



What is your Acronym IQ?

- ASC
- DOC
- DOS
- FYS
- SACS

- NEH
- NIH
- OSHA
- IRB
- TGIF



The

I NSTITUTIONAL R EVIEW B OARD

at ASC



What is the IRB?

An Institutional Review Board (IRB) is charged with protecting the rights and welfare of people participating in research.


The IRB is comprised of faculty, students, and staff at Agnes Scott College. In addition, one local community person serves on the board.

The IRB reviews proposals for research involving human subjects.



Origins of Federal Requirement for Human Subjects Research Reviews

- 1. Nazi Medical Experiments (WW II): people infected with disease, forced to take poison, etc.**
- 2. Tuskegee Syphilis Study (1932-1972): African-American men with syphilis studied but not treated.**
- 3. Willowbrook study (1963-66): children with mental disabilities were intentionally infected with hepatitis.**



How is Human Subjects Research Defined?

An institution becomes “engaged” in human subjects research when its members intervene or interact with living individuals for research purposes.

Natural observation of humans does NOT require IRB approval (i.e., the subjects are in no way interacted with)



Federal Assurance Number

In order for faculty members to support their research with human subjects using federal funding, ASC must have a federal assurance number.



How is the Federal Assurance number and the Agnes Scott IRB connected?

The Agnes Scott IRB must show that all human subjects research conducted by Agnes Scott faculty, students, and staff as well as external researchers (who use any Agnes Scott College individuals in their research) complies with the mandated federal guidelines for protecting human subjects.



Examples of Human Subjects Research Needing IRB Approval

All **human subjects research** which involves studies conducted in the lab as well as in the field. These may include surveys, interviews, focus groups and some observational studies often associated with the social sciences and medical studies.

Human subjects **research** that is part of a class assignment or project.



Examples from the Humanities



Examples from the Social Sciences

Study of political attitudes of middle school children (vulnerable subject population).

Sex Drive Survey of Agnes Scott students.

Economic decisions in mildly segmented asset markets.



Examples from the Sciences

Class project on what types of medications Agnes Scott students take.

Collection of EEG readings during visual perceptions of colors.

Examination of stereotypes using mild deception.





Types of IRB Review*

Exempt from further review

Expedited

Full Board Review

*Category types determined by the IRB depend on level of risk, type of intervention, and type of subject population.



When Planning A Class Project A Student Should Consider the Following Questions:

Does the activity or project involve *minimal risk*—“probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort are not greater in and of themselves than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or doing the performance of routine physical or psychological examination or tests?”



How much intervention is involved?



Privacy

Private information is information which has been provided for specific purposes by an individual and which the individual can reasonably expect will **not** be made public (e.g., academic record). Private information must be *individually* identifiable in order for it to constitute “research” involving human subjects.



Does the research involve a vulnerable population?


Vulnerable populations include:

Children (all minors younger than 18 years of age **must** also have parental consent)

Pregnant women

Institutionalized individuals (e.g., prisoners, individuals in mental institutions)

Cognitively impaired individuals



If you think your project needs
IRB approval for a human
subjects research project,

Go to the IRB website
<http://irb.agnesscott.edu/index.html> for the
information or email the IRB at
irb@agnesscott.edu.



Time Frame



Questions About:

Faculty Research

Independent Student Research

Classroom Assignments

Staff Research

Researchers External to ASC?

Go to:

<http://irb.agnesscott.edu/index.html>

or email irb@agnescott.edu.



If in doubt about a project, *please*:

Email irb@agnesscott.edu. Questions and potential research scenarios are always welcome.



In Summary

To Submit a Project for Review

To submit a research proposal for review, go to <http://irb.agnesscott.edu/index.html>. For questions about which forms to fill out, etc., email irb@agnesscott.edu.