***ENABLERS AND BARRIERS FOR ONLINE LEARNING IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, LEBANON***

**INFORMED CONSENT FORM**

**RESEARCH PROCEDURES**  
This study aims at investigating the nature and the presence of online learning in higher education in Lebanon. It also aims at uncovering possible barriers that affect the implementation of online learning in higher education in Lebanon. The study will further highlight factors that could be in favor of online learning in this country and could help in its success. If you agree to participate in this study, you will be interviewed for about 30 minutes about the course delivery methods and student population at your institution.

**RISKS**  
There are no foreseeable risks for participating in this research.

**BENEFITS**  
The study will describe the nature of online learning in higher education in Lebanon. It will likely uncover possible barriers that may affect the implementation of online learning in higher education in Lebanon and will highlight factors that could be in favor of this course delivery method and could help in its success. Based on the analysis of the collected data, you will be informed about the results if you wish to. The results may be of benefit to your university if you are willing to implement online programs or wish to modify any existing programs.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**   
The data in this study will be confidential. The audiotaped interview will be kept confidential by Co-Investigator. These materials will be stored on the Co-Investigator's personal computer under password protection.

**PARTICIPATION**  
Your participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw from the study at any time and for any reason. If you decide not to participate or if you withdraw from the study, there is no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. There are no costs to you or any other party.

**CONTACT**  
This research is being conducted by Dr. Nada Dabbagh at the College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University. She may be reached at (703) 993-4439 for questions or to report a research-related problem. You may contact the George Mason University Office of Research Subject Protections at 703-993-4121 if you have questions or comments regarding your rights as a participant in the research.  
This research has been reviewed according to George Mason University procedures governing your participation in this research.

**CONSENT**  
I have read this form and agree to participate in the following activities related to the study:

\_\_\_ I agree to have my interview audio taped.

\_\_\_ I do not agree to have my interview audiotaped.