The Responsible and Ethical Conduct in Research (RCR) Ethics Policy for Students Engaged in NSF Research

Students engaged in research funded by NSF will be required to complete an online course in research ethics prior to beginning research as a requirement of the Responsible and Ethical Conduct in Research (RCR) requirement of the America Competes Act. This online course is provided as a courtesy of NCSU. The Research Ethics Primer was developed by Ms. Nell Kriesberg. The course is divided into three units:

*Values in Science,*
*Being a Professional in Research,* and
*Being an Apprentice in Research.*

The course is designed for use as a self-study unit or for classroom use to introduce young researchers to research ethics, a newly emerging area in applied ethics. *Values of Science* introduces students to the importance of maintaining objectivity and integrity in research. Students learn what science owes and to whom, and what the duties of a research scientist are.

*Being a Professional in Research* defines the micro and macro aspects of a professional researcher and discusses general ethical principles and professional codes.

The section *Being an Apprentice in Research* focuses on those issues germane to students beginning their research careers; specific areas such as authorship, mentoring and collaboration are reviewed. A focus of this section is determining the best course to follow when attempting to balance professional codes, laws, and personal preferences.

Each lesson has a separate chat room with an assigned discussion topic and a separate homework assignment. The lessons are multidisciplinary and make use of biographies and current events; each section contains a case study mini-lesson for further review. Your instructor will determine the extent of the off-line requirements and what is expected to be turned in to satisfy this requirement.

To use these course packs free, all you need to do is register according to the directions on this page:
http://www.ncsu.edu/project/ungradreshhmi/evaluationModule/login.php

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