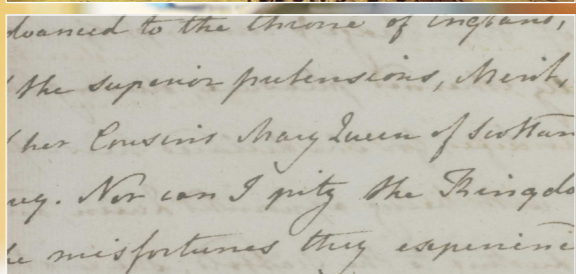


The University provides information and resources about different aspects of the responsible conduct of research. Some of these are specific to certain research disciplines, others are generic to all research. >>>



>>> Specific topics:

Clinical Trials and Research Governance
researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/ctrg

Collaborative Research
researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/integrity/collaboration

Conflict of interest
researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/integrity/conflict

Human participants in research
researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/ethics

Intellectual property
researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/innovation/ip

Plagiarism
www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills/plagiarism

Publication and authorship
researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/integrity/publication

Research data and records management
researchdata.ox.ac.uk

Research involving animals
www.ox.ac.uk/news-and-events/animal-research/animal-welfare

External resources

UK Research Integrity Office
www.ukrio.org

The UK Research Integrity Office is an independent body which provides expert advice and guidance about the conduct of research. Covering all subject areas, it offers support in research integrity to the research community, including to individual researchers.

US Office of Research Integrity
ori.hhs.gov/education/products

The US Office of Research Integrity's Educational Resources webpage provides free access to a range of materials and online training.

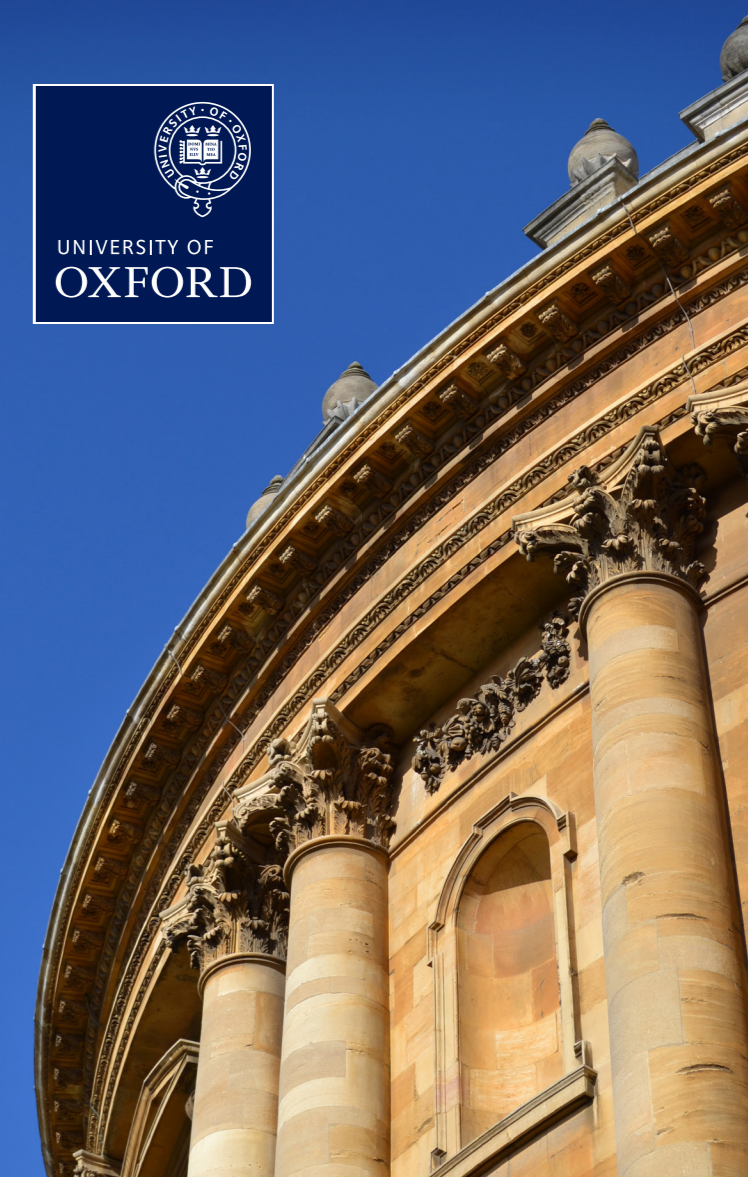


“The scientific enterprise is built on a foundation of trust. Society trusts that scientific research results are an honest and accurate reflection of a researcher’s work. Researchers equally trust that their colleagues have gathered data carefully, have used appropriate analytic and statistical techniques, have reported their results accurately, and have treated the work of other researchers with respect.”

On Being a Scientist: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in Research (2009), Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy

RESEARCH INTEGRITY

<https://researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/integrity>



WHAT IS RESEARCH INTEGRITY?

The University of Oxford has a reputation world-wide for the range and excellence of its research, and for the calibre of its researchers. Underpinning the quality of the research activity is a commitment to the highest standards of research integrity.

As set out in its 'Code of Practice and Procedure', the University expects that everyone engaged in research will observe the highest standards of conduct in this undertaking. The University's Code upholds the commitments outlined in Universities UK's **Concordat to Support Research Integrity**; we support frameworks that ensure research outputs are robust and defensible and that research is conducted with the utmost honesty, transparency, impartiality and collegiality.

The University promotes good conduct in research in a variety of ways. This leaflet is designed to provide researchers and students with an introduction to the University's policies and procedures, as well as training available in the responsible conduct of research. It also includes some pointers to resources which provide more detailed information and advice about research integrity in general.

The terms 'research integrity' or the responsible conduct of research are used by institutions to refer to a wide range of areas of research compliance, professional conduct and personal responsibility.

For the University as an institution, research integrity is a commitment to creating an environment that promotes responsible conduct by embracing standards of excellence, trustworthiness and lawfulness.

"Creating a climate that promotes research integrity requires awareness, openness and communication with regard to competing concerns and interests of various members of the research team, the research community and society as a whole. This takes time and effort, but everyone benefits in the long run."

Science and Engineering Ethics (2006) 12, 411-412

For individual researchers, research integrity entails a commitment to a range of practices including but not limited to:

- intellectual honesty in proposing, performing, and reporting research;
- accuracy in representing contributions to research proposals and reports;
- fairness in peer review;
- collegiality in scientific interactions, including communications and sharing of resources;
- transparency in conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest;
- protection of human participants in the conduct of research;
- humane care of animals in the conduct of research;
- adherence to the mutual responsibilities between investigators and their research teams¹

¹ Description of research integrity is adapted from the US National Academies report *Integrity in Scientific Research: Creating an Environment That Promotes Responsible Conduct* (2002)

CONCERNS ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH?

There are no universally correct ways to do research. There are, however, standards of practice which apply generally.

Researchers should

- be aware of the legislation, codes of practice and University policies relevant to their field
- have the necessary skills and training for their field
- be aware of the publication rules for the journals they want to publish in
- ask if they feel something isn't quite right
- not ignore problems
- be accountable to the University and their peers for the conduct of their research

All researchers are expected to be committed to ethical principles and professional standards. Not upholding such standards, either intentionally or through lack of knowledge, damages the scientific process and may harm research participants, colleagues, the University and society as a whole. Misconduct or poor practice in research should therefore be challenged.

Sources of advice and support include:

- ▷ Fellow students and colleagues
- ▷ Supervisors
- ▷ Mentors
- ▷ Senior Tutors
- ▷ Directors of Graduate Studies
- ▷ Heads of Department
- ▷ Research Services
- ▷ UK Research Integrity Office

For further information, see the University's Academic Integrity in Research: Code of Practice and Procedure

hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/academic-integrity-in-research

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES FOR RESEARCHERS

Research integrity website researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/integrity

This provides information about University policy and guidance in the core areas of the responsible conduct of research, with links to other useful information and resources.

Research integrity online training researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/support/training/ethics

This provides an introduction to good practice in research, including advice on how to meet the key responsibilities of being a researcher.

Further information about skills training for researchers is available from www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers/personal-and-professional-development

Research integrity checklist researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/integrity/checklist

A resource designed to assist research students and supervisors to discuss and reflect on what research integrity and good practice in research means to them, the University and the wider community.

Research Services researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk

Research Services promotes the responsible conduct of research and compliance with regulatory and sponsor requirements through specialist information and advice on aspects of research integrity, including policy development, guidance on clinical trials and governance and advice on intellectual property.

Email: research.services@admin.ox.ac.uk