

Ethics and Integrity Component of Graduate Education Government & International Affairs, NCR School of Public & International Affairs

The Government and International Affairs (GIA) program is in the process of updating and refining its MPIA and Ph D curriculum requirements. Building upon existing research and scholarship training, it will implement the ethics and integrity (E&I) requirements associated with CGSP Resolution 2012-13B by expanding E&I content in currently required courses in its master's (MPIA) and doctoral (PGG) degree programs. Traditionally, the GIA NCR orientation has always included a discussion of plagiarism, ethics and integrity.

E&I for MPIA NCR Program

The MPIA program will move to formalize making GIA 5115 a required course for all students (it is currently de facto but not de jure required). In this course we will strengthen existing training by devoting two separate class meetings to E&I. The first will address topics concerning E&I in research institutions, contexts and professional bodies. Topics covered will include:

- 1) Ethical standards in teaching, mentorship, and professional activities. This will include guidelines for determining authorship.
- 2) Institutional Review Boards, and the ethical contexts of research and scholarly activity. This discussion will review specific cases, and dilemmas with research funding, and results diffusion.

The second will concern E&I in individual research practice. Here the topics included will address:

- 3) Plagiarism and other violations of the Graduate Honor Code
- 4) Proper use of professional conventions in citation of existing research and scholarship, accurate reporting and ownership of findings, and acknowledgement of contributions to the work
- 5) Available avenues for reporting alleged individual misconduct

Beyond this, it will be the practice of GIA to discuss E&I issues at the outset of *all* GIA classes. Faculty will incorporate links to the Graduate Honor Code in the course syllabus and through the vt.scholar.edu site so students can access information on this, and be aware of their responsibilities and rights.

In addition, the MPIA Program of Study will be modified to include a line requiring certification that the student has received adequate E&I training, to be certified by the student's academic adviser.

E&I for the PGG Ph D Program

All G&G track students in NCR are required to take SPIA 6006: Pedagogy. In this course, two sessions will be devoted to advanced considerations of the two issues identified above: research

ethics and integrity in its institutional contexts and conditioning environment, and E&I in the specific practices of research. In-depth discussion of dilemmas and controversial cases in the field of international affairs will be discussed with students. Students will also be asked, when appropriate, to clear their research topic with the Institutional Review Board, complete its quiz, and obtain certification for their research topic.

The PGG Program of Study will add a requirement mandating that a doctoral student's committee certify that the student has received sufficient E&I training as part of the Qualifying Examination for the G&G track of the PGG Ph D.