copies can be found on the gray shelf in D207). **Alternative assignments are due on Wednesday, April 30 by 5 P.M.!**
- 7. For mass testing, do students need to sign up?** NO! For mass testing students do NOT need to sign up. They simply show up 5-10 minutes before the hour that they would like to participate. For other research projects, they will need to sign up, so tell them to keep checking the boards.
- 8. What do students need to bring to mass testing?** #2 pencils and they MUST know their call number of their LAB section!!!
- 9. How long is mass testing?** Each session starts EXACTLY at the posted time and lasts one hour.
- 10. Is there an AGE limit for mass testing or any research studies?** YES! Participants must be 18 or over. If you have a student that is under the age of 18, s/he must have signed parental consent for the COMM 15000 Research Requirement before they can participate. The parental consent forms are in the gray shelf against the wall near the phone. Turn these forms into me and I will keep them on file in D207.
- 11. VERY IMPORTANT: Can students attend more than one mass testing session?** NO! Absolutely NOT! The computer throws out a name that is sees more than once. Please tell your students to come to just ONE session only.

Please be sure to encourage students to attend mass testing and announce the dates/times ASAP so your students can make arrangements to attend. If YOU have questions or concerns about mass testing, please feel free to contact me: **dmpolk@kent.edu or 672-0284.**

**Please note:** Students submitting measures to be used during mass testing should also make themselves available to help me carry out the testing on the above dates, as well as assisting in the preparation. Other students who may have free time to help on one or more of the dates, please contact me (and *thank you* in advance).

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## Requirements and Guidelines for Individuals Planning to Submit Measures for Mass Testing

- You need to email your **written intent** to submit a measure **one week prior to the announced deadline**. Please provide the approximate number of items, as well as whether their measure/s require/s any special attention (i.e., open-ended questions).
- If you have a survey or questionnaire that you would like to use to collect data, submit it to me (Denise, D207) as an attached Word document. In addition to the measure, please email a separate cover page (also attached in Word). This cover page should include the name of the researcher/s involved, the name of the instrument, and pertinent reference information (author of instrument, year, etc.) If the measure is newly created, include a couple sentences explaining what the instrument is intended to measure. This copy will be included in the blanket approval, explained below. **The deadline for both items is February 5.**
- A 12-point Times New Roman font is recommended. **Bold** or *italicize* important key words as you see fit or as the original measure suggests. For formatting purposes, please do not type in individual numbers within the text of your document. Use only the automatic numbering selection in Word (Format, Bullets and Numbering, then select your preference), or if you are unclear about this function, please refrain from including item numbers altogether.
- Dr. Alan Rubin completes a blanket approval application for Human Subjects. What this means is that the individual researchers submitting instruments for mass testing do not need to have a completed Human Subjects Approval form **prior** to submitting their measures. There are, however, a few things of which to be aware:
  - This blanket approval is for data collection for mass testing purposes only. When you go to use your data for an individual research basis, you will need to complete your own Human Subjects Application form. The blanket approval allows you to collect research while giving you a little more time to complete the necessary paperwork.
  - If you choose to have your Human Subjects approval by the time you submit your measure for mass testing, Dr. Rubin still needs to include your measure in his application. Therefore, all requested paperwork is still necessary.
- Remember, mass testing is an opportunity for researchers to pretest measures, to collect data on a very large sample, or to fulfill graduate class requirements. In the event that more measures are submitted than can be accommodated, measures meeting these criteria will be given first consideration. On the other hand, in the event that we have extra space, we can be more flexible in what we accept.