GRADUATE STUDENT TRAINING

- (1 hour) During orientation week, all incoming students will receive a 1-hour lecture covering the following topics:
  - Honesty, accuracy, efficiency and objectivity
  - Authorship, publication, and data ownership and sharing policies
  - Research documentation and reproducibility of results

- (4 hours) Within the first three years of enrolling at MSU, each student will be required to attend one RCR workshop. Currently, two workshops are scheduled. Both focus on ensuring students best understand how to create accurate, documented, and reproducible results. The first workshop centers on record keeping in laboratories, especially lab notebooks. The second workshop will describe best programming practices, with an emphasis on version control.

- (3 hours each year) Once graduate students pass their exams and are into research, they are required to meet with their guidance committee on a yearly basis. As part of the certification for each meeting, each student will fill out a form providing brief answers to two questions. The first will ask the student to describe how authorship is being (was) determined for any publications related to their research. The second question will ask the student to explain how any computer programs, derivations and data are being documented and archived. In particular, the student will have to explain how this leads to the work being reproducible. For each of these questions the student will be expected to consult with their adviser.

- The Department keeps records of each student’s satisfaction of the above program as part of the data base that also tracks completion of comprehensive exams and guidance committee meetings.
POST-DOCTORAL TRAINING

- (4 hours) Beginning postdocs will be required to attend the two sessions of PHY 901 related to RCR during their first year.

- (3 hours) In each year of their appointment, post-docs will be required to fill out the same two-questions form as described above. This will be done in consultation with the postdoc’s adviser.

- Postdocs will acknowledge completion of each aspect of the training by logging into RTTS (Research Training Tracking System), which is maintained by the College of Engineering.

- This system will also be used for the postdocs at the NSCL.

HUMAN SUBJECTS

- Very little research in physics involves human subjects. However, for those fields that do, all students will be required to meet with their adviser to review the policies, and to file a report with the Director of Graduate Studies summarizing the policies during their first year of research.