

Research Ethics and Morality

1. Ethics for Researcher

Thesis is academic writing resulted from research. Many people or agencies are involved in research from beginning to end and writing reports or presenting research results in various formats. Therefore, students should understand the ethics of researchers assigned by the committee of the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) as a guideline for researchers. Students can follow the guidelines listed below.

Researcher refers to a person who systematically researches to answer queries using the methodologies accepted in its fields. The methodology covers ideas, concepts, and methods used in data collection and analysis.

Ethics refers to the appropriate behaviour principles demonstrating the moral and professional ethics that individual groups and professions of each professional field have primarily provided for members to uphold and practice to maintain their professional field's reputation and promote its honour.

Research ethics is an essential aspect of research methodology. During the research phase, researchers must be closely involved with what they are investigating, whether alive or non-living. Negative consequences can occur if the researchers lack consideration in their investigation. Research can play a crucial role in policy planning and formulation in all national development sectors, particularly in increasing the quality of life for the country's population. Moreover, the researcher's knowledge and skills influence the research quality. It also depends on the morality and ethics of the researchers. If low-quality research is published for any reason, it may have a negative impact on academic fields and the country overall.

For these reasons, the National Research Council of Thailand established **the ethics for researchers** as a guideline for researchers to follow, intending to conduct research based on appropriate ethics and academic principles while also ensuring the standard of research with the honor and prestige of researchers. The ethics for researchers are made of 9 clauses, which are as follows:

1) Honest and Moral

Researchers must be honest. Do not take others works as your own. Plagiarism is not allowed. The person or source of information used in the research must always be acknowledged and referred to. It is necessary to be honest while seeking research funding and be fair about the advantages of study.

2) Follow informed-consent rules

Researchers must follow research commitments and agreements that have been fully agreed upon by all parties. Dedicate time to research for the best outcomes and on time. Responsible and do not abandon work in progress.

3) Fundamental knowledge in the academic field

To avoid problems with analysis, interpretation, or inaccurate findings that may damage research quality, researchers must have background knowledge, competency, or experience in the academic field in which they are researching.

4) Responsible for researching objects, both living and non-living.

People, animals, plants, arts, cultural resources, and the environment are commonly used in research. Hence, researchers must approach with caution, care, and validity. Researchers must be attentive and committed to preserving art, cultural resources, and the environment.

5) Respect for Human Dignity and Human Rights

Researchers must focus on human dignity rather than academic outcomes. The researcher's role involves explaining the research aims to research participants without using force or fraud and respecting individual privacy.

6) Independent Thoughts and No Bias

The ability to think freely is essential for research. Researchers must understand that personal bias or academic bias might affect academic data and findings, which can cause negative impacts on the research.

7) Use research for rightful purposes only

Researchers should publish their research for both academic and social purposes only. Exaggeration and misapplication of research are not allowed.

8) Respect for commentary and criticism

Researchers should be open-minded, willing to disclose research content and methodology, willing to accept academics opinions and criticisms from others, and willing to improve their research.

9) Social Responsibility

Researchers should be mindful of devoting their intelligence to research for academic advancement, as well as for the prosperity and well-being of society and mankind.

2. Ethics in Human Research

Human research is research that directly or indirectly affects the human body, mentality, and behaviour. Since Khon Kaen University recognized the significance of human research, the Center for Ethics in Human Research was founded. Thus, students who require to conduct the research involved with the human need to request approval from the committee of Ethics in Human Research. Please

contact the Center for Ethics in Human Research, Khon Kaen University. For more information, please visit <http://eckku.kku.ac.th/> and <http://ora.kku.ac.th/>

3. Ethics of Animal Use

Since Khon Kaen University recognized the importance of animal research as well, the procedures and regulations have been strictly established to ensure that the research is conducted in accordance with ethics, virtues, humanity, and appropriate academic principles, as well as a generally accepted standard of operation. For more information, please visit <http://eckku.kku.ac.th/> and <http://ora.kku.ac.th/>