

EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY  
**RESEARCH SERVICES**



Edith Cowan University  
**Support for Researchers**

## Research Governance

### About us

The Research Governance team is responsible for coordination of research ethics, implementation of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, Researcher Professional Development and management of research misconduct.

We can assist you with:

- Research Ethics;
- Research Integrity;
- Research Complaints; and
- Researcher Professional Development Framework.

### How we support research at ECU

#### Research Ethics

All research projects need to meet ECU's research ethics requirements. The Research Ethics Team assists staff and students to ensure that their research complies with guidelines and legislation, protects research participants and animals and encourages research that is, or will be, of benefit to the community.

Ethical conduct of research activities that involves animal or human participants is governed by guidelines contained in legislation and policies. Their primary purpose is to ensure:

- the humane care of animals used for scientific purposes, including teaching; and
- the protection of the welfare and rights of human participants.

The secondary purpose is to facilitate research that is, or will be, of benefit to researchers' communities or to humankind.

All research and research-related activity should be tested in the [Proportional Review Checklist](#) (even if you know ethics review is not required). By answering some brief questions about your planned activity, the Checklist will determine whether the activity requires review and the most appropriate review pathway. Alternatively, your project may qualify for an 'Out of Scope' or 'Exempt from Review' notification.

#### Research ethics committees

University Council established the Animal Ethics and Human Research Ethics Committees to administer these guidelines, to apply policy and to provide assistance to staff and students undertaking research in the consideration of ethical issues.

#### Support, guidance and reporting

The Research Ethics Team has responsibilities relating to the ethical conduct of research at ECU, including:

- providing information, support and guidance to staff and students;
- administrative support for the Animal Research and Human Research Ethics Committees;
- liaising between Committees and applicants;
- preliminary reviews of applications and provision of feedback to applicants;
- monitoring approved research projects;
- developing, implementing, reviewing and updating policies and procedures; and
- reporting to the University, the National Health and Medical Research Council, and other organisations.

For more information on applying for ethics approval, resources to support research ethics application and the University's Ethics Committees, visit the [Research ethics](#) website.

## Contact

### Research Ethics Team

Phone: (61 8) 6304 2170

Email: [research.ethics@ecu.edu.au](mailto:research.ethics@ecu.edu.au)

## Research Integrity

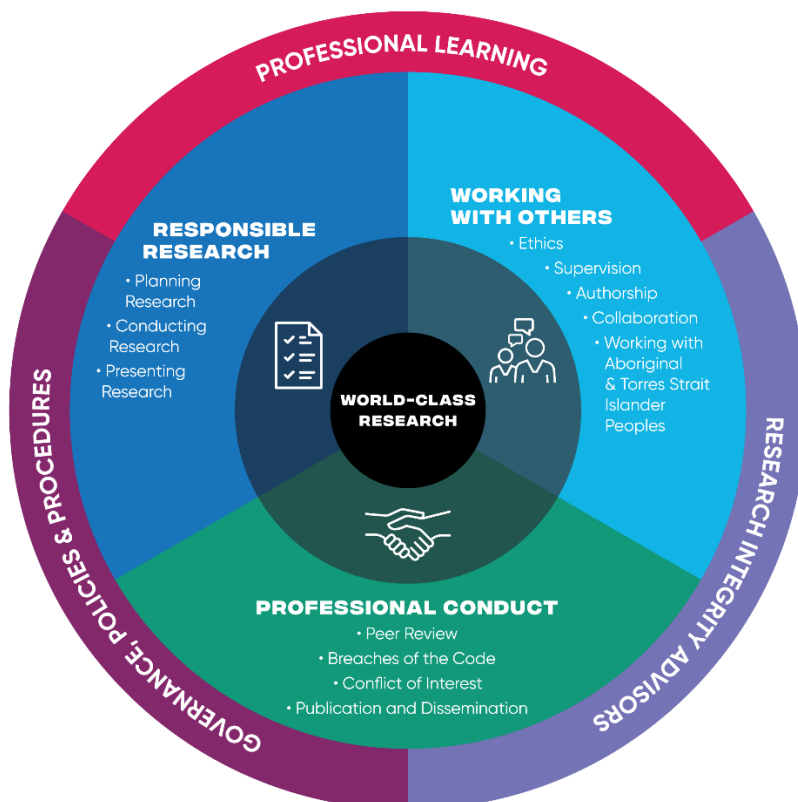
Integrity is one of ECU's core values - being ethical, honest and fair. Integrity is also a key component of world-class research. In Australia, all researchers are required to comply with The Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (the Code). The Code sets out the principles that characterise an honest, ethical and conscientious research culture that facilitate high quality research.

The eight principles of the Code include:

- Honesty in the development, undertaking and reporting of research;
- Rigour in the development, undertaking and reporting of research;
- Transparency in declaring interests and reporting research methodology, data and findings;
- Fairness in the treatment of others;
- Respect for research participants, the wider community, animals and the environment;
- Recognition of the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to be engaged in research that affects or is of particular significance to them;
- Accountability for the development, undertaking and reporting of research; and
- Promotion of responsible research practices.

The code dives deeper and sets out 13 responsibilities for institutions who have an obligation to encourage and support responsible research conduct. It also provides 16 responsibilities for researchers to uphold in all aspects of their research.

At ECU, our approach to Research Integrity and meeting the principles and responsibilities of the code, is addressed through three components of world class research, and three supporting structures:



## Contact

### Research Data Management and Plans

Phone: (61 8) 6304 2332

[researchdatamanagement@ecu.edu.au](mailto:researchdatamanagement@ecu.edu.au)

### Research Integrity Team

Phone: (61 8) 6304 2332

[research.integrity@ecu.edu.au](mailto:research.integrity@ecu.edu.au)

## Research Complaints

The [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research \(the Code\)](#), sets out a number of responsibilities for researchers and institutions when preventing, detecting, reporting and investigating potential breaches to the code.

Research conduct which fails to meet the principles and responsibilities of the Code (including; not meeting required research standards, fabrication, falsification, misrepresentation and plagiarism), may be defined as a breach. ECU manages these breaches primarily through the Research Misconduct Policy and Research Misconduct Assessment procedures, supported by the *'Guide to Managing and Investigating Potential Breaches of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, 2018'*, one of the companion guides to the Code.

Visit the [Managing and reporting breaches of the Code](#) website, for information on reporting research concerns or complaints, ECU policies, guidelines, practices and external links and resources related research complaints.

## Contact

### Research Integrity Team

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## Researcher Professional Development Framework

The Researcher Professional Development Framework (RPDF) will help you target some short-and longer-term development or training that will help you to build your skills and competencies as a world-class researcher. It is important for researchers of all levels (including postgraduate research students) to develop transferrable and professional skills for degree completion, career progression, personal development and employability.

The [Researcher Professional Development Framework \(RPDF\)](#) is an evidenced-based framework underpinned by the needs of the ECU research community that is designed to provide a holistic view of researcher development across an academic career. The framework is organised in to four domains which represent the important competencies for a research academic. These domains include:

- Personal and Professional Development;
- Research Skills;
- Research Governance; and
- Engagement and Impact.

The Researcher Professional Development Framework defines these four domains and further explores core competencies that exist within each domain. This organisation of domains and competencies allows ECU researchers to track their progress, according to their career stage and participate in workshops, seminars, online courses, mentoring and other activities that help build their capacity within each domain.

## Training Workshops and Events

Ongoing professional development helps maintain and advance skills, knowledge, and competencies. Research-related professional learning opportunities are listed on the [Training Workshops and Events webpage](#). You can find face-to-face and online sessions run by Research Services, Library-Research-Services, Graduate Research School, HR: Organisation Development, Schools, Corporate Relations and external providers.

If you would like to add a research-related workshop or event to the calendar or discuss professional development opportunities, contact [researcher.development@ecu.edu.au](mailto:researcher.development@ecu.edu.au).

## Contact

### Researcher Capability Development Coordinator

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## Contact

### Manager, Research Governance

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## Web resources

- [Research Ethics](#)
- ECU Research Ethics Committees:
  - [Human Research Ethics Committee](#)
  - [Animal Ethics Committee](#)
  - [Research Ethics Sub-Committees](#)
- [Research Integrity](#)
- [Research Data Management](#)
- [Research Complaints](#)
- [Researcher Professional Development Framework](#)
- [Training Workshops and Events Calendar](#)