RCR Overview for Master’s Students

The RCR Program

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RCR Website: rcr.gatech.edu
Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) is defined by the NIH “…as the practice of scientific investigation with integrity. It involves the awareness and application of established professional norms and ethical principles in the performance of all activities related to scientific research.”

RCR training is central to Georgia Tech’s mission to ensure that students are prepared with the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct themselves professionally and with integrity. Thus, Georgia Tech enacted the:

- RCR Policy for Doctoral Students
- RCR Policy for Master’s Thesis Students
- RCR Compliance Policy

RCR Policies and Master’s Students

RCR Academic Policy for Master’s Thesis Students
• Applies to students enrolled in thesis (7000) courses

RCR Compliance Policy
• Applies to master’s students funded by certain NSF, NIH, or USDA-NIFA awards

Master’s students are not required to complete RCR training unless they are pursuing a thesis or are funded by certain NSF, NIH, or USDA-NIFA awards.

Master’s students who transition to a doctoral program will be required to complete RCR training.

cr.gatech.edu/masters-students
RCR Academic Policy for Master’s Thesis Students

• Applies to students enrolled in thesis (7000) courses

• As part of their degree requirements, students must complete:
  1) Online RCR Training  OR
  2) a Doctoral RCR Course  OR
  3) a Master’s RCR Course

• Training must be completed before submitting the Request for Master’s Thesis Approval Form to the Office of Graduate Studies

Master’s students who are funded by a covered NSF, NIH or USDA NIFA award may need to complete additional RCR training to meet the requirements of the RCR Compliance Policy.

rcr.gatech.edu/masters-policy
RCR Academic Policy for Master’s Thesis Students

Option 1 – Online RCR Training

The approved vendor is currently the CITI Program

- RCR Basic Course or
- RCR Basic Course (with Animal Research Module)

Users must go through GT’s Single Sign-On link in order for the training to be logged in their official GT records (be sure to select the RCR option from the CITI menu)

Student records will be updated automatically after completion

rcr.gatech.edu/online-training
Option 2 – a Doctoral RCR Course
Master's students are permitted to enroll in PHIL 6000. For other doctoral RCR courses, permission must be obtained from the relevant graduate program. The list of in-house doctoral RCR courses is available here: rcr.gatech.edu/doctoral-courses.

Option 3 – a Master’s RCR Course
The third option is to complete a course designed by the master's program that contains RCR content. Students must obtain permission from the relevant graduate program to attend its RCR course (the course is normally intended only for students pursuing a particular type of master's degree). The list of master’s RCR courses is available here: rcr.gatech.edu/masters-courses.
RCR Compliance Policy

Applies to students and postdocs funded by covered NSF or NIH awards and all researchers funded by USDA-NIFA

Master's students funded by a covered NSF or NIH award are required to complete two forms of RCR training – online and in-person. USDA-NIFA funded master's students are only required to complete the online training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>RCR Training Required for Master’s Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSF</td>
<td>Online training plus 2 hours discussion-based events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Online training plus 8 hours discussion-based events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIFA</td>
<td>Online training</td>
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</tbody>
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The online training must be completed within 90 days of appointment to a covered grant. The in-person training must be completed within the first year.

rcr.gatech.edu/compliance-masters
Questions?

Contact the RCR Program

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