**GUIDANCE NUMBER 23**

**GUIDANCE ON PEDAGOGY, METHODOLOGY AND CLASSROOM TEACHING**

**RU GUIDANCE ARTICLE 11.15**

Rowan University Office of Research Compliance (ORC) recognizes its colleges and schools conduct cutting-edge pedagogical programs to maximize student engagement and to provide optimal learning environment for students in various disciplines. The ORC does not consider most classroom-based methodological and pedagogical activities to fall under the Common Rule definition of research requiring IRB review, i.e., systematic investigations leading to generalizable knowledge.

Although classroom-based activities/studies often are not designed to develop generalizable knowledge, they still engage human participants. Therefore, even in the absence of IRB review and oversight, there are still requirements for responsible and ethical conduct.

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| Purpose | **Pedagogical Activities** | **Methodological Activities** |
| What?  | Collecting information from human subjects on teaching effectiveness in classroom setting via survey, interview, observation, tests, artifacts, etc. | Collecting information from human subjects in order to learn methodological skills via survey, interview, observation, tests, artifacts, etc. |
| Why? | Completed by student as part of teacher education curriculumNeeded for certification | Completed by student in UG/G programs in “research methods” coursesIn preparation for dissertation/ thesis project or professional requirement |
| Where? | Conducted off site at school or in Rowan classroom | Conducted in Rowan classroom and/or in field (Rowan and non-Rowan settings) |
| With whom? | Human subjects under the age of 18 (Students & Protected classes) | Human subjects both under and above the age of 18 (Students, Employees, & Protected classes) |
| Outcomes? | Not for publication/presentation outside of classroom or to generate “generalizable knowledge” | Not for publication/presentation outside of classroom or to generate “generalizable knowledge” |

**Scenarios**

*Within Class Scenario - no IRB submission*

*Outside of Class Scenario - IRB submission*

**Faculty Responsibility**

* Training - Research and CITI
* Permission to conduct pedagogical/methodological activities outside of class
* Informed consent