



Using Student Course Data for Research

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Internal Program Evaluation vs. Research

Program Evaluation

- ▶ Data collected for internal departmental or administrative purposes, such as teaching evaluations, student performance or course evaluation data.
- ▶ Activities designed solely for course or program evaluation with the intent to improve effectiveness and/or inform local decisions about future program development.
- ▶ Intent **not** to generalize findings or publish in peer-reviewed journals.

Educational research

- ▶ Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings.
- ▶ Research on educational instructional strategies or curriculum evaluation.
- ▶ Designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.
- ▶ Avenues for dissemination could include scientific presentation/publication.

Educational research

- ▶ Educational research includes most research on regular and special education instructional strategies, and research on the effectiveness of or the comparison among instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management methods.

Educational research

- ▶ Requires a Johns Hopkins Medicine IRB (JHMIRB) application.
- ▶ Generally qualifies for “exempt” human subjects research (HSR) review (eFormE template).



JHU Policy on Recruitment of Students

GEN011 Enrolling JHU Students in Human Subject Research Policy

- Effective: 01/21/2020
- https://policies.jhu.edu/?event=render&mid=768&pid=32465&fid=policy_32465.pdf&_id=0.471159992007

Enrolling Students in Human Subject Research Policy: Key Points

- ▶ A JHU investigator may not directly recruit participation in his/her research project from any JHU student whom the investigator teaches or academically supervises, regardless of the level of risk of the study.

Enrolling Students in Human Subject Research Policy: Key Points

- Research involving educational effectiveness, pedagogical techniques, or changes in the learning require institutional approval.
- Please contact Dr. Jon Links, Vice Provost and Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, at jlinks1@jhu.edu to secure this approval.

Enrolling Students in Human Subject Research Policy: Key Points to Address in IRB Protocol

- Students will participate in the curriculum regardless of their willingness to complete the study evaluations/participate in the research.
- The curriculum will not be modified for students who do/do not participate in the research – all students will receive the same curriculum.
- Invitations to participate in the research will be sent by XXX, who has no role in supervising or evaluating the students.

Student course participants need to understand how their course evaluation data will be used and that participation in research is voluntary.

- Preferably, IRB approval for educational research is obtained before course implementation and includes a student recruitment and consent process for this research.

Projects where the educational activity has already been completed as part of the standard educational curriculum, and the intent is now to reanalyze the data and publish it as generalizable research, also require IRB approval.

Recruitment Process

- Describe a recruitment plan that includes permission to use the course/program evaluation data for this research.

Submit student recruitment documents (email script, ads, flyers) for IRB review and institutional approval prior to use.

Consent Process

- No regulatory requirement for documentation of consent within an exempt research application.

Need to discuss a consent process within the protocol.

Consent opt-in text may be included in pre-post surveys/ course evaluations or recruitment documents.

Consent Opt-in template text

May we use your answers for research purposes? All data will remain anonymous and analyzed only in the aggregate.

Yes (1) – I consent to participate in this research study (principal investigator; JHMIRB#; contact information to learn more about the study).

No (2) – I do not consent to be part of the research study. My answers will be used only for internal purposes to improve future programs.

JHSON Center for Simulation & Immersive Learning's Research Policy

- Research involving students in the Center for Simulation and Immersive Learning requires IRB approval prior to the activity.
- IRB protocol must be submitted for review and tracking by the Center.
- Please refer to the Center for Simulation & Immersive Learning's research policy [Center for Simulation Research Policy 7.2024.pdf](#)

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Questions