Module 4: GRSC6101 Responsible Conduct of Research (3 hours)

Aims/Objectives

The aim of this module is to reinforce the importance that the University places on the preservation of the values and principles of research integrity in all research conducted at the university.

Content

This module equips research postgraduate (RPg) students with essential vocabulary, principles, and practices conducive to the promotion of responsible conduct of research in general and in their relevant disciplines. Students will also encounter terminology, texts, and tenets that relate to good conduct in the teaching and research professions. Key research-related issues, including principle of research integrity, mentor-mentee relationship, publication ethics and data management, as well as pressing RCR topics, will be discussed in view of the University's Policy on Research Integrity (https://www.rss.hku.hk/integrity/rcr/policy). This module delivers its content via talks delivered by faculty members/external speakers/GS Programme Director and case discussions facilitated by faculty members.

Enrolment

Students are expected to attend this module before taking the stream-based responsible conduct of research module.

Assessment

Students are required to complete the web-based learning modules (Research Integrity run by Epigeum). Details of the programme will be available to students separately.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the module, students will be able to:
- apply principles of responsible conduct to research project design;
- demonstrate the features of ethical authorship and publication practice in their own writing;
- differentiate between conflicts of interest and conflicts of commitment; and
- critically evaluate their own and others’ research practices in terms of potential risks and benefits.

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To fulfill the assessment requirement of the Responsible Conduct of Research module, students are required to complete the web-based learning modules for the Research Integrity programme developed by Epigeum. The following information is provided to help students to get registered on the Epigeum website.

(2) **Students must enroll in the Research Integrity programme**, where they should:

   a. study **ALL the learning modules in the Core component (Research Integrity: Core)** and **TWO of the learning modules in the Supplementary component (Research Integrity: Supplementary) online**;
   
   b. obtain **a score of at least 80% for each of the module quizzes**; and
   
   c. submit **the THREE completion reports issued by Epigeum to the designated Graduate School email address (see below)** for records of assessment.

(3) **Any new user of Epigeum must, first of all, register as a new learner and create a learner account.** If you have already registered a learner account for the Transferable Skills module, you can just login with your HKU email address and skip steps b-d below. **Note that no payment is required for registration.** Below are the step-by-step instructions for registration:

   a. Go to [https://courses.epigeum.com/](https://courses.epigeum.com/)

   b. Click on the button on the top right hand corner and then on “Register” with your **HKU email address**.

   ![Register Epigeum](https://courses.epigeum.com/)

   In filling in your personal information, remember to enter your name as **you would like it to appear on your programme certificate** received at the end of the programme.
c. Complete the form and enter the token 67122e5e during registration.

d. You will be sent an account activation email to the HKU email address you entered during registration. Please click on the link in the activation email to complete registration and activate your account. If you do not receive the email in your inbox, please check your SPAM/junk mail.

e. After logging in, click on “View Courses” under Research Integrity: Second Edition and study the modules. Once a course has been successfully completed (by achieving 80% or higher in the end of course quiz), you will be able to download your unique certificate of completion.

f. If you require further assistance, please see the help page or contact the Epigeum customer support team via this webform.
(4) If students have any problems relating to taking the Research Integrity learning modules on Epigeum, they should discuss with the teacher as soon as the course starts.

(5) Passing the Research Integrity learning modules is only part of the course requirements for GRSC6101. To complete the course successfully, students must also fulfill the rest of the assessment requirements as specified in the course syllabus.

(6) Students should use their hku email account to send the THREE completion reports (in PDF format) issued by Epigeum to Graduate School email account gscourse@hku.hk within 14 days after the end of the module. The email subject should be “Completion reports for GRSC6101” and the email body should indicate the name in full and university number.

Prepared by Graduate School
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