GRSC 8550
Responsible Conduct of Research

Instructor:
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Course description:
Throughout this course, we will explore ethical issues in research, including codes of ethics for professional organizations, the responsible conduct of research, and the development of personal professionalism and ethics.

Course details:
1 credit, graded A/F
Class meets Mondays at 3:30 pm in 507 Journalism. While the class officially ends at 4:25pm, based on previous students' suggestions, we may go beyond that end time if class discussions are sufficiently compelling.

Text:
No required text. Reading assignments will be made online. There are two excellent books on research ethics. *Responsible Conduct of Research* (3rd Edition, 2015) by A. E. Shamoo and D. B. Resnik, or *Scientific Integrity* (4th Edition, 2014) by F. L. Macrina. They are available on reserve through the UGA libraries.

Class schedule:
Topics will be covered in the following order. Specific coverage may take more or less time than an allocated class period, causing portions of some topics to be covered prior to or after the indicated date.

Date	Topic
August 15, 2016	Intro and Professionalism
August 22, 2016	Ethics
August 29, 2016	Research Misconduct - What is it?
September 12, 2016	Data Management
September 19, 2016	Authorship
September 26, 2016	Peer Review
October 3, 2016	Collaboration between university and industry, intellectual property and conflict of interest
October 10, 2016	Collaboration between university and industry, intellectual property and conflict of interest

October 17, 2016	Mentoring
October 24, 2016	Use of animal subjects
October 31, 2016	Use of human subjects
November 7, 2016	Ethics in the classroom – teaching responsibly
November 14, 2016	Whistleblowing and Dispute Resolution
November 28, 2016	Student case studies
December 5, 2016	Student case studies

Learning outcomes:

By the end of the course, students should have learned:

- The nature of ethical systems underlying codes of ethics and conduct of professional societies
- How their own value systems can impact research conduct
- The key components of honesty and integrity in conducting research, including misconduct, plagiarism, and data falsification
- Policies and procedures on data management and ownership
- How to determine credit, responsibility, and criteria for authorship of manuscripts
- The nature of peer review of manuscripts and grants, including issues of response, competence, and confidentiality
- The definition and management of conflicts of interest
- An overview of faculty/graduate student interactions, their development and enhancement, and how to manage problems
- What constitutes appropriate consulting arrangements
- The nature of intellectual property and its commercialization
- Appropriate design and implementation of research with animals and humans
- The issues surrounding whistleblowing and treatment of whistleblowers
- How to nurture personal philosophies and ethics

Class format:

What is said in the room stays in the room. It is my intent to provide as safe as possible an environment to share issues. Everything shared in the classroom will be limited to our class space. For the majority of the class periods, we will begin with a discussion of a previously assigned case study on the ethics topic for the day. After discussing the case study, we will collectively examine principles, concepts, and overarching components of the topic at hand, based on previously assigned readings. To finish the class, a course participant will lead a discussion of an additional case study that complements prior class discussions.

Grading:

A significant portion of the course will be classroom-based collaborative discussions of ethical issues.

Classroom participation (including attendance)   55%
Leadership of class discusssion   25%
Case study; each student will create a case study and lead a discussion of its topic the last two weeks of the semester   20%

Assignments:
The following topics are available for (1) leading a class discussion and (2) creating a case study.

Data Management
Authorship
Peer Review
Collaboration between university and industry
Intellectual Property
Conflict of interest
Mentoring
Use of animal subjects
Use of human subjects
Whistleblowing and Dispute Resolution
Ethics in the classroom – teaching responsibly

Case study
Your created case study can be on any appropriate topic in our course.

Additional information:
All academic work must meet the standards contained in *A Culture of Honesty* (http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/ACOH%20May%20'07.pdf). Each student is responsible for knowing those standards before performing academic work.

Students with a disability or health-related issue who need a class accommodation should make an appointment to speak with the instructor as soon as possible.

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.