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Guidelines for Human Subject Research in the Classroom

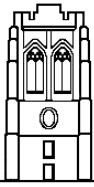
In most cases, class research projects involving human subjects are not intended to contribute to generalizable knowledge and therefore are not covered under the federal regulations. IRB approval is not required for research projects done for a class assignment in which the results are not disseminated beyond the classroom or the JCU department.

However, if an instructor or student will be collecting information about a human subject (i.e. opinions, behaviors, feelings, personal information, etc.), regardless of the sensitivity of the data, and also anticipates generalizing and disseminating the results of the research, IRB approval **must be obtained prior to initiating the project**, and an IRB Application must be filed with the IRB. Retrospective approval of a project that has already been initiated is not permitted.

Methods of disseminating research include, but are not limited to: journal publication, poster presentation, e-portfolio or online résumé, posting on social media or professional networking sites, submission of a master's or honors thesis, or archiving in a searchable database. Please contact the IRB Administrator for further explanation if necessary.

All human participants in research deserve respect and protection, regardless of whether or not IRB review is required. The JCU IRB provides the following suggestions for instructors who assign their students to human subjects research projects that do not fall under IRB purview:

1. Instructors should educate themselves and their students on the ethical use of humans in research. This is easily done by requiring [CITI Training on Human Subjects Research](#). Completing the online course “IRB Student Researchers” is appropriate for students; “IRB Researchers and Sponsors” is designed for instructors.
2. In class, instructors should discuss the [informed consent process](#) and the required elements of informed consent.
3. Instructors should require that the appropriate informed consent be obtained from each subject who participates in a classroom research project.
4. Many instructors require their students to complete an [IRB Application for Human Participant Research](#) before the students begin their projects. Even if the application is not required by the IRB, the exercise of completing the form is often very helpful in ethical project design.
5. Instructors should emphasize the need for extra protections with vulnerable subject populations (i.e., prisoners, children, the handicapped) and with sensitive research topics (i.e., research on an illegal behavior, mental illness, sexual practices,



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HIV/AIDS, abortion). In these sensitive cases, please contact the IRB Administrator for guidance.

Contact the IRB Administrator, Carole Moran Krus at 216-397-1527 or ckrus@jcu.edu, if you would like guidance on a specific research topic or to schedule training for your class.

For more information on determining if your project needs IRB approval, go to <http://sites.jcu.edu/research/pages/irb/review/need-review/>.

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