



Demystifying the IRB

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Segments and Subtopics

1. What is the IRB and why should I care?
 - Human subjects concerns
 - What kinds of projects need IRB approval
 - What is “research”?
 - Types of review
 - But my discipline doesn’t “do” the IRB
2. IRB for the Teacher-Scholar (Case Studies)
 - But it’s just a class project ...
 - It’s for the community Is that research?
 - Pedagogical innovation and SOTL
 - I didn’t think this was research, but maybe it is?
3. Navigating the Mercer IRB process (Tutorial)
 - Citi Training
 - Process
 - Forms
 - Guiding students





3. Navigating the Mercer IRB Process

CITI Training

- Consult <https://orc.mercer.edu/training/citi/>
- Consider assigning the CITI course to your students
- Complete CITI refresher every three years



Process and Forms

- IRB website has everything you need, but can be difficult to navigate
- Start early and read your colleagues' protocols
- Minimal Risk IRB Application with signatures, Consent Forms on letterhead, Instruments, Recruitment Materials, Site Permission letters
- Write for a non-specialist
- Include references
- You can always amend later
- Complete continuing review and reports



Guiding Student

- Encourage students to start early
- Help students to navigate website
- Be prepared to edit and give feedback to students.
- Never sign a protocol that you haven't read or that sounds like bad research

