**School of Social Sciences and Philosophy**

**Research Ethics Checklist**

All researchers have a responsibility to follow TCD’s *Policy on Good Research Practice* (https://www.tcd.ie/research/dean/assets/pdf/TCD%20Good%20Research%20Practice%20Policies%20copy.pdf), as well as any academic or professional code of practice or guidelines relevant to the specific research project. This form should normally be completed prior to the commencement of data collection.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section 1** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Does your research/ project involve:** | **Yes** | **No** |
| **1.** A survey asking questions of a sensitive or private nature |  |  |
| **2.** A questionnaire or observational studies involving children or vulnerable  adults. |  |  |
| **3.** Research where there is a risk of a participant feeling undue pressure to participate by virtue of his/her relationship with the researcher (e.g. student/supervisor; patient/clinician). |  |  |
| **4.** A project involving any degree of deception. |  |  |
| **5.** Analysis of archival irrevocably anonymised human tissue samples for  which consent for research was not originally given, and was not acquired in the course of clinical treatment. (Archived samples taken for a previous research study must always get new ethical approval). |  |  |
| **6.** Research involving invasive procedures. |  |  |
| **7.** Research involving vulnerable persons. |  |  |
| **8.** Research where identifiable information obtained may have legal,  economic or social consequences for research subjects. |  |  |
| **9.** Research that may identify illegal activity |  |  |
| **10.** A project where each subject is paid (over and above token gestures). |  |  |
| **11.** Research that may potentially endanger the subjects, and/or  researchers, and/or 3rd parties, and/or the environment. |  |  |
| **12.** Research involving the collection of human tissue. |  |  |
| **13.** Research that may have a direct military role. |  |  |
| **14.** Potentially harmful research involving humans conducted outside  Ireland. |  |  |
| **15.** Research involving psychological intervention. |  |  |
| **16.** Research where a potentially beneficial or harmful treatment,  information or learning method may be withheld from some participants. |  |  |

If you have answered **NO** to all of the questions above in Section 1, ‘ethics release’ is indicated and there is no need to pursue ethical scrutiny further. **Complete Section 2** and forward this form, along with a brief description of the project, to the School’s Director of Research and Departmental Ethics Officer. If you have answered **YES** to any question in Section 1, you must apply for a Certificate of Ethical Approval for Research using the process described in §3.1.3 (staff) or §3.2.5 (students) of the Research Ethics Policy.

**Section 2**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 2** | |
| **Name of Applicant**  This should be the lead researcher/student |  |
|  |  |
| **Name(s) of Additional Researcher(s)** |  |
|  |  |
| **Name of Supervisor** (in case of student) |  |
|  |  |
| **Discipline** |  |
|  |  |
| **Title and brief summary of project** This should explain the aim and methods of the research, in terms understandable by a non-specialist (please use an additional sheet) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signature of applicant**  *I declare that the information given above is accurate. I have read the Ethics Policy and will follow the guidelines therein.* | **Signature:**  **Date:** |
|  |  |
| **Signature of Supervisor (in case of postgraduate students)**  *In my capacity as Supervisor I believe that this project does not have ethical implications* | **Signature:**  **Date:** |
|  |  |
| **Signature of Departmental Ethics**  **Officer**  *In my capacity as Departmental Ethics Officer and based on the information provided, I believe that the risk to participants in this project is negligible* | **Signature:**  **Date:** |
| **Signature of Director of Research**  *In my capacity as Director of Research and based on the information provided, I believe that the risk to participants in this project is negligible* | **Signature:**  **Date:** |