

**Policy on Classroom Projects Involving Human Participants**  
**Institutional Review Board**  
**University of Tampa**

Many courses include a class project that involves interaction with humans. Some of these projects may involve IRB approval, but many will not. Use this guide to determine if your students' projects require IRB approval of the individual projects.

If the instructor can answer, "Yes" to the following four questions, then the individual projects do not require IRB approval, but still require approval of the instructor:

- 1) The project does not involve "research," as understood by the Department of Health and Human Services (that is, it does not result in generalizable knowledge that would be acceptable for scholarly presentation or publication outside of the University of Tampa)
- 2) The main purpose of the assignment is to learn the research process, with the project having a limited scope and sample size
- 3) The project will not ask for any sensitive information (e.g., drug or alcohol use, sexual activity, or illegal behavior)
- 4) The risk to the participant is at the same level as it would be for "exempt" research, with a matching level of confidentiality afforded to the collected data