

Ethical Research and Oversight

Unit type: PG Project/Other Research Unit

Credit points: 12

AQF level: 8

Level of learning: Advanced

School/College:

[Graduate School](#)

Enrolment information:

Students must be enrolled in a Higher Degree by Research to undertake this unit.

General enquiries:

Please contact the Graduate School

Email: gradschool@scu.edu.au

Availabilities:

| Location | Domestic | International |
|----------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Online | Research Semester 1 & 2 | N/A |

Unit description

Ethical practice is integral to the responsible conduct of research. This module introduces the philosophical foundations of ethical practice, with particular focus on the human and animal research contexts. It covers the ethical review structures and other governance processes that form the legal framework for all research with human participants or live animals (vertebrates and cephalopods) covered under the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Humans and the Australian Code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes.

Content

1. Cultural considerations in ethical research.
2. International convention on biodiversity and related legislation underpinning research permits.
3. Principles of responsible research.
4. The role of governance and oversight structures as they apply to research.
5. Ethical review processes, including Informed Consent in human and animal research.
6. Application processes for research permits in environmental research.

Learning Outcomes

| Number | Description | GA1 | GA2 | GA3 | GA4 | GA5 | GA6 | GA7 |
|--------|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
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| 1 | Demonstrate a familiarity with the major guidelines that inform ethical practice in research, whether human or non-human. | N | N | N | Y | N | N | N |
| 2 | Explain the role of Human Research Ethics Committees, Animal Care and Ethics Committees or Government research permit systems to prevent bio piracy and environmental impact associated with research activities. | N | N | N | Y | N | N | N |
| 3 | Evaluate the ethical implications of a research study. | N | Y | N | Y | N | N | Y |
| 4 | Demonstrate the capacity to seek institutional ethics approval for a government permit for a research proposal. | N | N | Y | Y | Y | N | N |

| Teaching method | Assessment | Duration |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Self-directed project | Submission of a portfolio 100% | Time-Based |

Assessment Overview

If candidates have obtained ethics or other approvals (i.e. research permit) as part of their HDR research project from SCU, they may submit the approval document (along with a statement from their HDR supervisor to verify that they were the lead author of the application if they were not named as principal investigator on the application documentation).

- i. Achieve an 'approval' status on a research ethics or research permit application, if this is part of their HDR program.
- ii. Attend HDR Orientation.

The candidate must submit a portfolio detailing the above requirements and provide documentary evidence to the Graduate School hdrsupport@scu.edu.au to satisfy the requirements for this unit.