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### **Format**

All Wayne State University PhD students and Postdoctoral Scholars, regardless of their funding source, are required to participate in responsible conduct of research (RCR) training commensurate with their individual programs for the university to ensure appropriate conduct of research at WSU as well as to remain compliant with regulatory requirements, including Higher Learning Commission and federal grant funding agencies. Along these objectives, the Graduate School will assume responsibility for core curriculum aspects of RCR through the online CITI training modules and through a single day long course GS0900 which will be offered on the second Saturdays in September and in January. Training in topics specific to the student's field will be delivered through the student's department.

RCR training will be presented through required registration of PhD students in the Graduate course GS0900 titled "Essential Research Practices: Responsible Conduct of Research". Components of the GS0900 course will be presented in three stages. **STAGE 1:** Completion of 8 basic modules within the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) basic online responsible conduct of research course. Students must complete and pass (with a 70% competency) these required CITI modules before progressing to stage 2. **STAGE 2:** All students must register and attend one of the Saturday RCR interactive workshops associated with the semester for which they registered for GS0900. This course is designed to introduce students to both the regulations pertinent to general universal conduct of research, as well as aid in their development of essential skills by discussing the more subjective aspects of responsible conduct of research. The format of this day-long workshop will be a series of 30 minute didactic sessions in the morning and breakout sessions discussing recent events associated with these topics and appropriate responses to these real cases in the afternoon. The afternoon discussion sessions will be student driven, with the Postdoctoral Scholars assuming the role of directing the discussion. **STAGE 3:** Students will be required to obtain advanced training on RCR topics specific to their field of interest. Training modules in this stage will be driven at their College/ Departmental level and must include an active one hour one on one discussion on the topic with the student's research advisor. Successful completion of the program will required participation in all three stages of content delivery, as well as completion of an essay to gauge how students plan to implement RCR practices in their present and future lives.

### **Duration**

GS 0900 is a zero credit hour course (no tuition required) offered pass/fail that will be presented once on the second Saturday in September and once on the second Saturday of January of each year. This course is required for all first and second year students; senior students who have already completed RCR training using preexisting programs are exempt. The timeline of the course, delivered in the three Stages outlined above, includes: the first (Stage 1) must be completed 2 weeks prior of attending the RCR training workshop for which the student has registered (i.e., Stage 2). Stage 2, the day-long workshop will provide lectures and enhanced discussion of core topics related to all student's RCR instruction. Open discussion of real life examples of issues within these topics are meant to drive home the importance of proper RCR practices. These lectures will adhere to basic principles of RCR instruction, which are important to all PhD students and Postdoctoral Scholars. The core subject matter includes all general areas of RCR applicable to issues relating to public perceptions of research and practical skills. Ethical career development is emphasized throughout the program. The final stage (Stage 3) will involve specialized training relative to the student's field of study. Content can be delivered at either the departmental or mentor level. Each department will develop a list of topics directly relevant to training required for their students that is specific to the student's research field. In addition, the Research Advisor is expected to have a one-hour, one on

one discussion with the student regarding expectations of RCR in their specialized field. This will help guide future discussion of how the Research Advisor monitors RCR practices and the Research Advisor's' expectation of student activities. Finally, there will be an essay that will be required to be completed by the student discussing what they learned in the program and how they plan to implement this in their present and future lives. All stages of the program must be completed during the semester where the student registered for GS0900. The pass/fail grade for completion of GS0900 will be provided once all stages are completed.

### **Specifics of GS0900**

CITI training will be a prerequisite for attendance of the Saturday GS0900 course. Within CITI training, basic modules include: Authorship, Collaborative Research, Conflicts of Interest, Data Management, Financial Responsibilities, Mentoring, Peer Review and Plagiarism. Successful completion of these online modules is a prerequisite for participation in the GS0900 course "Essential Research Practices: Responsible Conduct of Research". Participation in these basic CITI training modules are suggested to be incorporated into each department's "Introduction to Graduate Studies" presentations/information material that is currently already being presented to the new graduate students. Students will be expected to complete and pass (with at least a 70% competency) each CITI course module.

For the Interactive Saturday Workshop, content will include lectures and discussion in the following topics: Mentoring and the Individual Development Plan (IDP); Moral Reasoning in Resolving Conflicts; Effective Communication Strategies; Data Management and Recordkeeping; Peer Review; Authorship and Plagiarism; Conflict of Interest; and Reporting Research Misconduct and Whistleblower Protection. The break out sessions in the afternoon will be Postdoc driven and will promote discussion of proper RCR practices as related to current real life RCR conflict cases.

Departmental and Research Advisor specific training will be developed by each department and include content specific to the student's research field. The expectation is the Department will be responsible for customizing their own delivery of discussion related to disciplinary needs. In addition, the student's Research Advisor is expected to have an open discussion with each student about RCR practices and expectations within their research domain.

Students will be required to complete a survey that discusses what they learned from the program and how they plan to implement RCR practices in their everyday life. Upon successful completion of all three stages of the course, students will receive a passing grade in the course.

### **RCR Refresher**

This course is valid for four years. All trainees will be required to take an online refresher course after a four-year period.

### **Audience**

This course will be required for all first year PhD students, as well as students who have not yet taken an equivalent course. Postdoctoral Scholars are strongly requested to also attend. The course can be made available to all additional students that have a requirement of RCR training.