

STAGE 1 AND 2 PSYCHOLOGY

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES

Code of ethical conduct in SACE Board approved research programs

Students and teachers conducting any SACE Board approved research programs in Psychology must be aware of their responsibility to protect the privacy and dignity of participants. In any such activities, they must:

1. respect the dignity and wellbeing of participants, including their welfare, rights, beliefs, perceptions, customs, and cultural heritage;
2. ensure that research is designed to maximise any benefits to participants and society, and to minimise risks of possible harm or discomfort — psychological, emotional, and physical — to participants;
3. inform participants of the nature and purpose of the research, and any physical or psychological effects that may be expected if the research is likely cause the participant physical or mental stress;
4. obtain voluntary written consent from participants, and consent from participants' parent or legal guardian if the participant is unable to give informed consent;
5. protect any personal information that they may acquire, by destroying or permanently de-identifying personal information;
6. use data or test results only for the purpose for which consent has been obtained;
7. respect the privacy of personal information that is disclosed during class activities, and discuss only summative data beyond the confines of the class;
8. respect the right of individuals not to participate, or to withdraw from the research at any time without explanation, and without reprisal. Where class participation is required, teachers must provide students of Psychology with an equitable choice of activities;
9. inform participants of the results and conclusions of the research.

This code of ethical conduct in research for students and teachers of Psychology is derived from the basic principles in the following recognised guidelines for researchers:

- the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans*, issued by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) in accordance with the *NHMRC Act 1992* (Cwlth), available from the NHMRC website, <http://www.health.gov.au/nhmrc/>;
- the National Privacy Principles in the *Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000* (Cwlth), available from the website of the Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner, <http://www.privacy.gov.au/>;
- the *Code of Ethics* of the Australian Psychological Society (APS), available from the APS website, http://www.psychology.org.au/assets/files/code_ethics_2007.pdf