

## Responsible Conduct of Research Training Policy for Rutgers School of Graduate Studies

Rutgers University School of Graduate Studies offers an annual Ethical Scientific Conduct course (<http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/education/gsbs/current/ethics.html>) for the purposes of Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training that is compliant with NIH requirements. The **duration** of the course is for one semester and participants are required to attend a minimum of eleven, one-hour weekly meetings. The **subject matter** of the course addresses the following topics: Mentor-Mentee Responsibilities and Relationships; Plagiarism, Academic Rules and Copyright; Data Acquisition and Laboratory Tools: management, sharing and ownership; Research Misconduct and Policies for Handling Misconduct; Responsible Authorship and Publication; Conflict of Interest - personal, professional, and financial; Scientist as Responsible Member of Society; Collaborative Research in Academia and Industry; Peer Review; Policies for Animal Subjects in Research; Policies for Human Subjects in Research; Contemporary Ethical Issues in Biomedical Research and the Environmental and Societal Impacts of Scientific Research; Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer. The **format** of the course is weekly meetings conducted as a large group lecture for 25 min followed by small group (~10 students/group) discussion of cases for 25 min. **Faculty participation** includes both the large group lecture conducted by an expert in the field who is affiliated with Rutgers University and the small groups facilitated by Rutgers faculty actively conducting research who represent each of our 9 biomedical graduate programs. The large lectures can have assistance as necessary from regulatory experts from the schools and are video captured to allow for review. Graduate students register and receive one credit for completion of the requirements. To allow for additional **frequency of instruction** fellows and others are provided a certificate of completion after attendance at a minimum of eleven meetings. F33 and K award recipients at Rutgers can either take the class themselves and/or lead small group sessions. Initial training is required for all first year graduate students and postdoctoral fellows on training grants who have not completed a course in RCR in graduate school. RCR training is required at least once per education stage and no less than once every 4 years. To this end, refresher training is required for all fifth year graduate students and postdoctoral fellows on training grants who have completed a course in RCR in graduate school. Refresher training consists of 8 hours of small group case discussion lead by faculty.