



ACCREDITATION EVIDENCE

Title: Western Wyoming Community College; When IRB Approval Is Needed, Research vs. Class Project.

Evidence Type: Circumstantial

Date:

WAN: 22-0429

Classification: Website

PII: No

Redacted: No



When IRB Approval Is Needed

Research vs. Class Project

If your project proposal involves research of human subjects as defined by the Code of Federal Regulations (45 CFR part 46), the project must be reviewed by Western Wyoming Community College's IRB. The WWCC IRB will help you determine whether your project/proposal fits the definitions of "research" and "human subjects". Failure to obtain approval from IRB prior to beginning a research project will jeopardize your ability to publish your results and can put you and the college in violation of federal regulations. **IRB review is required for all research directly or indirectly involving human subjects where the intent is to publish the results.**

Class projects are typically conducted for educational purposes and not for research and therefore, typically do not require IRB review or approval. Instructors and departments are encouraged to contact the IRB for guidance about ways to handle topics such as privacy, confidentiality, informed consent, working with vulnerable participants and professional ethics when class projects are part of the course syllabus. Having students complete the free NIH Research training for these projects is encouraged and highly recommended.

(<https://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php?l=3>)

If you think you might want to publish data you collect in the future, you must submit a proposal for IRB approval. ***The IRB cannot approve research that has already been completed.*** Please review the table below to determine if IRB review is required for your class project.

CLASS PROJECTS

Secondary data analyses assigned and conducted as educational exercises, using data either publicly available, de-identified or otherwise impossible to be linked to personal identities

Secondary data analyses assigned and conducted as educational exercises, and that use datasets that include private information and codes that link to identifiers, but the students do not have access to the identifiers.

Direct interaction (in person, via mail, email, web surveys, or telephone), but where the purpose is training, an educational exercise or professional development, and **not research**. The project is not "research" even if students ask people questions as part of learning how to conduct interviews or surveys, take histories, administer assessments, or perform "in-house" evaluations.

Direct interaction or secondary analyses of private identifiable data for educational experience and as research (e.g., results will be used to present publicly or otherwise disseminated, or the data will be stored and used by the students or others as research data).

IRB

No IRB review required

No IRB review required. Class instructor and department are responsible for providing the necessary training in respecting the confidentiality of the data. Free NIH research training is recommended.

No IRB review required unless required for access to participants. Class instructor and department are responsible for providing the necessary training in respecting the privacy of the individuals and the confidentiality of any resulting information, along with training in the relevant professional ethics. Free NIH research training is recommended. Instructor provides information about the assignment for the students to distribute to people who participate in these class projects. List the instructor as the appropriate contact person should questions arise.

IRB review required. For similar projects, a **single IRB application may be submitted by the course instructor as PI**, listing all students who will be involved. If projects vary greatly, then it may be preferable to submit individual IRB applications with the student(s) as PI. Research ethics certification is required.