

## **Ethical Scientific Conduct Refresher (Spring 2025)**

- SGS Course No. 16:115:558
  - Refresher for Course No. 16:115:556
  - [Registration form](#) for those who are not graduate students is available online.
- (Please complete and return this form to Tina Marottoli [tina.marottoli@rutgers.edu](mailto:tina.marottoli@rutgers.edu))

**The first week of the class will be held in person on Busch in RWJMS Research Tower (Rooms TBC) and NJMS campus in the Medical Science Building (Rooms TBD).**

**The remaining three weeks of class will be held synchronously via Zoom:**

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/my/alderja> Passcode: Janet

Phone only dial +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 419 868 7830

This course reinforces topics covered in the initial Ethical Scientific Conduct Course including definitions and ethical problems caused by fabrication of data, falsification of results, plagiarism, and other behaviors inconsistent with ethical scientific conduct.

**Participants:** This 0 credit course is required of all 5<sup>th</sup> year graduate students in the SGS Biomedical PhD programs. MD/PhD students in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of PhD are also required to take it. Postdoctoral fellows on training grants as well as F33 and K award recipients are invited to participate in the course and will receive a certificate of completion. The NIH requires refresher Responsible Conduct in Research training every 4 years or once per career stage.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. To describe the relationship and responsibilities in the compact between mentor and mentee
2. To identify cases of plagiarism and copyright infringement
3. To explain proper methods for data acquisition and laboratory book maintenance
4. To describe policies for handling research misconduct
5. To explain how authorship should be decided and how publications should be prepared
6. To describe situations of professional or financial conflict of interest and how to handle them
7. To identify cases of inappropriate behavior between individuals and how to act as responsible member of society
8. To explain the relationship between academia and industry
9. To explain appropriate methods for peer review of manuscripts and grant proposals
10. To describe policies for the use of animals and humans in research
11. To describe some of the environmental and societal impacts of scientific research
12. To identify cases that involve intellectual property and technology transfer and the approach for dealing with these situations
13. To understand how to design and carry out rigorous and reproducible experiments

**Course Format:** The course meets on Tuesdays in February from 3:00-5:00pm starting February 4, 2025 (Feb 4, 11, 18, 25). The format of the course will consist of small group case discussions led by faculty. The list of who is in which small group is posted under Files on Canvas.

**Zoom Details:** Students are expected to have the most current desktop version of Zoom downloaded on their computers and sign into their Rutgers Zoom account when joining the class. Students are expected to have their video on and unmute to participate actively in case discussion. The link to the Zoom will be the same each week

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**Small Group Assignments:** The students will stay in the same groups each week. The faculty facilitating the small group discussions will vary from week to week. The detailed list of assignments can be found in a separate attachment.

**Course Materials:** Cases are taken from the Office of Research Integrity.

RCR Casebook: Stories about Researchers Worth Discussing.

<http://ori.hhs.gov/rcr-casebook-stories-about-researchers-worth-discussing>

Webinars on Scientific Rigor and Reproducibility are found here

<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/training/pages/clearinghouse-for-training-modules-to-enhance-data-reproducibility.aspx>

<http://neuroline.sfn.org/tmedr>

**Grading Policy and Attendance:** This course is graded P/F, with attendance required. Students must be present for the entire class period to be graded as present. Active participation is expected.

Those missing a class session must complete a written assignment by responding to the cases questions and submitting the document to the course director. Those missing more than 1 session will receive a grade of Incomplete (“IN”). Incomplete grades must be remediated. Failure to remediate results in grades of IN be changed to F.

**Students with Disabilities:** Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

**Academic Integrity:** All students are responsible for locating, reading, and abiding by the University Policy on Academic Integrity for Graduate Students. The policy is

available on-line at <https://grad.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/2021-07/10.2.13%20-%20current.pdf> and is outlined on the SGS website.  
<https://grad.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/2021-07/academic-integrity.pdf>

**Course Director:**

Janet Alder, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Assistant Dean, School of Graduate Studies, New Brunswick/Piscataway Division

[janet.alder@rutgers.edu](mailto:janet.alder@rutgers.edu)

732-235-5392

Dr. Alder is available throughout the week. Please call or email to make an appointment.

**Course schedule for Spring 2025:**

<http://ori.hhs.gov/rcr-casebook-stories-about-researchers-worth-discussing>

February 4 IN PERSON  
Authorship and Publication  
Research Misconduct

February 11 ZOOM  
Collaboration  
Data Acquisition and Management

February 18 ZOOM  
Conflicts of Interest  
Peer Review

February 25 ZOOM  
Mentor and Trainee Relationships  
Social Responsibility