Do not use this form if:
- you are an undergraduate; instead, go to our forms page for undergraduate research, or
- your research activities are limited to analysis of data collected by someone else; instead, go to Secondary Analysis of Existing Data form.

Submit this form and required attachments:
- Send Parts A, B, your project description prepared using the instructions in Part C, and any appendices as one Word file by e-mail to campusirb@duke.edu.
- We do not need an original, hardcopy of the signed assurances, Part B. Faxed, scanned, and electronic signatures are acceptable. We cannot accept typed names. Send a signed copy of Part B to campusirb@duke.edu.

Contents:
A. Investigator and Project Information
B. Investigator Assurances
C. Instructions for Preparing Research Description and Appendices

A. Investigator and Project Information

Project Title: Future-self, Patience, and Politics

Fill in one box below as appropriate.

Research by Faculty or Administrators

Investigator(s): _____

☐ Faculty  ☐ Administrator  ☐ Other Research Staff: _____

Department/School: _____ E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

(Add more lines if needed)

Research by Graduate Students, Post-Doctoral Researchers, and Their Advisors

Student/Fellow Investigator(s) Austin Horng-En Wang

☐ Graduate Student  ☐ Postdoctoral Fellow

Department/School: Political Science  E-mail: ahw15@duke.edu  Phone: 919-4915408

(Add more lines if needed)

Faculty Advisor(s) Herbert P. Kitschelt

Department/School: Political Science  E-mail: h3738@duke.edu  Phone: 919-6604343
Project Information:
2. If Federally Funded, Proposal/Grant Number: _____
3. Research Site: Amazon MTurk web service
4. Will the research take place in public elementary or secondary schools? Yes □ No □
   If yes, are the schools in the Durham? Yes □ No □
5. Potentially Vulnerable Subject Populations: Please check all that apply (if any).
   □ Minors, as defined at research site (under 18 years old in NC)
   □ Psychology and Neuroscience Undergraduate Subject Pool
   □ Other Duke research subject pool. Please specify: ______
   □ Students or employees of the researcher
   □ Prisoners

B. Assurances (Original signatures are required for final approval.)
Section 1: Investigator(s) Assurance (Required for all researchers listed in Part A, Investigator and Project Information)
I affirm the following:
The research will not be initiated until written approval is secured from the IRB. (Note: Approval will not be provided unless certification to conduct research with human subjects is current for the investigator[s], and if the investigator is a student, the advisor’s certification is also current.)
   a. I will conduct this study as described in the approved protocol. If any changes are anticipated, I will submit a Request to Amend an Approved Protocol, and I will not implement the changes until I receive approval from the IRB. I will contact the IRB staff immediately if any of the following events occur: unanticipated problems involving risks to subjects, protocol deviations, and findings during the study that would affect the risks participation in the study.

__September 22, 2016__
Investigator
Date

Section 2: Faculty Advisor:
I affirm that that I have read and approved the protocol, and I assume responsibility (1) for ensuring that student researchers are aware of their responsibilities as investigators, and (2) that the IRB will be immediately informed in the event of research-related unanticipated risks, protocol deviations, or findings during the study that would affect the risks of participation in the study.

_________________________ __September 24, 2016__
Investigator
Date

HUMAN SUBJECTS ADMINISTRATION
This section is to be completed by IRB staff or IRB members only.

APPROVED as □ Exempt □ Expedited or □ Full

□ IRB Staff □ Expedited Reviewer or □ Full Board
Date

Effective: December 22, 2015
C. Instructions for Preparing the Request for Protocol Approval

Research Description

1. Research Design

This research project is in order to explore the causal mechanism between patience and turnout. Starting from De Tocqueville in his *Democracy in America*, it is widely assumed that an individual’s level of patience plays a crucial role in political participation. To be specific, an individual most puts more weight on the potential policy outcome after the election—either positive or negative—than the immediate cost of voting. De Tocqueville believes that it is those farsighted people that stabilized democracy in America. This assumption has not been empirically tested until Fowler and Kam (2006)\(^1\). They surveyed on undergraduate students in UCSD and found a positive correlation between patience and turnout. Two following studies with representative U.S. sample also revealed similar correlation (Hill 2016, Schafer 2016).

However, two questions remain unanswered. First, correlation is not causation. An individual’s level of patience is widely correlated to numerous sociodemographic variables, some of which may indirectly influence the willingness to go out-and-vote. Second, previous studies assume that voters can clearly see the difference between available options on the ballot; their motivation is based on the perceived difference between different election outcomes. To my knowledge, these two theoretical weaknesses have not been properly addressed.

The first question can be dealt with through temporary manipulation of an individual’s patience, and then measuring its impact on willingness to vote. Studies on decision theory and choice of insurance show that an individual’s level of patience can be temporarily extended through the consideration of one’s future-self (Payne et al. 2013)\(^2\). If it is the patience that drives turnout, an increase of patience should increase the turnout. The second question can be addressed by asking a respondent’s perceived policy position of the parties and the candidates. Patience should be much influential on those who can see sharp difference between the two parties. In this proposal, we seek to conduct a simple survey experiment to tackle this two questions blurring the linkage between patience and turnout. The experimental design is described below:

In the invitation letter, subjects will be told to take a survey titled “How people make decisions in everyday life”. Subjects will be first asked to report their routine political behaviors including news consumption, political interest, and political discussion. They will then be asked to locate their ideology on a 0 to 100 liberal-conservative scale. Similarly, they also need to locate the Democratic and Republican Party’s ideological position on the same scale.

Subjects will then be randomly assigned to three different groups. In the *control group*, they are asked to report their likelihood to vote for the upcoming presidential election, and their redistributive preference. One-third of the subjects in this group will also be asked about their level

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of patience.

In Treatment Group A, subjects are asked three questions about how likely they think they will “live to” be 65/85/105 years old (See the figure below). In Treatment Group B, subjects are asked three questions about how likely they think they will “die at” 65/85/105 years old or younger. Both treatments are expected to temporarily increase subject’s level of patience by enhancing the connection between current- and future-self. However, Payne and colleague (2013) show that the “live to” treatment is stronger than the “die at” one. After the treatment, subjects are also asked about their likelihood to vote, preference toward future-oriented policies, and redistributive preference. Besides, one-third of the subjects in both Treatment Group A and B are asked about their level of patience so as to ensure the internal validity of the treatment.

![Image](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

In the end, all subjects are asked about their, gender, age, race, the level of education, and household income. I do not expect the treatments would influence one's report on his or her previous political behaviors or demographic background because they are an experience instead of attitude.

2. Subject Selection

We expect to enroll 450 subjects for this experiment, and they will be evenly assigned to the control, Treatment A, and Treatment B group. Subjects will be drawn from the population of Amazon Mturk users. Mturk is a service maintained by Amazon.com wherein users can post tasks that are known as “hits” for other Mturk users to complete. The hits are listed on the Mturk website with a brief description of the task, eligibility requirements, compensation offered, and estimated time that the task will take to complete (See Appendix C for a full description). Mturk users then freely select the tasks that they wish to complete. Upon completion of the task, the posters of the hit (in this case, the PI of the study) review the “work completed” and electronically transfer the monetary compensation into the user’s Mturk account.

We will offer users $1.25 for survey completion, and will distribute payment to all users assuming they: 1) meet the eligibility requirements outlined below; and 2) take no less than 3 minutes to complete the survey (to ensure that subjects have actually read and engaged in the study). Assuming that both of these conditions are met, compensation will be dispersed. Monetary
compensation will NOT be contingent on any answer provided by the participant. For Mturk users to be eligible, the following conditions must be met:

1. The participant must be using a US IP address
2. The participant must be over the age of 18
3. The participant must have a 95% approval rating or higher for previous hits
4. The participant may only complete this task once.

Mturk screens participants for the above eligibility requirements, therefore ensuring that all participants meet them. When a Mturk user chooses to complete this task, they will receive access to a link that takes them to the external site where they will first provide electronic consent, and then continue to the following page where they will begin the survey. Because participants come from a voluntary subject pool and also volunteer to participate in the study, we do not have any expectations about the gender, ethnicity, race or age of the participants.

3. Risks and Benefits

We do not anticipate that this study will pose more than very minimal risk to participants. Respondents are not asked sensitive information and are only exposed to information of public opinion that is commonly seen in daily life. Therefore, we try to minimize any psychological harm arising from this study. We also do not anticipate any physical harm to subjects, as they will be taking an online survey on their personal computers. Further, given the inability of the researchers to identify individual respondents through the information provided in the survey, we do not believe that subjects will feel coerced or concerned that their anonymity will be compromised in any way.

This research will deepen our understanding of public opinion on vote choice. Therefore, this project can expand our general body of knowledge about people’s strategic voting in the long run, which is one of the most interesting behaviors in the electoral study. Individual participants will not likely experience direct benefit from participation.

4. Confidentiality

All questionnaires will be confidential. No personally identifiable information will be collected or stored by the researchers that might be used to identify the participants before or during analysis. All data during the survey will be stored on the password protected online survey software, Qualtrics.com until it is ready to be analyzed. The end product of this research will be a data set with anonymous survey responses. The anonymous data set will be stored on a password-protected computer. Dissemination of the results of the research will occur through a summarization of findings in an article. The data itself will not be disseminated, and the summary of the analysis will be communicated at a high enough level so as to prevent any participant identification.

Basic, non-identifiable demographic information will be collected concerning the subject’s age bracket, gender, education level, race, and income bracket.

5. Compensation

Assuming the eligibility and completion time criteria outlined above are met, respondents
will be compensated $1.25, regardless of the proportion of questions they complete. This compensation will be administered anonymously by Amazon Mturk and transferred electronically from the researcher’s account into the participant’s Mturk account. This transaction is done entirely through a 3rd party, and no identifying information is ever provided to the researcher. Further, because the survey is conducted through a site external to Amazon Mturk, the third party administering payment is completely divorced from the questionnaire to be completed.

The cost to be borne by the subjects: There are no costs to the subjects other than their time to participate.

6. Informed Consent

Thank you for your interest in our research. This task requires completing a brief questionnaire designed to study how people make decisions in everyday life. If you agree to participate in this study, you will be asked to answer some basic questions about yourself and provide responses to questions about your opinions on several issues. There are about 30 questions in this questionnaire, and your participation will take approximately 15 minutes.

Your participation is completely voluntary. You are free to skip any questions. You are free to withdraw from the study at any time by closing your browser window. If you choose to withdraw from the study, your data will be deleted and not used for analysis. You will be paid $1.25 for completing the survey. If you do not complete the survey, or we feel that you completed it to an unsatisfactory standard (i.e., you do not follow the instructions in the survey), you will not be compensated.

Your responses to all questions are completely confidential. There is no item in the survey asking identifiable questions. Participation in this study imposes no risks or benefits of which we are aware.

If you have questions, comments or concerns about the survey, you may contact the graduate student researcher Austin Wang at Duke University at ahw15@duke.edu, or his advisor Herbert P. Kitschelt at h3738@duke.edu. The IRB identification number of this study is #XXXXX. If you have questions about your rights as a participant in this study, you may contact the Human Subjects Committee at Duke University by calling +1-919-684-3030.

If you agree to participate in this research, please click to start the study.

7. Deception

There is no deception in this survey. The subject will be randomly assigned to answer a different question, but the random assignment is not deception.

8. Debriefing

Subjects will be presented with the following information on a screen after they complete
the survey:

“The study you have just participated in concerns how the individual’s level of patience influence policy preference and political participation. If you have further questions about this study, please contact the Principal Investigator, Austin Horng-En Wang, at ahw15@duke.edu. If you have questions about your rights as a participant in this study, you may communicate with the Human Subjects Committee at Duke by calling 919-684-3030 and report the IRB number of this study #XXXX. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this research.”

9. Appendices

A. Full Questionnaire

Part 1: Basic politics battery

[Introduction] This study will cover a broad range of topics. Please carefully read and answer the questions asked. Please ensure that you have answered a question as honestly and completely as possible before moving on to the next page. Thank you for your participation.

1. How much time do you consume news every day in average?
   a. Less than 30 min
   b. 30-60 min
   c. 60-90 min
   d. 90-120 min
   e. More than 120 min

2. How interested are you in politics generally?
   a. Not at all interested
   b. A little interested
   c. Somewhat interested
   d. Very interested
   e. Extremely interested

3. How much knowledge would you say you have about politics generally?
   a. None
   b. A little
   c. Some
   d. A lot
   e. A great deal

4. When it comes to politics, people might hold different view such as extremely liberal, liberal, slightly liberal, moderate or middle of the road, slightly conservative, extremely conservative. How about you? Here is a 0 to 100 scale. 0 means you usually think of yourself as extremely liberal, while 100 means you think of yourself as extremely conservative. What score between 0 and 100 would you position yourself?
Besides, what score between 0 and 100 would you position the Democratic Party and the Republican Party?

![Graph showing political positions]

5. [Attention check item] People are very busy these days and many do not have time to follow what goes on in the government. Some pay attention to politics but do not read questions carefully. To show that you've read this much, please click only the “none of the above” response option as your answer. That's right, just choose none of the above and ignore the choices below.

Please check all words that describe how you are currently feeling.

- Interested
- Hostile
- Nervous
- Distressed
- Enthusiastic
- Determined
- Excited
- Proud
- Attentive
- Upset
- Irritable
- None of the above

Part 2: Future-self Experiment

(Control Group)

N/A

(Treatment A)

6.
Part C: Political Participation, Policy Preference, and Socio-demographic background

[Transition] We next have a few questions about your views on politics, and finance.

7. The 2016 Presidential Election is on November 08, 2016. How likely are you to vote for a candidate for President?
   a. 1. Extremely likely
   b. 2. Very likely
   c. 3. Moderately likely
   d. 4. Slightly likely
   e. 5. Not likely at all
8. (One-third of subjects in all three groups) Imagine you are going to receive a payment. You are asked to choose the payment option that you would prefer in each of 5 different conditions. Note that each of the five conditions will pay $100 in 30 days (option A) or $100+$x in 60 days (option B), where x differs under each condition. For each question, you will select the payment option (A or B) that you would prefer if you are chosen to receive the amount of money.

You are asked to choose between:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To gain $100 in 30 days</td>
<td>To gain $101 in 60 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To gain $100 in 30 days</td>
<td>To gain $105 in 60 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To gain $100 in 30 days</td>
<td>To gain $110 in 60 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To gain $100 in 30 days</td>
<td>To gain $120 in 60 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To gain $100 in 30 days</td>
<td>To gain $150 in 60 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Do you agree with the idea that “the government should tax proportionally more on the rich and redistribute to the poor?”

1. Agree strongly
2. Agree somewhat
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Disagree somewhat
5. Disagree strongly

10. Imagine you are invited to participate in the governmental budget review process. As a citizen, you are asked to redistribute $100 billion budget to the four policy categories: (1) Unemployment and low-income subsidy (2) Science research and development (3) Higher education and employment training (4) Subsidy to developing industry.

[Transition] The following questions ask some unidentifiable demographic questions for analytical purposes only.

11. What is your current age?__________

12. Please select your gender
   a. Male
b. Female  
c. Other

13. Please select your highest level of education completed?  
   a. Some high school or less  
   b. High school diploma/GED  
   c. Associates degree/vocational training  
   d. Some college  
   e. Bachelor's degree  
   f. Master's or Professional degree  
   g. Post-Graduate or Professional Degree (e.g. MBA, PhD, MD)

14. In addition to being American, what do you consider your main ethnic or racial group(s)? Choose all that apply.  
   a. Black  
   b. Asian American  
   c. European American/White  
   d. Latino/Hispanic  
   e. Pacific Islander  
   f. Other

15. What is your approximate yearly gross income, before taxes?  
   a. None or less than $19,999  
   b. $20,000 - $49,999  
   c. $50,000 - $79,999  
   d. $80,000 - $109,999  
   e. $110,000 - $149,999  
   f. Over $150,000/year

**Appendix B: Study Information Provided on Mturk Website**

Description: Take a Brief Survey About Decision-making.

Instructions: This task requires completing a brief questionnaire designed to study how people make decisions in everyday life. The questionnaire includes 30 questions and should take about 15 minutes to complete. Your answers are entirely confidential.

To proceed, please:  
1. Click on the link provided below. This will direct you to a secure and confidential external site.  
2. Upon completing the survey, you will get a unique number. Please return here and enter the code in the text box provided.
Qualifications Required:

- Location is in the US
- HIT approval rate (%) is not less than 95
- Must be at least 18 years of age to participate.

Your work will be rejected if you take less than 3 minutes to complete the survey, so please take your time and answer each question to the best of your ability.

Reward $1.25

Time Allotted: 30 minutes