

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
Faculty Research Ethics Committee

Statement to UG and TPG Students: Importance of Obtaining Ethical Approval

All members of the University, including staff members, research postgraduate, taught postgraduate and undergraduate students are under an obligation to comply with the highest standards of professional conduct. All research conducted by members of the University involving human participants and the use of vertebrate animal subjects must be referred to the appropriate ethics committee for review. For undergraduate and taught postgraduate students of the Faculty of Education, such review is done by the Faculty Research Ethics Committee.

If the research study for your dissertation or final-year project involves human participants or the use of personal data, you are required to obtain ethical approval for the study **prior** to data collection. You are required to initiate discussion with your supervisor/tutor in charge as early as possible on how to prepare your application. The application must be submitted to the Office of Research in good time, normally 4 weeks before the planned data collection. Details about application procedures, the application forms and letter templates are downloadable at the Faculty's website:

<http://web.edu.hku.hk/research/faculty-research-ethics-committee>.

Any research data collected prior to formal ethical approval granted by the Faculty Research Ethics Committee must **not** be used in any part of your dissertation/project. If you have collected research data before obtaining ethical approval, you may be given a **Fail** grade for the dissertation/project.

21 June 2010