



Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Department of Anthropology
210 Prince Philip Drive, St. John's, NL Canada A1C 5S7
omanreagan@mun.ca www.mun.ca/anthro

Hello,

My name is Michael P. Oman-Reagan, and I am a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

I am conducting a research project called "Science in the Space Between Stars" for my PhD degree under the supervision of anthropologist Dr. Reade Davis. The purpose of the study is to investigate interstellar exploration, the search for life, and the role of space sciences in the future of humanity. This research is funded by the Government of Canada through the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship program and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

I am contacting you to invite you to participate in this study. As a participant in this study, I may spend time talking to you, going along with you as you do your work, observing your work, your workplace, and meetings, and interviewing you. The extent of participation is up to you.

If you have any questions about me or my project, please contact me by email at omanreagan@mun.ca.

Thank you for considering participation in this research.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Oman-Reagan".

Michael P. Oman-Reagan

Vanier Scholar and PhD Candidate

Department of Anthropology, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Note: The proposal for this research has been reviewed by the Interdisciplinary Committee on Ethics in Human Research and found to be in compliance with Memorial University's ethics policy. If you have ethical concerns about the research, such as your rights as a participant, you may contact the Chairperson of the ICEHR at icehr.chair@mun.ca or by telephone at 709-864-2861.



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Information Sheet for Participants

Title: Science in the Space Between Stars

Researcher: Michael P. Oman-Reagan, M.A. (Ph.D. Candidate)
Department of Anthropology, Memorial University of Newfoundland
Email: omanreagan@mun.ca

Supervisor: Dr. Reade Davis, Associate Professor
Department of Anthropology, Memorial University of Newfoundland
Email: reade.davis@mun.ca

This information sheet is part of the process of informed consent. Take time to read this carefully and to understand the information given to you. Please contact the researcher, Michael P. Oman-Reagan, if you have any questions about the study or for more information not included here.

It is entirely up to you to decide whether to take part in this research. If you choose not to take part in this research or if you decide to withdraw from the research once it has started, there will be no negative consequences for you, now or in the future.

Introduction:

I am a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Memorial University of Newfoundland. I am investigating interstellar exploration, the search for life, and the role of sciences in the future of humanity. This research is funded by the Government of Canada through the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship program and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

Purpose of study:

The primary objective of this study is to understand what factors shape contemporary interstellar exploration and the search for life, and how that research shapes the ways we imagine and plan for human futures on Earth and beyond.

What you will do in this study:

As a participant in this study, I may spend time attending seminars and talks at your institution, talking to you, going along with you as you do your work, observing your work, your workplace, and meetings, and interviewing you. The extent of participation is up to you.

Length of time:

The study will last approximately 24 months from December 2016 to December 2018, during which time you may participate for as much or as little as you choose.

Withdrawal from the study:

Your participation in this study is voluntary, and you may decide not to participate without prejudice, penalty, or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. If you decide to leave the study during the 24 months of the research, and prior to publication of results, please contact the principal investigator Michael P. Oman-Reagan (omanreagan@mun.ca) to inform me of your decision. Participants who withdraw from the study can also withdraw any data collected up until that point at any time until one week after the data collection with that participant. After one week has passed, data cannot be removed from the analysis.

Possible benefits:

There are no direct benefits to participation. This study will expand our understanding of the processes that shape possible human futures – both here on Earth, and beyond.

Possible risks:

Your participation is not expected to involve concern or stress while answering questions. To minimize risk please do not answer any questions you do not feel comfortable with and please do not talk about anything that you do not want to talk about.

Confidentiality:

The ethical duty of confidentiality includes safeguarding participants' identities, personal information, and data from unauthorized access, use, or disclosure. The researcher will protect your confidentiality by coding the data and securely storing the data, so that your identifying information will not appear with the researcher's notes.

Anonymity:

Anonymity refers to not disclosing participant's identifying characteristics, such as name or description of physical appearance. Due to the limited size of some communities involved in this study, participants may be recognizable to informed readers of the findings based on what they have said, particularly in direct quotes. Every reasonable effort will be made to ensure your anonymity, and that you will not be identified in any reports and publications without your explicit permission. Data will be de-identified by assigning all participants (and other persons discussed) pseudonyms.

Storage of Data:

The collected data will be kept in confidential notes, stored securely in encrypted password protected files on the researcher's computer. The data obtained from you will be collected via notes that I take. The collected data will be accessible to the researcher, Michael P. Oman-Reagan. The collected data will be kept by the researcher for a minimum of five years post publication, as required by Memorial University's policy on Integrity in Scholarly Research.

Reporting of Results:

The data collected will be used to fulfill my Ph.D. program requirements, to write conference papers, journal articles, popular media articles, and talks. Paraphrased quotes may be used with permission. The dissertation will be publically available at the Memorial University of Newfoundland's QEII library.

Sharing of Results with Participants:

Upon request, a copy of the completed dissertation will be provided to participants.

Questions:

You are welcome to ask questions at any time during your participation in this research. If you would like more information about this study, please contact: Michael P. Oman-Reagan (omanreagan@mun.ca)

The proposal for this research has been reviewed by the Interdisciplinary Committee on Ethics in Human Research and found to be in compliance with Memorial University's ethics policy. If you have ethical concerns about the research, such as the way you have been treated or your rights as a participant, you may contact the Chairperson of the ICEHR at icehr@mun.ca or by telephone at 709-864-2861.

Consent:

Your consent means that:

- You have read the information about the research.
- You have been able to ask questions about this study.
- You are satisfied with the answers to all your questions.
- You understand what the study is about and what you will be doing.
- You understand that you are free to withdraw from the study without having to give a reason and that doing so will not affect you now or in the future.
- You understand that upon withdrawal, data collected up to that point can be removed from the study up to one week following data collection. After one week has passed, data cannot be removed from the analysis.

By consenting to participate, you do not give up your legal rights and do not release the researchers from their professional responsibilities.

Your consent confirms:

I agree to be included in audio recordings, with permission revocable on a case-by-case basis. Yes No

I agree to be included in video and photographic recordings, with permission revocable on a case-by-case basis. Yes No

I agree to the use of quotations. Yes No

I allow my name to be identified in publications/presentations resulting from this study. Yes No

I have read what this study is about and understood the risks and benefits. I have had adequate time to think about this and had the opportunity to ask questions and my questions have been answered.

I agree to participate in the research project understanding the risks and contributions of my participation, that my participation is voluntary, and that I may end my participation.

A copy of this Information Sheet has been given to me for my records.