

*University of California, Irvine*  
Study Information Sheet: Time Diary

Scaling Berlin: Digital Media, Scalemaking, and Shifting Identities in Contemporary Germany

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- You are being asked to participate in a research study about digital media, identity, and social networks in contemporary Germany.
- You are eligible to participate in this study if you at least 18 years of age or older, speak English or German, and use digital media regularly (including mobile phones, email, text messaging, MySpace, Facebook, digital photos, Twitter, blogging, etc.).
- The research procedure involves a time diary in which you record your online and digital media activities. You will record, for example, what kinds of websites, programs, and media equipment you used, where you were, with whom you interacted, and so forth, rather than the specific themes or content you read about or discussed. You can participate in two different ways:
  - Daily time diary: You will record your daily Internet and other digital media activities hourly for two days over one week, ideally one week day and one weekend day. You will be provided with either a paper, electronic, or online diary (whichever is more convenient for you). This diary will take approximately 20-60 minutes per day to complete.
  - Daily sampling diary: Alternatively, you can participate twice a day over 4 or 5 days (depending on your availability), by recording your Internet and digital media activities in the past hour, when contacted by the researcher two times a day at random times. The researcher will either send you an SMS or email, whichever is most convenient to you. You will be provided with a paper, electronic, or online diary, according to your preference, in which to record your activities. This sampling diary will take 20-30 minutes per day to complete.
- Follow-up Interview: If possible, you will be interviewed afterward for approximately 1 hour to discuss the time diary or sampling diary and your daily digital media activities, in an open-ended format. Interviews will be audio-taped and take place at a location convenient to you.
- Possible discomfort(s) associated with the study are: a potential for a breach of confidentiality and invasion of privacy.

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Approved by IRB on: 07/02/2010

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- There are no direct benefits from participation in the study. However, this study may explain the role of the Internet and other digital media in creating new kinds of identity and communities in Germany.
- Participation in this study is voluntary. There is no cost to you for participating. You may refuse to participate or discontinue your involvement at any time without penalty. You may choose to skip a question or a study procedure.
- You will not be paid for your participation in this research.
- All research data collected will be stored securely and confidentially on a password-protected laptop computer. The audio recordings will be stored in a secure location, then transcribed and retained indefinitely for further publication. Your name and other identifiers will not be published except at your request.
- The research team and authorized UCI personnel may have access to your study records to protect your safety and welfare. Any information derived from this research project that personally identifies you will not be voluntarily released or disclosed by these entities without your separate consent, except as specifically required by law.
- If you have any comments, concerns, or questions regarding the conduct of this research please contact the researchers listed at the top of this form.
- If you are unable to reach the researchers listed at the top of the form and have general questions, or you have concerns or complaints about the research, or questions about your rights as a research subject, please contact UCI's Office of Research Administration by phone, (949) 824-6662, by e-mail at [IRB@rgs.uci.edu](mailto:IRB@rgs.uci.edu) or at University Tower - 4199 Campus Drive, Suite 300, Irvine, CA 92697-7600.

