Student research involving human subjects assigned within an academic course may be categorized into one of two areas:

1) teaching techniques of research OR
2) Research which will lead to generalizable knowledge

Projects in Category 1, i.e., the collection of information by students for the purpose of class discussion or for the purpose of training in research or research methods, do not require IRB review.

The following class-related projects do require review by the University Park IRB (Category 2):

* All Master’s and doctoral dissertations that involve human subjects;
* All research projects involving human subjects that will be published or otherwise publicly disseminated; and
* Class-related projects for which the data collected are archived for any research purposes.

Faculty who supervise student research are responsible for the protection of human subjects and must do the following:

1. Determine whether a project falls into Category 2 that requires review; (If student research is likely to be publicly disseminated, it must receive prior IRB approval. No IRB approval may be given after the fact.)
2. Monitor student projects, paying special attention to maintaining confidentiality, privacy, level of risk, voluntary participation and withdrawal, informed consent; and
3. Report any unexpected or adverse events to the University Park IRB.