

RCR Overview for Master's Students

The RCR Program

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RCR Website: rcr.gatech.edu

Responsible Conduct of Research at Georgia Tech

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) is defined by the NIH "...as the practice of scientific investigation with integrity. It involves the awareness and application of established professional norms and ethical principles in the performance of all activities related to scientific research."*



RCR Topic Areas

- Authorship and Publication
- Collaborative Research
- Conflicts of Interest
- Data Management
- Environmental and Laboratory Safety
- Human Subjects Research
- Humane Use and Care of Vertebrate Animals in Research
- Peer Review
- Research Misconduct
- Responsibilities of Mentors and Trainees
- Science and Engineering in Society

RCR training is central to Georgia Tech's mission to ensure that students are prepared with the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct themselves professionally and with integrity. Thus, Georgia Tech enacted the:

- **RCR Policy for Doctoral Students**
- **RCR Policy for Master's Thesis Students**
- **RCR Compliance Policy**

*<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-od-10-019.html>

RCR Policies and Master's Students

RCR Academic Policy for Master's Thesis Students

Applies to students who are pursuing a master's thesis

RCR Compliance Policy

Applies to master's students funded by certain NSF, NIH, or USDA-NIFA awards

Master's students are not required to complete RCR training unless they are pursuing a thesis or are funded by certain NSF, NIH, or USDA-NIFA awards.

Master's students who transition to a doctoral program will be required to complete RCR training.

RCR Academic Policy for Master's Thesis Students

Applies to students who are pursuing a master's thesis

As part of their degree requirements, students must complete:

- 1) **Online RCR Training OR**
- 2) **a Doctoral RCR Course OR**
- 3) **a Master's RCR Course**

Training must be completed before submitting the Request for Master's Thesis Approval Form to the Office of Graduate Education

Students may check their Academic Policy status in DegreeWorks

Master's students who are funded by a covered NSF, NIH or USDA NIFA award may need to complete additional RCR training to meet the requirements of the RCR Compliance Policy.

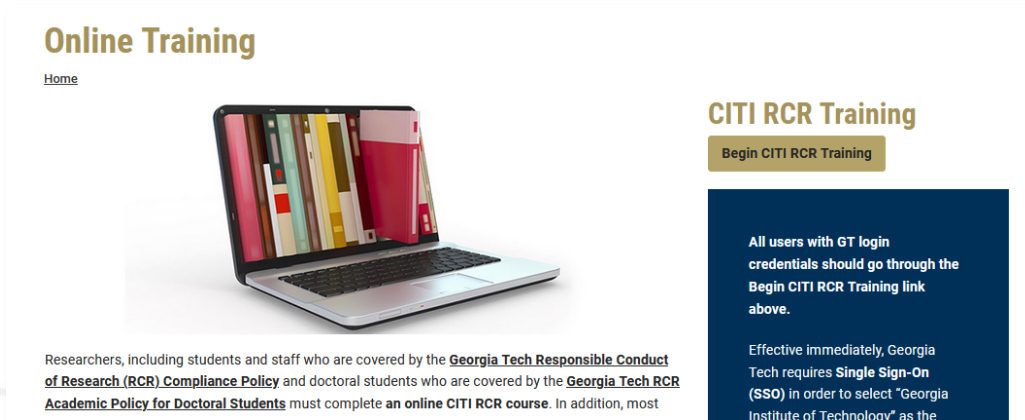
rcr.gatech.edu/masters-policy

RCR Academic Policy for Master's Thesis Students

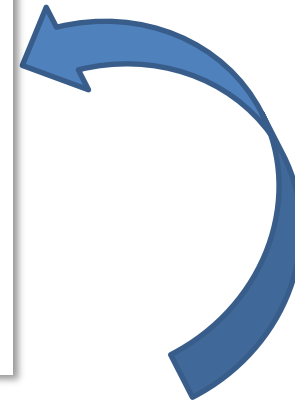
Option 1 – Online RCR Training

The approved vendor is currently the **CITI Program**

- RCR Basic Course or
- RCR Basic Course (with Animal Research Module)



The screenshot shows a web page titled "Online Training" with a "Home" link. On the left is an image of a laptop displaying a bookshelf. On the right, under the heading "CITI RCR Training", there is a button labeled "Begin CITI RCR Training". Below this button, a dark blue box contains the text: "All users with GT login credentials should go through the Begin CITI RCR Training link above." and "Effective immediately, Georgia Tech requires Single Sign-On (SSO) in order to select 'Georgia Institute of Technology' as the". At the bottom of the page, a line of text states: "Researchers, including students and staff who are covered by the Georgia Tech Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Compliance Policy and doctoral students who are covered by the Georgia Tech RCR Academic Policy for Doctoral Students must complete an online CITI RCR course. In addition, most".



- Users must go through **GT's CITI Single Sign-On link** in order for the training to be logged in their official GT records (be sure to select the **RCR** option from the CITI menu)
- Student records will be updated automatically after completion

rcr.gatech.edu/online-training

RCR Academic Policy for Master's Thesis Students

Option 2 – a Doctoral RCR Course

Master's students are permitted to enroll in **PHIL 6000**. For other doctoral RCR courses, permission must be obtained from the relevant graduate program. The list of in-house doctoral RCR courses is available here: rcr.gatech.edu/doctoral-courses.

Option 3 – a Master's RCR Course

The third option is to complete a course designed by the master's program that contains RCR content. Students must obtain permission from the relevant graduate program to attend its RCR course (the course is normally intended only for students pursuing a particular type of master's degree). The list of master's RCR courses is available here: rcr.gatech.edu/masters-courses.

RCR Compliance Policy

Applies to students and postdocs funded by covered NSF or NIH awards, to NSF funded faculty, and to all researchers funded by USDA-NIFA.

Master's students funded by a covered NSF or NIH award are required to complete two forms of RCR training – online and discussion-based. USDA-NIFA funded master's students are only required to complete the online training.

Funding Source	RCR Training Required for Master's Students
NSF	Online training plus 2 hours discussion-based events
NIH	Online training plus 8 hours discussion-based events
NIFA	Online training

The online training must be completed within 90 days of appointment to a covered grant. The discussion-based training must be completed within the first year.

rcr.gatech.edu/compliance-masters

Questions?

Contact the RCR Program

rcr.gatech.edu/contact