1. Learning objective
The main goal of this course is to welcome doctoral students at land grant universities into the community of scholars.

To succeed in your research career you will need to know about some key narratives and individuals, four ethical principles and a decision-making method; and a host of regulatory policies. The course will fulfill its objective if, after completing it, students feel they know where to go to learn more about:

1) The research mission of land grant universities;

2) Ethical principles supporting research policies;
   (a) What is ethics? Interests, harms, choices, customs, science, law, professional codes;
   (b) Four ethical principles and their justifications;
   (c) A method for analyzing ethical arguments and making decisions;
3) Policies regulating research;
   (a) Mentoring, and under-represented minorities and women in research;
   (b) Use of humans in research;
   (c) Use of animals in research;
   (d) Research misconduct, and appropriate responses, including whistleblowing;
   (e) Authorship and peer review;
   (f) Intellectual property;
   (g) Conflicts of interest and commitment; collaborative research;
   (h) Proper experimental design, data collection, and statistical interpretation;

4) The importance of life-long learning (ability to find updated information on policies).

2. Required texts: All required readings are online at [http://openseminar.org/ethics/](http://openseminar.org/ethics/)

3. Class details

1 credit, S/U grading. Attendance is mandatory, and punctuality is encouraged. To receive a passing grade, the student must have no unexcused absences, complete all assignments on time and participate significantly in class discussions

4. Prerequisites: Graduate standing. Other students may enroll with consent of instructor.

5. Format:

The course will be structured as a seminar. The first session will begin with an overview of the topic by the instructor. The majority of the balance of sessions will begin with students completing online readings and quizzes, and then participating actively in seminar-style meetings.

6. Assignments:

The instructor will provide required reading material. Assignments will be given out in class and on the web site and will include reading from the current literature. All students must complete assignment #1, below. If applicable, they must also complete #2 and #3.

1. Seminar attendance: Participate in April 13 seminar at the Sheraton Raleigh Hotel.

2. Human subjects certification: Students using or likely to use humans in research must complete the NC State tutorial and notify the instructor by email when they have finished it: [NC State Basic Training for Personnel Involved in Human Research](http://openseminar.org/ethics/)
3. Animal subjects certification: Students using or likely to use animals in research must complete the NC State tutorial and notify the instructor by email when they have finished it: NC State Basic Training for Personnel Involved in Animal Research

7. Course web site: http://vista.ncsu.edu

8. Disabilities accommodations:

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653.

For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please click here.

9. Academic integrity:

The NCSU Student Code of Conduct (www.fis.ncsu.edu/nculegal/codeof.htm) covers all work done in this course. Any suspected violations will be promptly reported. Academic dishonesty will result in an automatic failing grade for the course.

10. Useful web sites:

LANGURE core course: chasss.ncsu.edu/ethics/langure/Corecourse.htm
NC State Ethics Program: www.chasss.ncsu.edu/ethics
Ethics Updates: ethics.sandiego.edu/index.html
Ethics Center for Engineering & Science: /onlineethics.org/reseth/index.html

11. Assistance with speaking and writing

The Writing and Speaking Tutorial Services tutors offer free, one-on-one tutorial services. Bring any piece of speaking or writing at any stage in the development process to get help with brainstorming, topic development, thesis construction, organization, drafting, editing, presentation skills, and more. More information available online at: http://www.ncsu.edu/tutorial_center/writespeak/index.htm or at 513-7829

12. First assignment

Before Jan 16, 2007, the first day of class—please e-introduce yourself. Instructions:

1) Go to PHI 816 on VistaWebCt by clicking here: http://vista.ncsu.edu/index.php
2) Log in by clicking “Vista Login”
3) Enter your NC State “Unity” User name and password.
4) You should see a list of courses. Click on “PHI816-001 Sp 07”

5) Look for “Course Tools” on the left side. Under it, you should find “Discussions.” Click on Discussions.

6) Under “All Topics” and “All My Posts” you should see seven questions under “Introduce yourself.” Click on “Introduce yourself.”

7) Read all of the messages listed under “Subject.” Respond to anyone you wish.

8) Click on “Create Message.”

9) Introduce yourself to the entire class by writing a brief biography or answering the 7 questions (or both).

10) When you are done writing, click on the button at the bottom of your screen that reads "Post." Or, if you are not happy with what you have written and want to start over, then click on "Cancel" and begin again.

11) Congratulations. You have finished the first assignment.

13. Optional assignment: You are strongly encouraged, but not required to complete the Pre-
test.

Schedule

1/23  3:00  **Egoism and the virtues; and Professional codes**  
      Read G. Comstock, "Introduction to ethics" and "Egoism and the virtues"

        4:00  **Utilitarianism and moral rights**  
        Read G. Comstock, "Utilitarianism; Moral rights"

1/30  No class   **Attend LANGURE conference on April 13, 1:30-5:00 pm**

2/6   No class   **Attend LANGURE conference on April 13, 1:30-5:00 pm**

2/13  3:00  **Making ethical decisions: a method**  
        Read: G. Comstock, "Ethical method"

        4:00  **Mentoring; and Women and under-represented groups**  
        Read: M. King, "The Mentoring of Graduate Students"  
        www.chass.ncsu.edu/ethics/inst_mod/mentoring.pdf  
        B. Alston-Mills and P. Shumaker, "Women and under-represented groups"

2/20  3:00  **Intellectual property; and conflicts of interests**  
        Read: H. Schaffer and J. Taylor "Intellectual Property"

        4:00  **Experimental design and statistical interpretation**  
        Read: L. Nelson, “Responsible Use of Statistical Methods”  
        www.chass.ncsu.edu/ethics/inst_mod/ethical_issues_in_statistics.pdf

2/27  3:00  **Research misconduct (FFP)**

        4:00  **Authorship and peer review**  
        Read: J. Wilson, “[Responsible Authorship and Peer Review](https://www.chass.ncsu.edu/ethics/inst_mod/ethical_issues_in_statistics.pdf)” & Wesley Snyder

3/6   3:00  **Use of humans and animals**  
        Read: R. Fish, "Humane Care and Use of Animals in Research"  
        www.ncsu.edu/project/ungradreshhmi/index.php?course=vet

        4:00  **Conclusion: Lifelong learning, policy updates**

4/13  1:30-5:00  **Attend LANGURE conference at Raleigh Sheraton Hotel**
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>In Class Exercises</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<th>Supplement for instructors</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-</td>
<td><strong>A. INTRODUCE YOURSELF</strong></td>
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<td>1/16</td>
<td><strong>B. TAKE PRE-TEST</strong> (optional)</td>
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<td>1/16</td>
<td><strong>A</strong> Introduction to course &amp; community</td>
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<td>Introduction to the community of scholars</td>
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<td>1/16</td>
<td><strong>B</strong> Professional Codes, Ethics, and Research Misconduct</td>
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<td>LANGURE - Misconduct, Codes, and Whistleblowing</td>
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<td>9/19</td>
<td>Professional Codes, Ethics, and Research Misconduct</td>
<td>Comstock - Four Ethical Principles and their Justification: pp. 1-11</td>
<td>NC State whistleblowing policy</td>
<td>Assignment for 2nd Class - Find Code of Ethics, Compare and contrast with partner, Co</td>
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<td>LANGURE - Misconduct, Codes, and Whistleblowing</td>
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<td>10/3</td>
<td>Utilitarianism and Rights</td>
<td>Comstock - Four Ethical Principles and their Justification: pp. 18-27</td>
<td>UW Cystic Fibrosis Study (in PPT)</td>
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<td>Comstock - Ethical Principles Supporting Research Policies PowerPoint.ppt</td>
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<td>The Research Mission of Land Grant Universities</td>
<td>Comstock - Research at Land Grant Universities.pdf</td>
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<td>Comstock - Research at LGUs PowerPoint.ppt</td>
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<td>Exercise - Student Identified Issues in Labs and Work Environments</td>
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<td>Mentoring, Women, and Minorities</td>
<td>Alston-Mills - Mentoring: Women and Under-Represented Minorities.pdf</td>
<td>Case studies - Mentoring</td>
<td>Langure (Patterson) - Mentoring.ppt</td>
<td>King - With Supplemental</td>
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<td>Animals in Research</td>
<td>Varner - Prospects for Convergence</td>
<td>Animal Research Case Study.doc</td>
<td>Langure (Streiffer) - Animal Ethics.ppt</td>
<td>Comstock - Use of Humans and Animals PowerPoint.ppt Animal Enterprise Terrorism</td>
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<td>Discipline-Specific Issues: GE Foods</td>
<td>Thompson - Why Food Biotechnology Needs an Opt Out.pdf</td>
<td>GE Food Aid (included in PPT)</td>
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