



Universität
Basel

Philosophisch-Historische
Fakultät



20.04.2026 | 10:15 – 16:00 | Kollegienhaus

Awareness Day on Research Integrity and Other Good Practices

For doctoral students of the Faculty of
Humanities and Social Sciences

*Organized by: Graduate School of Humanities and
Social Sciences*

Speakers

Prof. Dr. Hugues Marchal | Dean of Research

Dr. Mirjam Weder | Department of Languages and Literatures

Eric Decker | Research and Infrastructure Support (RISE)

Prof. em. Dr. Stephan Breitenmoser | Integrity Ombudsperson

Registration

Please register here <https://evasys.unibas.ch/evasys/online.php?p=DR496> by **April 15, 2026** at the latest.

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10:15-11:15

What is Research Integrity?

How does one define research integrity? What are the differences between poor practice and actual misconduct? What guidelines should you bear in mind when writing a thesis, a paper or a funding application? What should you do if you suspect you have been the victim of malpractice, or if you witness a lack of integrity on the part of others? How does research integrity relate to ethics?

An overview of the key issues and a presentation of the resources offered by the university, by Hugues Marchal, Dean of Research, followed by an open discussion.

11:30-12:30

Research Integrity and AI

To what extent can the use of AI tools constitute a breach of codes of conduct? Where can you find the university's guidelines that state when and how to declare their contributions to your research output? If AI systems operate as 'black boxes', how can you be sure that they do not introduce elements into your work that could be associated with a lack of integrity? What are their benefits and risks? – Input from Mirjam Weder (Department of Languages and Literatures) and Eric Decker (RISE), followed by an open discussion.

Lunch break

Program

13:30-14:30 Science and Engagement

We may take a stance on various issues, not only in our scientific publications, but also when we write content for the university's official communication channels, or when we post on our personal social media accounts. When we address issues that are the subject of widespread debate, can we, may we remain neutral? Do we make it clear that we are speaking on our own behalf, or do we give the impression that we are speaking on behalf of the institution? Do we offer the informed perspective of a researcher, based on expertise, or do we give an opinion that cannot claim such scientific authority? Why is it important to be mindful of these distinctions and how may they relate to integrity? – Input from Hugues Marchal, followed by an open discussion.

14:45-15:45 The Impact of Controversies

How are controversies related to research integrity and/or contentious statements handled by the University of Basel? Who gets involved, and when? What procedures are followed? What are the financial and symbolic costs for the researchers and for the institution? – A discussion between Stephan Breitenmoser (Integrity Ombudsperson) and Hugues Marchal, followed by an open discussion.

15:45-16:00 Conclusion and feed-back (Hugues Marchal and Sandrine Mayoraz, Dean's Office)
