

Approved by Academic Council – November 2021

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For inclusion in the next edition of the BDC Handbook, but to be effective immediately and posted to TST website upon approval.

## Ethics Review of Course-based Research

Normally, Course-Based Research projects involving human subjects are covered by a template submitted by the course instructor along with an ethics application that includes the template information and consent forms, recruitment scripts or directions, and sample questions or tools. Students are expected to work within the parameters provided, and maintain and/or submit evidence of consent.

### **Student-initiated Projects**

From time to time students may, with the permission of the instructor, conduct course-based research projects that are not covered by a course template where the course instructor has completed and submitted the ethics application, including template information and consent forms, recruitment scripts, and sample questions or tools. Any approved projects that fall outside of the parameters of the template, must be submitted separately as a student-initiated project. They must submit a protocol for review to the TST Delegated Ethics Review Committee (DERC). Course-based research reviewed through the TST Delegated Ethics Review Committee (DERC) must be minimal risk. 'Minimal risk' is defined as the probability and magnitude of possible harms implied by participation in the research can reasonably be expected by participants to be no greater than those encountered by the subject in those aspects of his or her everyday life that relate to the research, or during the performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests. [<https://research.utoronto.ca/ethics-human-research/determine-if-protocol-qualifies-delegated-review>]. Course instructors have access to the required forms and templates, and are required to sign off on the proposed project before submitting it to the TST Delegated Ethics Review Committee (DERC).

In exceptional circumstances, where the student has permission to conduct higher risk course-based research, the student must submit the protocol through MRHP for full board REB review.