What are some general things you should know about research studies?
You are being asked to take part in a research study. Your participation in this study is voluntary. You have the right to be a part of this study, to choose not to participate or to stop participating at any time without penalty. The purpose of research studies is to gain a better understanding of a certain topic or issue. You are not guaranteed any personal benefits from being in a study. Research studies also may pose risks to those that participate. In this consent form you will find specific details about the research in which you are being asked to participate. If you do not understand something in this form it is your right to ask the researcher for clarification or more information. A copy of this consent form will be provided to you. If at any time you have questions about your participation, do not hesitate to contact the researcher(s) named above.

What is the purpose of this study?
We are studying the comparative effectiveness of several approaches for mobile social application development. We want to understand how easy to use and time consuming each approach is. We want to control for the extent of the background that the study participants possess in mobile and social application development (education or industry experience with relevant techniques). Participants will develop a sample application using one of the approaches being studied.

What will happen if you take part in the study?
Each participant is asked to complete multiple surveys of three main types: (a) a “pre” survey indicating education and amount of professional experience in relevant techniques – completed once (expected time required: 15 minutes); (b) a “during” survey indicating the effort expended by the participant – completed multiple times (we ask the participant do so after each session of working on the project) (expected time required: 5 minutes per instance for a total of 30 minutes); (c) a “post” survey indicating the participant’s assessment of the development approach that the participant applied – completed once (expected time required: 45 minutes). You can complete the surveys on the web or for convenience send the same information by email to Pradeep K. Murukannaiah.

Risks
Potential affect of the contents of your survey on your course grade or standing: none, because your responses to the survey will not be read until the project is graded. The unity IDs in the surveys will be matched with the unity IDs in the project after grading. However, once the surveys and projects are linked, the unity IDs will be replaced with artificially generated pseudonyms, which do not include only identifiable information. Thus, your responses to the survey will not affect the course grades in any way.

Benefits
There is no direct benefit to you for filling out the surveys or tracking the time you spend developing the assignment, but you will help advance the state of knowledge in our area. Your cooperation in this study will help Pradeep Murukannaiah with his doctoral research.

Confidentiality
The information in the study records will be kept confidential to the full extent allowed by law. Data will be stored securely in state measures taken to protect the security of data. The surveys are not collecting any personally identifiable information other than your Unity ID. We need the Unity ID temporarily so we can relate the survey to your submissions. We will redact (remove) your name and email address from your project submissions. We will replace your Unity ID on your surveys and your project submissions with pseudonyms prior to analysis and storage. Any of your survey data with your Unity IDs will be held temporarily (until June 30, 2013) in storage that only Pradeep Murukannaiah can access. On or before July 1, 2013, any survey data with Unity IDs, including any emails pertaining to the survey and including your Unity ID, will be deleted. The data associating pseudonyms to your survey results will be held in storage accessible to Pradeep Murukannaiah and Professor Singh. Any reports and publications that result from this data will only show aggregated results.

Compensation
You will receive partial credit toward the course project (15% of the project grade) for participating in this study.

You can earn the same amount of credit by submitting an alternative assignment, which we anticipate will take the same amount of effort as your participation in the study. The alternative assignment is to read on the web about the Web Services Description Language (WSDL) 1.1 on the web and to produce a two-page report describing the six major elements of service description.
What if you are a NCSU student?
Participation in this study is not a course requirement and your participation or lack thereof, will not affect your class standing or grades at NC State.

What if you have questions about this study?
If you have questions at any time about the study or the procedures, you may contact the researcher, Pradeep Murukannaiah at pmuruka@ncsu.edu.

What if you have questions about your rights as a research participant?
If you feel you have not been treated according to the descriptions in this form, or your rights as a participant in research have been violated during the course of this project, you may contact Deb Paxton, Regulatory Compliance Administrator, Box 7514, NCSU Campus (919/515-4514).

Consent To Participate
“I have received a copy of the Informed Consent form for the study “A Study of Mobile Social Application Development Approaches.” I have read and understand the information provided in that form. I agree to participate in this study with the understanding that I may choose not to participate or to stop participating at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which I am otherwise entitled.”
As an alternative to signing below, you can send an email to Pradeep Murukannaiah including the above words.

Subject's signature_______________________________________  Date _________________
Investigator's signature_______________________________  Date _________________