

**Syllabus EAS 8001: Introduction to Research and Responsible Conduct**  
Fall Semester

**Instructor:** Dr. Annalisa Bracco  
**Meeting days:** Monday, 2-3pm L1116  
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**Course Background:** The primary aim of this course is to identify and discuss ethical challenges that EAS graduate students confront in their research and to give incoming graduate and master students an overview of the research areas covered in the School. Topics addressed include those recognized by NIH, NSF, and Georgia Tech as crucial to being a responsible researcher. This course satisfies Georgia Tech RCR policy's requirements for "in-person" training (note: laboratory safety is not covered in this course).

\* If you need to complete RCR online training, the website is:  
[http://www.gradadmiss.gatech.edu/responsible\\_conduct.php](http://www.gradadmiss.gatech.edu/responsible_conduct.php)

**Format:** The course will consist of a series of 50 minutes long lectures introducing students to key background concepts and issues in the realm of research ethics, and to research areas covered by EAS faculties

**Required Readings:** Presentation slides will be available on T-square prior to the beginning of the course. Included in the slides are articles and case studies that will be discussed in the course.

**Course Requirements:** The course is for one credit and may be taken on a pass/fail basis only. To receive a passing grade, each student must attend the entire course. Students will have to be in attendance for at least 8 of the 10 hours devoted to RCR, and to 4 of the 5 classes devoted to the EAS research overview.

If a student has to miss a class, the student must contact the instructor ***prior to the day of the absence*** (unless the absence is due to illness). If an absence is considered excused by the instructor, and a RCR topic was discussed during that class, the student will have to write make-up paper(s) for the missed time. No passing grade will be given if three or more RCR classes are missed.

Students will work in groups of 2-3 students (depending on enrollment) towards a poster presentation open to the whole School to be delivered at the end of the course, during exam hours. The students will have to present their poster and answer questions to the faculties and students in attendance. The presentation will be about a RCR case in disciplines relevant to research areas within the EAS School. A list of topics will be distributed at the beginning of the course. Students may choose a case not included in the list after approval by the instructor. In order to earn a satisfactory grade, the group presentation must include the following: (1) an explanation of the topic, (2) the identification of the main ethical issue(s), and (3) a proposed solution to the ethical issues. Original work is required and using someone

else's work will result in a failing grade, therefore *ideas and concepts should be explained in the students' own words*.

**Academic Integrity:** Each student in the course is expected to uphold Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code. This requires of students that they familiarize themselves with the rights and responsibilities contained within the policy. If you have any questions or concerns about the Academic Honor Code, please consult with the instructor or refer to <http://www.honor.gatech.edu>

\* The syllabus provides a general framework for the course; on rare occasions, a re-ordering or re-scheduling of classes may be required.

\*\* If you have any learning disabilities, contact the ADAPTS office at (404) 894-2564, refer to <http://www.adapts.gatech.edu>, and/or consult with the instructor as needed.

### **Course Schedule and Topics**

- **Week 1:**  
Introduction, Ethical Concepts, and Professionalism
- **Week 2:**  
Ethical Concepts (Continued)
- **Week 3:**  
EAS research areas (faculty presentations)
- **Week 4:**  
Authorship and Publication
- **Week 5:**  
Peer Review
- **Week 6:**  
Mentoring and Collaborative Research
- **Week 7:**  
EAS research areas (faculty presentations)
- **Week 8:**  
Research Misconduct

- **Week 9:**  
Data Management
- **Week 10:**  
EAS research areas (faculty presentations)
- **Week 11:**  
Animal and Human Subject Research  
Conflict of Interest and Commitment
- **Week 12:**  
Science and Engineering in Society
- **Week 14:**  
Science and Engineering in Society (continued)
- **Week 15:**  
EAS research areas (faculty presentations)

**FINAL EXAM:** Poster presentation open to the whole EAS faculty and students