Milgram (1961)

- http://video.wofford.edu/

- Do you consider the expm't to be unethical?
- What were the benefits of the study?
- What were the risks of the study?

- (p48)“Milgram (1977) found that only 1% of the participants wished they had not participated in the study and that most were glad they had participated.”
General principles
Table 2.2 (p40)

• Principle A: Beneficence and nonmaleficence

• Principle B: Fidelity and responsibility

• Principle C: Integrity

• Principle D: Justice

• Principle E: Respect for people’s rights and dignity
APA ethical standards


- Standard 1: Resolving ethical issues
- Standard 2: Competence
- Standard 3: Human relations
- **Standard 4**: Privacy and confidentiality
- Standard 5: Advertising and other public statements
- Standard 6: Record keeping and fees
- Standard 7: Education and training
- **Standard 8**: Research and publication
- Standard 9: Assessment
- Standard 10: Therapy
“One of the best courses I took was in I/O psychology from Dr. Smith”, a student told a friend. “Each student was given a specific hypothetical problem. After extensive review of the literature we designed an experiment. We then anticipated the results and wrote them up in a paper.” “But I recently found out that Dr. Smith took our research ideas and put them into practice. He published the results of the study I designed.” The article was similar to the one he submitted with the same sources from his original paper.

Did the professor act unethically? What could the students and professor have done to avoid this uncomfortable situation? Which ethical standard does it fall under?
Ethical standards for human research

• IRB: Institutional Review Board
• Informed consent
• Risk (vs. benefit)
• Deception
• Debriefing
Ethical standards

• Research with children or other humans unable to make decisions on own

• Research with animals
  – IACUC – institutional animal care and use committee
    • I. Justification of research
    • II. Personnel
    • III. Care and housing of animals
    • IV: Acquisition of animals
    • V. Experimental procedures
    • VI. Field research
Kassin & Kiechel (1996): False confessions

• Would you falsely confess to a crime you didn’t commit?
• HYP: If under stress more likely to falsely confess
• Method:

• Conditions:
  – Stress IV:
  – Evidence IV:

• Results:
Kassin & Kiechel (1996)

• Is deception necessary for this experiment? Is it acceptable? Could it be done without deception?

• Does the expm’t adequately measure the intended topic?

• What are the benefits of the study?

• Was the risk-to-benefit ratio worthwhile?

• Were the Ss treated in a way consistent with APA principles?
IRB

• You’ve decided to replicate the Kassin & Kiechel study at Wofford.

• Write the IRB proposal and consent form for the study.

• Would the study be approved by the IRB committee?
IRB proposal

- Description of the study.
- Purpose of the study and potential benefits.
- Location and dates of study.
- Description of participants.
- Description of method and procedure.
- Participant payment.
- Description of how will keep participant confidentiality.
- Potential risks to participants. Describe likelihood of risk. Describe how it will be minimized.
- Attach informed consent form.