



# NEW ONLINE COURSE OFFERING!!

University of Massachusetts- Lowell  
Fall 2004 Course 57.522

## RESEARCH ETHICS WITH UNDERSERVED GROUPS

- ✓ **Why is more and more research these days being done by partnerships that include community members and researchers?**
- ✓ **What ethical dilemmas arise in such partnerships? How can you be prepared to be an effective member of these partnerships, either as a community member or a researcher?**
- ✓ **What approaches are effective in addressing the challenges in such partnerships, such as informed consent, in ensuring communication and confidentiality? How can you be prepared for the problems you will encounter?**
- ✓ **What strategies work to design research not just for academic rigor but also to be useful for community development?**

---

This course draws on experiences of a variety of research partnerships in African American, Latino, Native American, and refugee and immigrant communities. Students will develop an in-depth knowledge of how to build research partnerships that overcome frequent ethical dilemmas. Students will participate in online discussion forums and will develop their own portfolios for creating and sustaining effective partnerships with community members, researchers, and others. This course is open to both matriculated and nonmatriculated graduate students or seniors with approval. Experienced researchers, new researchers and community members are encouraged to take this course!

---

For more information, please contact  
Professor Linda Silka, [Linda\\_Silka@uml.edu](mailto:Linda_Silka@uml.edu)  
(978) 934-4247

For more resources on research ethics visit: [www.researchethics.org](http://www.researchethics.org)

57.522 RESEARCH ETHICS WITH UNDERSERVED GROUPS

Visit Continuing Studies' website to register:  
<http://continuinged.uml.edu/>  
RA's and TA's must talk to Graduate School first

Online 3-credit Graduate Course

Many of us, if we have been a part of any research program, have submitted materials to an Institutional Review Board and have also given thought to ensuring that we have designed effective informed consent statements and the like. Too often we see our ethical responsibilities as fully discharged by meeting such requirements. The research is rapidly changing, however, and these steps are no longer sufficient to ensure that research is carried out in ethical ways. Increasingly research is carried out as a part of partnerships and in a participatory way. In addition, many groups are becoming actively involved who previously were uninvolved in research or had research done *to* them rather than with them. These changes in how research is carried out call for new kinds of learning about research ethics. This online course is designed to draw on the experiences of groups around the country who are actively developing research partnerships with underserved groups and who, from these experiences, have begun to develop an ethics of research partnerships with underserved groups.

Offered through the University of Massachusetts as an online course, *Research Ethics with Underserved Groups* is the first course of its kind designed to prepare community members and researchers to build and sustain ethical research partnerships. This course draws experiences of a variety of research partnerships in African American, Latino, Native American, and refugee and immigrant communities to assist students in developing an in-depth knowledge of common ethical dilemmas. Students will participate in a variety of online discussion forums and will be encouraged to offer suggestions, share thoughts, and ask questions of each other and the instructor.

**Who Should Take This Course:** This course is designed for both community members and researchers. Experienced researchers as well as those who are new to research are encouraged to take the course.

At the completion of the course, students will:

- Be able to describe recent trends in community-based research and how these trends have raised new dilemmas in research
- Be able to distinguish between ethical issues that affect the individual and those that also affect the community or larger group to which the individual belongs
- Be able to describe the research cycle and the kinds of ethical dilemmas that emerge at each stage of research (such as dilemmas having to do with hypothesis generation, data collection, data analysis, and publication and ownership of results)
- Be knowledgeable about the growing body of work on environmental health and environmental justice and how this work speaks to various ethical dilemmas
- Understand the power dynamics that shape research partnerships and underlie many of the ethical dilemmas
- Be prepared to identify emerging ethical issues and address these issues in innovative ways
- Be prepared to incorporate effective resolutions of ethical issues throughout all stages of research

As a part of the course students will develop a variety of hands-on materials that can be used in existing and future research endeavors that bring diverse groups together.

Instructor: L. Silka, PhD (Please see the Bios on the web site for more information about Dr. Silka)

To register for Research Ethics with Underserved Communities:

To register for this online course you will need to go through UMass Lowell's Continuing Studies and Corporate Education. The following link will take you through the necessary steps.

[http://www.uml.edu/grad/off\\_campus/off\\_cam\\_reg.htm](http://www.uml.edu/grad/off_campus/off_cam_reg.htm)

All other procedures, schedules, and policies will be administered through the Graduate School.

<http://www.uml.edu/grad/index.htm>

(978) 934-3626

**Research Assistants and Teachers Assistants (RA and TA)** must contact the Graduate School before registering for this online course.

Tuition and fees:

<http://continuinged.uml.edu/general/tuition.htm>

Graduate Online Professional Courses and Audit	\$410.00 per credit
	\$1230.00 for this course
Registration fee per course (non refundable)	\$30.00

Course Schedule:

Fall 2004: September 7 - Dec

For information, contact: Linda Silka at [linda\\_silka@uml.edu](mailto:linda_silka@uml.edu)