

Taking Responsibility for the Responsible Conduct of Research

A course to guide postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty in mentoring others looking to them for guidance on the ethics and responsibilities of conducting biomedical research

Classes begin February 2nd and go through April 20th, 2023 (subject to change)
Thursdays, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

(In-person classes on the Chicago campus - locations listed below)

COURSE CO-DIRECTORS:

Daniel C Lee, MD:

Associate Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and Radiology

Rick McGee, PhD:

Professor of Medical Education, Associate Dean for Professional Development

OTHER PARTICIPATING INSTRUCTORS:

Robert O. Bonow, MD, MS:

Editor in Chief, JAMA Cardiology, Goldberg Distinguished Professor of Cardiology

Jen Brown, MPH:

Lecturer of Preventive Medicine (Public Health Practice)

Adam S. Gordon, PhD:

Assistant Professor of Pharmacology

Kimberly Griffin, PhD:

Assistant Director of Life Sciences & Licensing

Rebecca Ober, DVM:

Research Assistant Professor of Pathology

Lauran Qualkenbush:

Director, Northwestern University Office for Research Integrity

Luke Rasmussen:

Senior Clinical Research Associate

Shad Thaxton, MD, PhD:

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Urology; Co-founder of AuraSense

Anju Tripathi Peters, MD:

Director, NUCATS Center for Clinical Research

Emily Updegraff, PhD:

Associate Director, Office for Research Development

DESCRIPTION:

This course has been created for postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty who are recipients of NIH or other training awards that require training in Responsible Conduct of Research. The course will cover the principles and expectations for conducting biomedical research ethically and responsibility but will go one step farther to guide participants in teaching others for whom they are responsible. Each session will be led by one of the course directors and/or guest instructors.

REQUIREMENTS:

Mentor Discussion and Reflection

Each participant is required to have a one-on-one discussion with their mentor or advisor about at least two of the topics covered in this course. Following the discussion, each participant must submit a reflection paper about the conversation.

Pre-Session, Online Modules

This course places a heavy emphasis on in-class discussion. To optimize class time for this, five of the course topics (Research Misconduct; Conflicts of Interests; Research with Human Subjects and Materials; Research with Animals; Collaborative Science) include an online module that must be viewed prior to class. Completion of the modules includes submission of their accompanying evaluation.

Pre-Session Questionnaire

Course topics that do not include a pre-session module will require a completion of a short pre-session questionnaire. These questionnaires will assist presenters in gauging current knowledge, discovering questions around the topic and guiding the conversation in class.

Attendance

Attendance is expected at every session. Up to two class days may be missed provided that all class materials (pre-session modules, pre-session surveys, presentation slide-decks and audio or Zoom recording) are reviewed. Absences exceeding two days will require notification of, and approval by, the course directors.

Considerations for using the Zoom Platform

It is the expectation that individual cameras will be on during class, although it is understood that at times students will need to mute their camera momentarily to take care of personal or family needs. Feel free to use appropriate digital backgrounds.

Initially, microphones of non-hosts will be muted to ensure sound quality; individuals can unmute to make comments or for breakout sessions. The Zoom chat feature can also be used to ask a question or raise your hand to make a comment.

All aforementioned requirements must be met in order to receive a course certificate.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Date	Location	Session & Description	Instructor	Pre-Session Assignments
2/2/2023	Baldwin Auditorium Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center 303 E. Superior St.	Research Misconduct – Policies and Responses to Suspected Misconduct • Identifying lines between misconduct, irresponsible conduct, and expected normative practices • Northwestern policies and resources • What to do if you suspect misbehavior or someone comes to YOU with concerns	Lauran Qualkenbush Introductions with Dan Lee, MD, Rick McGee, PhD, and Jaime Ziegler	Module: Research Misconduct L. Qualkenbush
2/9/2023	Baldwin Auditorium Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center 303 E. Superior St.	Conflicts of Interest – Recognizing, Acknowledging, Managing, Eliminating • Getting beyond naïveté in the ability to avoid unconscious and subtle unintended bias • Federal and Northwestern policies and practices with respect to financial conflicts of interests • Institutional COI • Risks of non-financial COI such as professional and commitment	Rick McGee, PhD	Module: Financial Conflicts of Interest J. Campbell
2/16/2023	Online via Zoom	Mentoring – Core principles of teaching and learning through mentors • Responsibilities when mentoring others • Helping others deal with the lack of consensus across the community on some practices • Individual Development Plans • Clarifying expectations	Rick McGee, PhD	Questionnaire
2/23/2023	Online via Zoom	Peer Review – What really are the instructions and expectations for journal and NIH peer reviewers? • Inclusion of graduate students and postdocs in peer review processes • Teaching others the high bar for respect of intellectual property revealed to peer reviewers	Dan Lee, MD Robert O. Bonow, MD, MS	Questionnaire

3/2/2023	<p>Daniel Hale Williams Auditorium</p> <p>McGaw Medical Center</p> <p>240 E. Huron St.</p>	<p>Publication Practices and Responsible Authorship – The range of norms, beliefs and practices among scientists and disciplines on assignment of credit through authorship and acknowledgements • Journal practices requiring explicit statements of contributions of authors • Establishing and communicating your criteria and process for determining authorship</p>	Dan Lee, MD	Questionnaire
3/9/2023	Online via Zoom	<p>Collaborative Research – New issues arising as research becomes much more of a ‘team sport’ • As a mentor, guiding others working across research groups and differing research practices • Prospectively addressing possible issues BEFORE they arise • International collaborations – similarities and potential differences</p>	Emily Updegraff, PhD	<p>Citi Module: Collaborative Research (RCR Basic)</p> <p>Questionnaire</p>
3/16/2023	<p>Daniel Hale Williams Auditorium</p> <p>McGaw Medical Center</p> <p>240 E. Huron St.</p>	<p>Race, Racism, and Community Leadership in Health Research – Understanding historical origins of race and scientific racism • Identifying and mitigating structural racism and bias in research • Considering the role of community and patient leadership in research design, conduct, and impact</p>	<p>Adam Gordon, PhD</p> <p>Jen Brown, MPH</p> <p>Community Partner TBD</p>	Questionnaire
3/23/2023	Online via Zoom	<p>Research with Animals – Going beyond the web-based training to real-life considerations of using animals in research • Practical applications for seeking approval to use animals in your research • Supervising and training others to work with animals in research</p>	Rebecca Ober, DVM	Module: Animals in Biomedical Research M. Kozlowski
3/30/2023	Online via Zoom	<p>Data Acquisition, Management, Sharing, and Ownership & Reproducible Research – Expected practices and policies of journals, sponsors, and institutions • Tools for reproducibility in research</p>	<p>Rick McGee, PhD</p> <p>Luke Rasmussen</p>	Questionnaire
4/6/2023	Online via Zoom	<p>Intellectual Property and Commercialization – Role of the university tech transfer office • The institution’s challenge to balance commercial opportunity and its traditional teaching/research mission</p>	<p>Kimberly Griffin, PhD</p> <p>Shad Thaxton, MD, PhD</p>	Questionnaire

4/13/2023	<p>Online via Zoom</p>	<p>Research with Human Subjects and Materials – Beyond the basics to reality • Balancing potential conflicts between protecting subjects and accomplishing vital research</p>	<p>Anju Tripathi Peters, MD</p>	<p>Modules: Human Subjects Protections E. Yates</p> <p>Human Subject Issues in Genetic Research and Biobanking M. Smith</p>
4/20/2023	<p>Simpson-Querrey Auditorium</p> <p>Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center</p> <p>303 E. Superior St.</p>	<p>Case Studies – Analysis and discussion of selected recent topics in responsible and ethical research</p>	<p>Rick McGee, PhD</p> <p>Dan Lee, MD</p>	<p>Questionnaire</p>