

October 11, 2022

## **REB Requirements for Course-based Pedagogical Activities**

Dear Colleagues,

**Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (“TCPS 2”)**, article 2.1 indicates that pedagogical, course-based research activities are subject to **REB oversight**. Western’s REBs acknowledge that part of the pedagogical objective of teaching research methods within the context of a course should provide students with the relevant research ethics training to conduct research in that discipline.

As you may recall, the Office of Human Research Ethics (OHRE) developed a guidance document-[REB Requirements for Student Research and Pedagogical Activities](#), that provides an overview of course-based pedagogical projects. It outlines requirements for submitting these student activities and associated procedures for ethical oversight when these activities involve human participants (including data and/or biological materials). **We encourage each faculty to review this guidance document and to develop your own internal processes for ensuring REB requirements are met.**

As a reminder, since January 2020, all pedagogical projects considered to fall within Category 2, as per the guidance document. **Course instructors are required to submit a ‘Pedagogical Initial Application’ via WREM for review and acknowledgment prior to initiating the assignment.** As part of the review process, **Principal Investigators/Course Instructors** may receive feedback from the OHRE requesting updates to the application and/or project documents to ensure compliance with applicable guidelines and regulations. Acknowledgment is issued for one year.

If you have additional questions regarding pedagogical reviews or would like members of our team to present to you and/or your class, please reach out to the OHRE at [ethics@uwo.ca](mailto:ethics@uwo.ca).

Additional Resources:

- Presentation: Student Research and Pedagogical Projects: Demystifying the Research Ethics Obligations  
[https://www.uwo.ca/research/\\_docs/ethics/wrem/Student\\_Research\\_and\\_Pedagogical\\_Projects\\_updated.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/research/_docs/ethics/wrem/Student_Research_and_Pedagogical_Projects_updated.pdf)

Sincerely,

The Office of Human Research Ethics