



BROWN

## **Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)**

### **Brown Ethics and Responsible Conduct of Research Education (BEARCORE)**

#### **Course Information**

##### **Course Description**

The **Brown Ethics And Responsible Conduct Of Research** (BEARCORE) program is administered by the Office of the Vice President for Research and is offered to students and trainees from a variety of academic fields, biomedical and non-biomedical. It is designed to acquaint researchers and trainees with ethical issues that emerge in all disciplines, and to equip participants with knowledge and resources to conduct research responsibly and with the highest degree of excellence and integrity.

Successful completion of the BEARCORE training fulfills the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) and the National Science Foundation's (NSF) RCR requirements.

BEARCORE can be taken as a Full RCR course or a Refresher course. If you have not completed an RCR course within the past four years, you must take the Full RCR course.

##### **Course Contact**

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##### **Course Details**

BEARCORE is a rolling program consisting of three core courses and a variety of elective sessions that are offered throughout the academic year. Members of the Brown community can register for the BEARCORE program at any time during the year. Once registered for the program, participants will receive information about upcoming BEARCORE sessions and can complete the training at their own pace. In order to receive a BEARCORE (full course)

completion certificate, trainees must attend all three core topic sessions and a minimum of two electives, adding up to least eight training hours.

Core and elective sessions will be offered throughout the academic year. Information about upcoming sessions will be posted on the RCR website, the BEARCORE Google site, and participants will also be notified via email.

In accordance with NIH and NSF guidelines, sessions will cover research related topics, including but not limited to, Research Misconduct, Rigor & Reproducibility, Data Management and Data Use, Conflict of Interest, Ethical Considerations in Human and Animal Research, and Authorship.

Sessions are co-taught by Brown faculty members and subject matter experts with in-depth topic area knowledge. The sessions are predominantly case-based, and include mixed-media presentations, and discussions of hypothetical and real scenarios drawn from current literature and news media.

### **Course Requirements**

#### **Full BEARCORE Course:**

In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must

- Complete all three core topic sessions; and
- Complete at least two elective sessions; and
- Complete the online CITI RCR Basic module; and
- If applicable, participate in a session's group discussion and/or complete a session's assignment(s).

#### **BEARCORE Refresher Course:**

If you are enrolled in the BEARCORE refresher course, you must attend at least 8 training hours to receive the RCR Refresher certificate. However, you can choose what sessions to attend in order to fulfill the 8 hour training requirement.

### **Assignments & Readings:**

Relevant required readings or assignments will be given either prior or after each session.

### **Course sessions**

Below is a list of core and elective sessions that will be offered as part of the BEARCORE program. Additional elective sessions may be added during the year.

#### **I. Core Topic Sessions (3)**

- (1) *Research Misconduct, Questionable Research Practices, and Authorship*
- (2) *Rigor and Reproducibility*
- (3) *Data Stewardship/Data Management/Data Use*

## **II. Elective Sessions**

*Conflict of Interest in Research*  
*Ethical Consideration in Animal Research*  
*Ethical Considerations in Human Subjects Research*  
*Ethical Considerations in Basic and Translational Research*  
*Grants Management & Fiscal Responsibility*  
*Intellectual Property/Commercialization in Academia*  
*Navigating the Mentor-Mentee Relationships and Responsibilities*  
*Communicating Science and Scientific Results*  
*Foreign Influence in Research*

### **BEARCORE Site (Session Information, Resources, Materials, Presentations)**

Once registered for the BEARCORE program, participants will receive access to the BEARCORE shared Google site. This site is updated throughout the year with relevant course information, including course dates, as well as session-specific information, PowerPoint presentations, and relevant readings. We will add to this site as we go along.

### **CITI online RCR Training Module**

Completion of the RCR (Basic) online training modules offered by the CITI Program is required for receiving a BEARCORE (full course) completion certificate. The online training consists of ten required modules and four supplemental\* modules:

*Collaborative Research, Authorship, Conflicts of Interest, Mentoring, Research Ethics and Society, Plagiarism, Research Misconduct, Peer Review, Data Management, Reproducibility of Research Results, Research Involving Human Subjects\*, Using Animal Subjects in Research\*, Financial Responsibility\*, Environmental and Social Dimensions of Engineering Research\**

Review of CITI's RCR materials and completion of the quizzes will take about 30-35 minutes per module. A minimum aggregate score of 80% is required to pass the RCR course.

You can but do not have to complete the training in one sitting. You can complete one or two modules and then log back in at a later stage and complete additional modules. We recommend signing up with CITI and then completing specific modules right before or after attending a topic related session.

#### How to register with CITI:

- Go to the CITI home page at [www.citiprogram.org](http://www.citiprogram.org)
- Register or Log In

- New users: If you have never taken the CITI program, please click on the “Register Here” link for new users and fill in steps 1-4. In Step 1: Choose Brown University as your institution. Continue with the registration process filling in all of the appropriate personal information.
- Returning CITI Users: Log in using your previous username and password. Click on the link “Affiliate with another institution.” Choose Brown University as your institution.
- In the section "My Learner Tools for Brown University," select “Add a Course or Update Learner Groups.” This will bring you to a course selection instruction page - at the bottom of the page, click on the link to “Continue to Question 1.”
- On the next page, scroll down to Question 2 and select "Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)" and then scroll to the bottom of the page and click the Submit button. You will then be brought back to the main menu and the RCR course will be available to select and begin.