

TAMU Sociology Research
Recruitment Script

Good [morning/afternoon] everyone,

My name is [recruiter]. I am a [professor / graduate student] in the Department of Sociology and assisting me is [assistant(s)]. I am here to tell you about some studies that my department is involved with in the hopes that you become interested and would like to participate.

Now, I can't say specifically which studies you would be participating in because we recruit for several at a time. I can give you a brief description about some of our studies. Some of our research uses studies that involve working with people and making decisions, while other types of research look at how face-to-face communication differs from communication over the computer. I can also tell you that participants are paid for their time, and the payment range falls somewhere between \$10 and \$30, depending on the study.

The forms being passed around ask for some basic demographic information like your name and telephone number. There are some additional questions including an area where you will list the times you find most convenient for participating in the studies. If you decide to sign up, we will use these sheets to register you with our online recruitment system, SONA. After we enter your contact information into the system, you will get an email sent to your TAMU account. That email will contain log-in information and a temporary password that you will use to access our department's SONA system (*webpage displayed on the overhead if available*).

The SONA system is the main way we provide information about studies that are available, and it allows you to schedule you'd like to participate. Sometimes, we will use the information in the forms to call you directly. When we speak with you, we can tell you more about the details of a study like the time, location, etc. Then, you can let us know whether you would like to participate and when is best to schedule your participation.

Some of you may be familiar with studies from past experiments that caused negative side effects for the participants. One of the most famous is the Milgram studies where participants thought they were shocking other people to the point of hurting them. They weren't really shocking others, but they thought they were. The Milgram study, however fascinating, did unfortunately cause psychological trauma to some of the participants. I can assure you that we do not do these types of studies. And given the ethical problems behind studies like the Milgram studies, federal guidelines were developed for any studies that use human subjects. Here at A&M, all of our studies using human subjects go through the institutional review board (IRB). If you feel uncomfortable while in ANY study, you should just leave.

One last thing I want to make sure you understand is that you are not obligated in any way to sign up. Your participation has absolutely nothing to do with this [class / organization]. Your [professor and classmates / peers in your organization] won't know if you come or don't come, and there's no course credit for participating. So, just because I show up here and ask for your help, please don't feel obligated to sign up. If you ARE interested and would like to earn some money, fill out the form and pass it to the end of your row for [assistant(s)] to collect. If you are not interested, just leave the form blank and I will collect them.

My colleagues and I appreciate your help. Are there any questions?