



## Research, artwork and performances involving people or animals



At ANU, all research involving human or animal subjects has to go through a process of **ethics review**.

This means you need ethics approval for projects that are for an Honours or postgraduate thesis, books or book chapters and journal articles.

Other projects, like some exhibited work, may also need ethics approval.

It's hard to define where 'art' and 'research' overlap. But as a general rule, **check with the Ethics Office** if you're doing any of the following...

### With people:

- > interviewing or surveying people
- > recording, photographing, or filming people
- > using samples from humans (e.g., bones, teeth, hair)
- > using their information (e.g. old documents or photos, quotes or opinions, health info)\*
- > exploring potentially illegal activities

See [Creative Art and Ethics](#) for more information.

*\*If the information is already in the public domain, you probably don't need ethics - otherwise, give us a call to double-check.*



### With animals:

- > disrupting an animal's normal environment/behaviour
- > objects for animals (e.g. wearable cameras, toys, houses, food)
- > collecting samples directly from animals (e.g., feathers, blood, cadavers...)
- > interacting with non-ANU animals (wildlife or privately owned) for an ANU project

See [Animals and Art](#) for more information.



If your project involves any of the above, you might need ethics approval. Contact the Research Ethics team for advice:

[animal.ethics@anu.edu.au](mailto:animal.ethics@anu.edu.au)  
[human.ethics.officer@anu.edu.au](mailto:human.ethics.officer@anu.edu.au)