This Preliminary Ethics Self-Assessment Form is to be conducted by the researcher, and completed in conjunction with the Guidelines for Ethical Research Practice. All staff and students of the School of Geography and Geosciences must complete it prior to commencing research.

This Form will act as a formal record of your ethical considerations.

Tick one box STAFF project POSTGRADUATE project UNDERGRADUATE project

Title of project Name of researcher(s) Name of supervisor (for student research)

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (to be signed after questions, overleaf, have been completed)

Self audit has been conducted YES NO

There are no ethical issues raised by this project

Signed .......................................................... Print Name .................................................. Date ........................................
(Staff Researcher(s), if applicable)

Signed .......................................................... Print Name .................................................. Date ........................................
(Lead Researcher or Supervisor)

This form must be date stamped and held in the files of the Lead Researcher or Supervisor. If fieldwork is required, a copy must also be lodged with appropriate Risk Assessment forms. The School Ethics Committee will be responsible for monitoring assessments.
Research with human subjects
Does your research involve human subjects or have potential adverse consequences for human welfare and wellbeing?  
  
  YES  NO  

  If YES, full ethics review required

For example:
  Will you be surveying, observing or interviewing human subjects?
  Will you be analysing secondary data that could significantly affect human subjects?
  Does your research have the potential to have a significant negative effect on people in the study area?

Potential physical or psychological harm, discomfort or stress
Are there any foreseeable risks to the researcher, or to any participants in this research?  
  
  YES  NO  

  If YES, full ethics review required

For example:
  Is there any potential that there could be physical harm for anyone involved in the research?
  Is there any potential for psychological harm, discomfort or stress for anyone involved in the research?

Conflicts of interest
Do any conflicts of interest arise?  
  
  YES  NO  

  If YES, full ethics review required

For example:
  Might research objectivity be compromised by sponsorship?
  Might any issues of intellectual property or roles in research be raised?

Funding
Is your research funded externally?  
  
  YES  NO

  If YES, does the funder appear on the ‘currently automatically approved’ list on the UTREC website?  
  
  YES  NO

  If NO, you will need to submit a Funding Approval Application as per instructions on the UTREC website.

Research with animals
Does your research involve the use of living animals?  
  
  YES  NO

  If YES, your proposal must be referred to the University’s Animal Welfare and Ethics Committee (AWEC)