Responsible Conduct of Research — RCR

UCD Office of Research – Research Compliance and Integrity

RCR training provides necessary tools for building a solid foundation for research integrity. It is designed to increase morale within research groups, reduce stress, and increase the likelihood of successful research activities. Failure to provide such training through organized and informal dialogue on campus jeopardizes the research environment and may potentially lead to research misconduct, conflicts among personnel, poor research results, and damage to the institution's reputation.

The objective of the Responsible Conduct of Research program is to provide graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, faculty, staff and NSF funded undergraduate students with information, training, and tools to address the increasingly complex issues that they will confront during their careers. The RCR program may be used to satisfy NIH and NSF training grant requirements for responsible and ethical conduct of research training programs.

The 60-minute lecture-discussion sessions are offered during the academic year at both the Davis and Sacramento campuses. Sessions consist of a lecture by a guest speaker, followed by a question and answer period. These sessions are taught and facilitated by members of the faculty and administration with particular knowledge and expertise of the specific RCR topics.

Participants who attend **eight sessions** will receive a certificate of completion for the Responsible Conduct of Research program.

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Animal Subject in Research

This course covers the history of laboratory animal science, laws and regulations covering research/teaching animals, the role of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), and the role of laboratory staff.

Biosafety and Laboratory Safety

This course covers biosafety and laboratory safety.

Conflict of Interest

This course covers the three main areas where disclosure of outside activities is required: Research sponsor/grant disclosure requirement, financial conflict of interest disclosure requirement in research, and conflict of commitment disclosure requirements (outside activity reporting). It also includes international relationships and activities at UC Davis, institutional responsibilities, best practices, and case studies.

Contemporary Ethical Issues in Biomedical Research

This course covers the bridge between research reproducibility and rigor and research ethics. It includes information on what makes biomedical research trustworthy and how the system is supposed to work to assure scientifically and ethically sound research.

Creating a Culture of Belonging

Addresses ethical behaviors in mentor/mentee relations and fostering a culture of inclusion in the lab. Participants will learn how historically salient identities such as race, gender, sexuality, class, nationality, and disability can impact mentorship.

Export Control

This course covers the purpose of export control laws, laws and regulations covering export control, embargoed countries and impact on UC Davis activities, defines what an export and U.S. person is, the fundamental research exclusion and its limitations, what to do to protect your data before international travel, and red flag activities.

Financial Management of Grants

This course covers making good decisions about what costs on a grant are allowable, allocable, reasonable/necessary, and consistent. It also includes what is a direct vs. indirect cost, allocating costs among multiple projects, and the Principle Investigator's responsibilities.

Human Subjects in Research

This course covers the history of humans used in research, modern ethical abuses, laws and regulations, the role of The Institutional Review Board (IRB), key considerations when conducting research with human subjects, and case studies.

Intellectual Property

This course covers technology transfer services which include patents, trade secrets, copyrights, confidentiality agreements, and material transfer agreements. It also defines what intellectual property is, why we have patents, types of patents, patentable eligibility, foreign patent filings, technology transfer process, and UC Davis royalty policy.

Peer Review

This course covers what peer review is, the process and writing of reviews, potential conflict of interest, when to accept invitations, anonymity vs. signed reviews, and some do's and don'ts.

Publishing for Accessibility and Greater Impact

Publishing is the major tool through which research is communicated to colleagues and broader publics. This workshop provides researchers with tools to think more ethically about questions of when, where and how to publish, as well as considerations of audience. Attention will be given to how researchers can author in accessible ways that account for systems of power and prestige in academic publishing.

Research Misconduct

This course covers what research misconduct is, how to report research misconduct, the process after an allegation is reported, federal and UC Davis policies, why research ethical standards are needed, case studies, fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism.