

Cape Breton University Research Ethics Board (CBU REB) | Created June 2019 | Resource 006

Research in the CBU Classroom

This document provides a brief overview of possible ways instructors might engage students in research in the CBU classroom. Any research involving human participants requires approval from the CBU REB prior to the start of the research project.

Beyond the Scope of CBU REB

Pedagogical exercises that teach students *about* research but do not engage *in* research do not require REB approval. For example, an instructor may lead students through an exercise and have students complete mock interviews. This exercise would not require REB approval. However, if the instructor wanted to have students compile the collected data from the interviews into a document that answered a specific research question, then CBU REB approval would be required.

Blanket Course Review

Course-based research activities may qualify for a blanket course approval. This means that the instructor submits to the CBU REB on behalf of the class instead of having each student or group complete their own. This option might be right for you if:

- Students are all working on the same research question
- Students are working with the same type of participants (e.g. students, customers, etc.)
- Students are collecting similar type of data

Requests for blanket approvals can be made by filling out the CBU REB form located on <u>our website</u> and submitting it for the monthly deadline. **Instructors are strongly encouraged to submit to the July** deadline for fall courses, the December deadline for winter courses and the April deadline for spring/summer courses. **Please note that expedited reviews are not available.**

Student Group Protocol Submissions

All Honours students, graduate students and students completing research in a course (that fall outside the above categories) must submit to the CBU REB if they plan to complete research with human participants. It is recommended that instructors:

- contact <u>ethics@cbu.ca</u> with the approximate number of group projects that will be submitting to the CBU REB.
- ensure student research projects are within a manageable scope given their circumstances (timeframe, participant group etc.) For example, if a student group is submitting their CBU REB application in February, they will hear back from the CBU REB the first of March. Assuming that the group receives feedback from the CBU REB, the student group would only have a few weeks to collect their data and complete their project for the end of term.
- It is the responsibility of the instructor to ensure the students have all the information regarding the CBU REB process. The CBU REB has a monthly deadline for submissions and will have feedback to applicants three weeks from the submission deadline. However, this does not guarantee the submission will be approved. Students should take in to consideration any back-and-forth with the CBU REB as part of their timeline. For more information, including submission deadlines, <u>visit our website</u>.