

2022 Graduate Student Oath
Department of Microbiology and Immunology
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“I, [NAME], have entered the serious pursuit of new knowledge as a member of the community of scientists in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. As I embark on my Ph.D. training, I willingly pledge the following:

I will contribute constructively to the culture and well-being of the department and larger community;

I will foster an environment where everyone feels comfortable being their full selves, including, but not limited to disability status, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, race, and ethnic background;

I will strive to ensure that the results of my research and other scientific activities ultimately benefit humanity and cause no harm;

I will endeavor to always be ethical and moral, conducting myself with scientific integrity and intellectual rigor in my research and professional life with an uncompromising respect for truth;

I will convey these scientific principles in my chosen profession, in mentoring, and in public debate;

I will actively participate in outreach and community-building to engage the next generation of scientists;

I will seek to clearly communicate my work to increase public understanding of science, including scientific principles, and its humanitarian goals.

By pronouncing this Graduate Student Oath, I declare my commitment to these professional standards and goals.”

Written and unanimously approved by the 2nd year class, 5/6/22.

Modified from oaths used at West Virginia University (1), the University of Toronto (2), Boston University (3), and UNC Chapel Hill (4).

1. Craig et al., (2003) An ethical affirmation for scientists. *Science* **299**, 1982.
2. Davis et al. (2008) A graduate student oath. *Science* **320**, 1587.
3. Ravid & Wolozin (2013) The scientist's pledge. *Academic Medicine* **88**, 743.
4. 2021 Graduate Student Oath, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.