**Syllabus EAS 6000: Introduction to Research and Responsible Conduct**

**Fall Semester**

Instructor: Dr. Annalisa Bracco  
E-mail: abracco@gatech.edu  
Meeting days: Friday, 12:30-2:25pm L1116 (half semester, first 7 weeks)  
Office Location: ES&T 2248

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://rcr.gatech.edu/online-training

Format: The course will consist of a series of 11, 50 minutes long, lectures introducing students to key background concepts and issues in the realm of research ethics. Lectures can be attended in person or via bluejeans. **The first week the offering is virtual only.**

Required Readings: Presentation slides will be available on T-square after each topic is discussed. Included in the slides there are articles and case studies that will be discussed in the course.

Course Requirements: **The course must be taken on a pass/fail basis only.** To receive a passing grade, each student must attend in person the entire course. Students will have to be in attendance for at least 9 of the 11 hours devoted to RCR to receive a pass grade.

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 (depending on enrollment) towards a powerpoint presentation to be delivered at the end of the course. Students will present 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 (RCR):
Presentation of the course and overview
Introduction, Ethical Concepts, and Professionalism

• Week 2:
Ethical Concepts (Continued)
Authorship and Publication

• Week 3-4:
Peer Review
Mentoring and Collaborative Research

• Week 5:
(Discussion of PLOS One article “Survey of Academic Field Experiences (SAFE): Trainees Report Harassment and Assault”
http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0102172)
Conflict resolution

• Week 6:
Research Misconduct I
Research Misconduct II
• Week 7:
  Intellectual property
  Animal and Human Subject Research

Science and Engineering in Society
Data Management and Conflict of Interest and Commitment

Week 8:
Final Presentations

FINAL EXAM: Presentation on topics to be chosen by groups of 2-3 students.