



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 enrolled in thesis (7000) courses

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 enrolled in thesis (7000) courses
- 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 Studies

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.

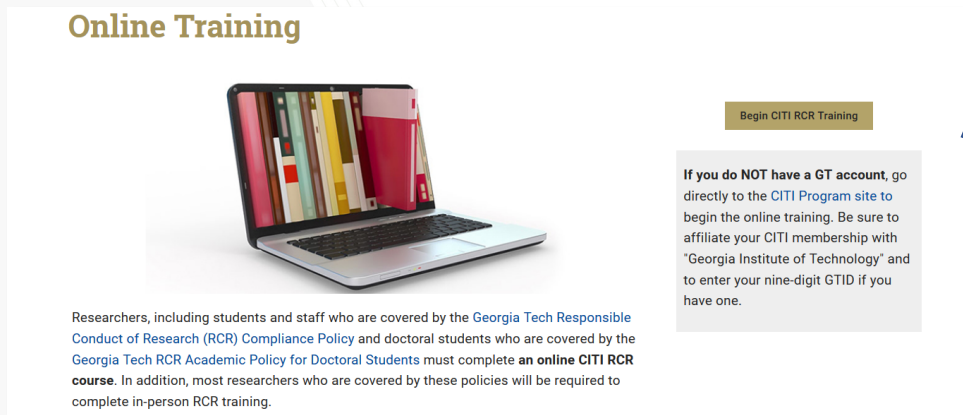
rcr.gatech.edu/masters-policy

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 webpage titled "Online Training". On the left, there is an image of a laptop displaying a bookshelf. Below the image, a paragraph 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 researchers who are covered by these policies will be required to complete in-person RCR training." On the right side of the page, there is a button labeled "Begin CITI RCR Training". Below the button, a text box provides instructions: "If you do NOT have a GT account, go directly to the CITI Program site to begin the online training. Be sure to affiliate your CITI membership with 'Georgia Institute of Technology' and to enter your nine-digit GTID if you have one." A large blue curved arrow points from the right side of the screenshot towards the right edge of the slide.

- Users must go through **GT's 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 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 and 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 in-person. 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 in-person training must be completed within the first year.

Questions?

Contact the RCR Program

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rcr.gatech.edu