

Research skills

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Research skills

Research Ethics

Coordinator
Professor Anthony SO
Dean of Graduate School

Designed for

All postgraduate students.

Objective

- to develop a higher level of sensitivity about ethical issues in research, especially since postgraduate studies are the first stage that leads to independent academic research.

Structure	Seminar & group discussion with speaker from respective discipline
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Medium of Instruction	English
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Brief Description

Honesty in research, proper records, sharing of credit, originality and plagiarism, research ethics, CUHK policy.

Group 1 Non-clinical research

Speaker
Professor Tong Yuying
Professor, Department of Sociology

Details

University research is a professional practice that has evolved over time, like law, medicine and accounting. All such practices are underpinned by values and codes of ethics, which define what is “good” and what is “unacceptable” within the practice. New practitioners need to learn what the key values and codes of ethics are. The aim of the workshop is to introduce the key values and codes of ethics involved in doing research in the humanities and social sciences at CUHK. Some of the key values discussed will include intellectual honesty, integrity and professionalism, fairness and equity, openness regarding conflicts of interest and care for the well-being of all concerned in the research. Key concerns discussed will include plagiarism, academic fraud, careless note-taking or data-gathering, abuse of other people’s research work or academic property, conflict of interest and unethical practices regarding interviewees.

Group 2 Clinical research

Speaker

Professor Szeto Cheuk Chun

Department of Medicine & Therapeutics

Details

Clinical research projects and clinical trials require active participation by patients and/or subjects in the community. The role of Independent Ethics Committee (IEC) or Institution Review Board (IRB) for protecting and safeguarding the research participants is becoming an important issue in clinical research. The development of policy together with practical and efficient processes for the ethics review is critical. In this talk, we would introduce the historical perspective of the role of IEC/IRB, and summarize the key spirit of Belmont Report, the Declaration of Helsinki, and the purpose of ICH GCP Guidelines using recent incidences as examples. We would discuss how clinical researchers, hospitals administrators and the public work together to accomplish our current Clinical Research Ethics Committee (CREC) infrastructure.

Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research

Coordinator
The Chinese University of Hong Kong Library

Designed for

Compulsory for **ALL RESEARCH** postgraduate students. Students must complete this online course before graduation.

Objective & Brief Description

It is very important for students to know how to avoid infringing the Intellectual Property and Copyright of others. This course will introduce CUHK research students to updated issues in Intellectual Property and Copyright which are applicable in academic circles. To link the issues to global research, the subject of 'Plagiarism' is also included.

Structure Web-based course and examination

Medium of Instruction: English

Completion requirements

To complete this compulsory module, student must:

- 1) go through **ALL** the materials online, **AND**
- 2) pass the online examination.

Remark:

An email with login information will be sent to individual registrant one week before the start day of each group.

Exemption:

Students who have attended this IPL compulsory course in their previous study may apply for exemption by submitting a **declaration form** to CLEAR.

Qualitative Research Methods - Ethnographic Approaches

Speaker

Prof. Leilah Sohrab VEVAINA

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

Designed for

Postgraduate students in the faculties of Arts, Business Administration, Education, Medicine, Social Science and Law who need to understand peoples' cultural points of view for their research.

Objective

- to introduce ethnographic research methods.

Structure

2.5-hour lecture and discussion

Medium of Instruction

English

Brief Description

Ethnographic research involves collecting data that describe a culture or part of a culture. Especially important is understanding culture from the informants' points of view. Ethnographic description and understanding can be a goal in and of itself, or can be the first step before quantitative and comparative studies. Methods include participant observation, person-centered interviewing and direct systematic observation of behavior.

Qualitative Research Methods - Questioning the Past: Basics of Historical Research

Speaker

Professor Stuart M. McManus

Associate Professor, Department of History

Designed for

All postgraduate students.

Objective

- to introduce researching "History".

Structure

2.5-hour lecture

Medium of Instruction

English

Brief Description

Students often leave school with the impression that the study of History is all about learning facts about the past – especially dates. This is actually backwards: the English word ‘history’ comes from the ancient Greek verb *historeo* (ἵστορέω), which means ‘ask questions’. Historians *ask questions* about the past in order to understand the present.

Most postgraduate students, especially in the Arts and Social Sciences (but also other fields), will have some kind of historical dimension to their research, looking at change over time to understand present conditions. This lecture will help to prepare you for this by introducing you to the basics of History and historical research: Why do we study History? How do we study History? What *is* History, and what can it offer you? We will explore these questions in more depth by looking at examples of recent historical research and engaging in a short group activity and discussion.

Quantitative Research Methods - Survey Research

Dr. Ho Ching Wai Chris
Lecturer, Department of Sociology

Designed for

All postgraduate students.

Objective

- to introduce the practice of survey research.

Structure 2.5-hour lecture

Medium of Instruction English

Brief Description

This seminar is a brief introduction on the practical issues of survey research. Discussion will focus on the basic features of survey research. The presentation emphasizes the importance of preparation work before conducting the survey, particularly on the design and planning stages. Measurement, sampling strategies and sample size issues will also be discussed. Finally, the talk will cover selected issues on questionnaire design. Discussions will be supplemented with examples.

Elementary Data Analysis for Quantitative Research by SPSS

Speakers
Professor Yau Chun Yip
Director, Risk Management Science Program

Designed for

Postgraduate students who would like to perform quantitative analysis using SPSS.

Objective

At the end of the course, the participant should be able to:

- understand the main features of SPSS
- prepare data for analysis in SPSS
- perform basic data exploration
- getting started with inferential statistics

Structure	3-hour hands-on workshop
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Medium of Instruction English supplemented with Cantonese and Putonghua

Brief Description

The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to IBM SPSS Statistics, a user-friendly statistical analysis software that has been widely used by researchers to perform quantitative analysis. In this introductory course, we will help students to learn how to enter data in SPSS and conduct basic data manipulations, including data summary using descriptive statistics, frequencies, cross-tabulation procedures and statistical graphics. The basic concepts and the formal procedure of hypothesis testing will also be introduced.

Statistical Consultation

The Statistical Consulting Services of the Department of Statistics is to encourage the proper use of statistical methodology and to provide statistical expertise. Students who have statistical enquiries can consult staff from 2 to 5 pm on every Friday afternoon on a walk-in basis during normal 1st and 2nd semester teaching period. The statistical laboratory is located at Rm 120 Lady Shaw Building. For enquiries, please send email to consult@sta.cuhk.edu.hk

Advanced Data Analysis for Quantitative Research by SPSS

Speakers

Professor Yau Chun Yip

Director, Risk Management Science Program

Designed for

Postgraduate students who would like to perform advanced quantitative analysis using SPSS and have basic knowledge on SPSS or completed “Elementary Data Analysis for Quantitative Research by SPSS” course.

Objective

At the end of the course, the participant should be able to:

- understand the main features of SPSS
- prepare data for analysis in SPSS
- perform data exploration
- conduct statistical inference under various settings and data structures

Structure

3-hour hands-on workshop

Medium of Instruction

English supplemented with Cantonese and Putonghua

Brief Description

This application-oriented course is a continuation of the introductory course “Elementary Data Analysis for Quantitative Research by SPSS”. The aim of this second course in IBM SPSS Statistics is to explore sophisticated univariate and multivariate statistical techniques and models for conducting quantitative research in scientific or social scientific disciplines.

This course covers specific statistical techniques including, but not limited to, Generalized additive model (GAM), generalized linear mixed models (GLMM), generalized estimating equations (GEE), Cox regression, Cluster analysis, Classification models, time series models and forecasting.

Statistical Consultation

The Statistical Consulting Services of the Department of Statistics is to encourage the proper use of statistical methodology and to provide statistical expertise. Students who have statistical enquiries can consult staff from 2 to 5 pm on every Friday afternoon on a walk-in basis during normal 1st and 2nd semester teaching period. The statistical laboratory is located at Rm 120 Lady Shaw Building. For enquiries, please send email to consult@sta.cuhk.edu.hk

Research Skills

Basics of Research Data Management

Coordinator

Ms. Qinqin Zhang

Research Data Librarian

The Chinese University of Hong Kong Library

Designed for

ALL research postgraduate and taught doctoral students (admitted in 2022/23 or after).

Students are required to complete this online course and its accompanying examination within their first year of studies, as part of the requirements for candidacy and graduation.

Objective & Brief Description

Research Data Management (RDM) plays an increasingly vital role across all stages of the research life cycle. This self-paced online course offers a comprehensive introduction to key RDM topics, including data management planning, data deposit, and data ethics. Upon completion, students will gain a solid understanding of the purpose and guiding principles of effective research data management.

Structure

Self-learning online course and examination

Medium of Instruction: English

Completion requirements

To complete this compulsory course, students must:

- 1) go through **ALL** the materials online, **AND**
- 2) pass the online examination.

Remark:

- An email with login information will be sent to individual registrant one week before the start day of each group.
- The Chinese University of Hong Kong Library organizes various types of workshops and seminars to address your research needs throughout the academic year. The workshop schedules are available on the CUHK Library home page (<http://www.lib.cuhk.edu.hk/en/learning/workshops>) and on the Library's notice boards.

Exemption:

Students who have attended this compulsory course in their previous study may apply for exemption by submitting a [declaration form](#) to CLEAR.

Introduction to Research Data Management

3 identical sessions in Term 1 (September – October 2025)

Group 1 - 3 – Introduction to Research Data Management

Speaker

Ms. Qinqin Zhang
Research Data Librarian
The Chinese University of Hong Kong Library

Designed for

ALL postgraduate students engaged in research involving data management. These sessions are optional, but they are **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** to help enhance your skills in effective research data management.

Objective

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- understand the purpose, principles, and benefits of research data management
- demonstrate the skills in managing and depositing research data

Structure 1.5-hour workshop

Medium of Instruction English

Delivery Mode Online (Zoom)

Brief Description

The workshops will cover:

- fundamental concepts of RDM
- key benefits of effective RDM
- core components in RDM
- RDM practices in the CUHK context
- data depositing and sharing in the CUHK Research Data Repository

Getting Started with Data Management Plans

3 identical sessions in Term 2 (January – February 2026)

Group 1 - 3 – Getting Started with Data Management Plans

Speaker

Ms. Qinqin Zhang
Research Data Librarian
The Chinese University of Hong Kong Library

Designed for

ALL postgraduate students engaged in research involving data management. These sessions are optional, but they are **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** to support your fulfillment of the DMP development requirement under the new Research Data Management (RDM) mandate issued by the Graduate School.

Objective

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- understand the purpose and benefits of data management planning
- create an effective data management plan using the CUHK DMP Template in DMPTool
- fulfill the DMP development requirement under the new RDM mandate issued by the Graduate School

Structure 1.5-hour workshop

Medium of Instruction English

Delivery Mode Online (Zoom)

Brief Description

The workshops will cover:

- fundamental concepts of DMP
- benefits of creating a DMP
- core components in a DMP
- detailed steps on how to create a DMP using the CUHK DMP Template in DMPTool