



The Center for Experimental Social Science

New York University  Faculty of Arts and Science

USAGE AGREEMENT

We welcome researchers to make use of the C.E.S.S. laboratory and subject pool. However, the following general guidelines apply and must be adhered to:

- 1) **No Deception.** The C.E.S.S. laboratory and subject pool cannot be affiliated with any experiment that involves deception. The laboratory is very concerned about developing and maintaining a reputation among the student population for honesty; this is to ensure that subject actions are motivated by induced monetary rewards rather than by psychological reactions to suspected manipulation. Subjects may suspect deception if it is present. Moreover, even if subjects fail to detect deception within a session, it may jeopardize future experiments if the subjects ever find out that they were deceived and report this information to their friends. Experiments that involve deception and then later truth-telling (i.e. debriefing) are also proscribed.
- 2) **CESS Recruitment Software.** In order to use the CESS Lab, experimenters using NYU subjects are required to recruit their subjects by using the [CESS Recruitment Software](#)
- 3) **Financial Reward.** The minimum payment for the experiment (if completed) cannot be below \$10 per 90minutes. This is our baseline incentive used to get subjects to sign up for experiments; any lesser reward could cause attrition of our show-up rate and subject pool. Experiments in which payment is a function of the subjects' actions should still adhere to this baseline rate through the use of a show-up payment, discussed below.
- 4) **Show-up Payment.** If a subject is signed up for an experiment and shows up to the lab, that subject must be paid a minimum of \$5, even if the subject is not needed for the experiment. This is to reward subjects for taking the effort to come and participate, critical for fostering a better relationship and show-up rate with the subject pool.
- 5) **IRB Approval.** All experiments using the C.E.S.S. lab or subject pool must attain approval from the University Committee on Activities Involving Human Subjects. For more information on this process please refer to the IRB website at: <http://www.nyu.edu/osp/hs/>
- 6) **Lab Booking.** Available C.E.S.S. lab blocks can be viewed on the Calendar page of our recruitment system. These times may be booked up to one month in advance. However, large bookings require the approval of the lab director, in particular during times of heavy lab use, to ensure that all experimenters are given an opportunity to run experiments.
- 7) **Cleanup.** After using the C.E.S.S. lab we expect all researchers to leave it in the state it was in upon arrival. No experiment-related papers should be left on any desk, and all experiment-specific software and files should be removed from the computers.
- 8) **Early Arrival.** Experimenters must be at the C.E.S.S. lab at least thirty minutes before start time. Subjects often come early and the door must be opened for them so they can wait inside.
- 9) **Lab Staff.** Lab staff will help with technical problems encountered while using laboratory equipment or software. However, they will not assist in running any experiment.

Please address all questions regarding this document to Caroline Madden at caroline.madden@nyu.edu, 212-992-8660. By signing this document you verify that you have read and understand each of these guidelines. Usage of the lab will not be granted without this signed form. Failure to comply by these guidelines will result in future lab usage privileges being revoked.

Name: _____ NetID: _____ Signature: _____ Date __/__/__

Project name*: _____ Co-authors: _____
(Same as recruitment experiment name)