

Research and ethics

All research projects that involve human participants require approval from a university's Human Ethics Committee.

Ethics is concerned about the most socially responsible way of conducting research, focusing on respect, justice and in order that no-one be harmed in any way. It also wants to ensure that the research process is justified in terms of expected findings.

Ethics approval focuses on:

- the people who have agreed to be researched
- the relationships between those conducting the research and participants
- cultural, social and communication aspects particularly for vulnerable and minority groups
- ensuring the privacy, consent, confidentiality and voluntary participation of research participants.

Special ethical consideration is required when researching with children, people with a mental or developmental disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The university has quite strict ethical requirements and considerations, which at times may seem to restrain certain types of research.

SJSC academics are familiar with the process so they can manage this application. The ethics committee meets monthly so there can be a delay especially if further information is needed