

Responsible Conduct of Research

The University of Vermont is committed to **fostering an environment in which the highest ethical standards in the conduct of research are followed**. The primary responsibility for maintaining such standards of honesty in the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge rests with the faculty, their collaborating staff members, and students. **An individual engaged in research is prohibited from engaging in Research Misconduct. Research Misconduct means fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results.**

Persons found in violation of this policy are subject to disciplinary action and may also be subject to civil or criminal prosecution.

UVM Misconduct in Research Policy V.6.5.5. Effective May 17, 2019.

<https://www.uvm.edu/ovpr/research-misconduct>

Best Practices Checklist for Research at UVM

Research Integrity

- Maintain high standards in own work.
- Understand policies.
- Raise questions and problems promptly and professionally.
- Strive to be a generous and collegial colleague.



Data Handling

- Develop data management and sharing plan at the outset of a project.
- Incorporate appropriate data management expertise in the project team.
- Understand and follow data collection, management, and sharing standards, policies, and regulations of the discipline, institution, funder, journal, and relevant government agencies.

Authorship and Communication

- Ensure that general and disciplinary standards are followed for research publications.
- Acknowledge the roles and contributions of authors.
- Be transparent when communicating with all audiences.

Mentoring and Supervision

- Model and instruct on research best practices.
- Regularly check work of subordinates and ensure adherence to best practices.
- Clarify expectations.

Peer Review

- Provide complete and timely review.
- Maintain confidentiality.
- Disclose conflicts, and eliminate or manage them as appropriate.

Research Compliance

- Protect human subjects and laboratory animals.
- Follow environmental and other safety regulations.
- Do not engage in misuse.
- Disclose and manage all financial conflicts of interest and conflicts of commitment.

*This list was excerpted from a recent report by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, called *Fostering Integrity in Research**