

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER POLICY SCREENING PRO FORMA

What is the Policy? (Name/Description of the Policy)

Code of Practice for Professional Integrity in the Conduct of Research

What is the aim, objective or purpose of the Policy?

To set out the general principles and procedures in good practice, integrity and rigour in research

Who defines or defined the Policy and who implements it?

It is defined by Research Governance Steering Committee, and Research and Innovation Committee, and implemented by the Research Governance Section of the Research Office

Is the Policy applied uniformly throughout the University? Yes ✓ No

If "no", what are the consequences in terms of the screening process?

Who are the stakeholders in relation to this Policy, e.g. DEL, UCAS?

All individuals and organisations that have input into research (e.g. funders, research participants, researchers, faculties, research partners etc.) and all individuals and organisations that have an interest in the research output (e.g. funders, policymakers, REF etc.)

How do we interface with other bodies in relation to implementation of this Policy?

This is a Code of Practice rather than a policy. It is cited where the need arises, for example, a researcher applying for ethical approval or other permissions would refer to the code to confirm/convey the standards of integrity that will be applied when conducting the research

What data are available to facilitate the screening of this Policy?

No personal data is collected on individual researchers or other stakeholders – are the researchers staff or students – if they are we would have data on 7 of 9 characteristics listed in the table below (i.e. everything except political opinion and sexual orientation)

1. Is there any evidence of higher or lower participation or uptake by the following characteristics?

	Yes	No	Not Known
Religious Belief		✓	
Political Opinion		✓	
Racial Group		✓	
Age		✓	
Marital Status		✓	
Sexual Orientation		✓	
Gender		✓	
Disability		✓	
Dependants		✓	

Note: A broad interpretation should be taken of the word 'evidence'. It should include anecdotal evidence and evidence derived from qualitative analysis or quantitative analysis where available.

Please comment:

No comments or complaints regarding participation have been received from any of the investigators and there is no anecdotal evidence of higher or lower participation by the characteristics listed.

2. Is there any evidence that different groups have difference needs, experiences, issues and priorities in relation to this Policy?

	Yes	No	Not Known
Religious Belief		✓	
Political Opinion		✓	
Racial Group		✓	
Age		✓	
Marital Status		✓	
Sexual Orientation		✓	
Gender		✓	
Disability		✓	
Dependants		✓	

Note: A broad interpretation should be taken of the word 'evidence'. It should include anecdotal evidence and evidence derived from qualitative analysis or quantitative analysis where available.

Please comment:

In some cases of human research the participants involved may be from vulnerable groups. In order to ensure that they are not excluded from volunteering for research, treated appropriately, and given due protection, the research proposal is reviewed by the University Research Ethics Committee.

3. Have consultations with relevant groups, organisation or individuals indicated that policies of this type create problems specific to them?

	Yes	No	Not Known
Religious Belief		✓	
Political Opinion		✓	
Racial Group		✓	
Age		✓	
Marital Status		✓	
Sexual Orientation		✓	
Gender		✓	
Disability		✓	
Dependants		✓	

Note: A broad interpretation should be taken of the word 'evidence'. It should include anecdotal evidence and evidence derived from qualitative analysis or quantitative analysis where available.

Please comment:

No indications of this type have been received. It is unlikely that any such indications will be received. This code does not define what type of research can or cannot be undertaken but sets out the principles of good research practice and is based on the same standards as those set out by the UK Research Integrity Office. Many of the standards set reflect the requirements under legislation that governs research, e.g. Human Tissue Act, patent law, Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act etc.

4. Is there an opportunity to promote equality of opportunity or community relations better by altering the Policy, or by working with others, in Government, or in the larger community in the context of this Policy?

Yes No

Please elaborate:

5. Does the Policy discourage disabled people from participating in public life and fail to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people?

Yes No

Please elaborate:

6. Does the Policy provide an opportunity to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people or encourage their participation in University life?

Yes No

Please elaborate:

7. If the answer to any of the questions in 1 to 6 is yes, please indicate whether you consider the Policy may significantly impact on the University's obligation to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity.

Please elaborate:

N/A

8. What data are required in the future to ensure effective monitoring?

N/A

9. In the context of question 3, are there any relevant groups which you believe should be consulted? Please specify.

No

10. Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended.

Yes No

Please elaborate:

POLICY _____

Timetable for impact assessment

- a. On a scale of 1-5, 1 being the highest priority and 5 being the lowest, assess the Policy in terms of priorities for impact assessment.

	1 - 5
Social Need	
Effect on people's daily lives	
Effect on economic, social and human rights	

Please indicate whether you think this policy should be reviewed in year 1,2,3,4 or 5.

Year _____

- b. Is the Policy affected by a strategic planning documents e.g. Agenda for Action, Institutional Plan, Strategic Development Plan?

Yes No

Please elaborate

- c. Is the Policy affected by the time table established by other relevant public authorities or organisations in relation to common functions?

Yes No

Please elaborate

- d. What is the scale of expenditure incurred by the Policy?

Preliminary
Screening by:

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Date: 11 January 2012