

Research Ethics for the Life Sciences
ANSC/CEM/PLSC 525
Fall Semester 2020

Section 1 Mondays 1:00-1:50 via Zoom

Section 1 Instructors:

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With assistance by Cassie Halvorsen (chalvor1@vols.utk.edu)

Our main text is *Research Ethics for Scientists* (2011) available at the bookstore.

Grading: A-F

This is a class whose value is entirely based upon participation, i.e., readings and discussion. Therefore, attendance is of particular importance. Students must be present and have active participation in the discussions to earn an ‘A.’ Students may miss one class and still earn an ‘A.’ After the first meeting, each class meeting will be led by two students. This pair of students will lead discussions on the topic of the day. They will use case studies as a tool to direct class discussion. The special topics discussions during the last two class meetings may be led by more than two students.

Homework is due each Monday. All students will submit three questions or insights about that day’s topic, i.e., those inspired by the assigned reading for the day as well as any other research into the topic students pursue. This homework is due via email to Edwards and Stewart prior to each class. Sending homework is required but does not substitute for attendance and discussion.

We will use google docs for certain items, such as the student signups to lead discussions.

DATE	TOPIC	READING PAGES	ASSIGNMENT DUE
August 24	Course introduction/FFP	Chs 1 & 2 Intro 1-20	
August 31	Plagiarism	Ch 3 Plagiarism 21-26	Find plagiarism (use iThenticate?)
September 7	Plagiarism/self-plagiarism	Ch 3 Plagiarism 26-38	Case study pp 35-36 and iThenticate demo
September 14	Mentoring	Ch 4 Mentoring 39-72	
			Herman/Jason pp 48-51, case pp 52/54/69
September 21	Misconduct: fabrication	Ch 6 Data fabrication 73-85	Finish discussing mentoring
September 28	Falsification/whistleblowing	Ch 7 Fals.+Whistle. 87-103	Case Goodwin pp 89-95
October 5	Whistleblowing	Ch 7 Fals.+Whistle. 87-103	Goodwin (cont) + Case “Jill” pp 99-100
October 12	Authorship	Ch 8 Authorship 105-119	Cases pp 114-118, journal guidelines
October 19	Grants and funding	Ch 9 Grants 121-139	Cases 1&2 pp 130-133
October 26	Peer review	Ch 10 Peer review 135-146	Case study 143-145
November 2	Data management + meetings	Ch 11 Data 147-161	Conference etiquette pp 157-159
November 9	Conflicts of interest	Ch 12 Conflicts 163-177	Cases 1&2 pp 171-176
November 16	Special topics that can include:	diversity in science, animal/human subjects, more depth of an earlier topic,	
November 23	Special topics	use of statistics, transparency, or other topics as decided by students	

Hilltopics contains information on standards and practices for academic integrity for the University of Tennessee.

