

STUDENT CONTRACT FOR DATA ANALYSIS LABS

Strict adherence to ethical standards of good research in planning and conducting research is essential. Researchers and even students learning research techniques have an obligation both to their subjects and to their chosen field of study to maintain these standards. When employing human subjects in research, one must respect their rights, dignity, privacy and sensitivities. The guidelines for data collection on human subjects for our class exercises in research MUST observe the following rules:

Professional Integrity:

1. Explain as clearly as possible the objectives and methods of your class exercise to all the parties involved.
2. This class exercise cannot be published unless it is approved by the University Human Studies Committee before data collection.

Interest of the human subjects:

1. If your data has already been collected by another researcher and is not public, you must obtain permission from the owner of the data.
2. You will comply to any locally established institutional policies or guidelines for data collection.
3. Honesty should characterize the relationship between you and your subjects. You should not use your influence over subordinates, students or others to compel them to participate in your class exercise.
4. Any data collected must be anonymous and not identifiable with the subject.
5. You must allow any participant to withdraw from your study at any time.
6. **REQUIRED!!!** Invite each of your subjects to participate in your class exercise by either reading or including (at the top) the following paragraph on your data collection instrument (reward them for participation if possible):

I am a student in the _____ at the _____ doing a class exercise in research for _____ (your course) on _____ (your topic). I would like to invite you to help me with this project. Your participation in this class exercise is VOLUNTARY and you can withdraw at any time. The data collected will be CONFIDENTIAL and NOT identify you in any way. If you have any questions or comments, please contact my instructor, _____, at _____. THANK YOU for your time and patience in supporting me in doing this class exercise in research!

You MUST sign your name to this contract indicating you have read and will abide by these rules before collecting data for any class exercise in research.

Student's Signature/Date: _____

Instructor's Signature/Date: _____