

## 10 Reasons Why You Should Do This Competition

1. **You're in charge:** Many of us have sat through borrrrrrrring ethics trainings and thought, "Who designs this stuff?" Now, you are in charge of designing a case and analysis that could be used in ethics-related trainings across the world. Pretty cool, right?
2. **You will learn way more than you ever thought about ethics:** It will help you think critically about how and why ethics matters in international research. It's one thing to say that you're ethical; it's another to design a way to teach ethical reasoning.
3. **Your case and analysis will have an impact factor of 'Beyond Emory.'** Think about it: how cool will you be knowing that your writing magically made it out of your advisor's inbox and into a setting where researchers like you can greatly benefit?!
4. **C'mon, the expectations are pretty reasonable.** You're asked to write up a case that's between 500 and 800 words—you've likely tweeted more words in the past week. The analysis is the tougher part, but even then, it's only supposed to be 1500-2000 words (think 'Statement of Purpose').
5. **You have time.** The deadline is April 1, 2014—that's weeks away. Let's be honest here--if you spend just as much time on this competition as you do watching *Scandal*, *Gray's Anatomy*, or *How I Met Your Mother*, you'll be done in no time.
6. **You could meet other doctoral students that are otherwise hidden in the dark reaches of the university.** Now, we all know that initiating a project with someone from another discipline is somewhat like being the brave soul who walks across the gymnasium floor at a middle school dance. It's hard. It's awkward. But the rewards are endless. By working with individuals from other disciplines, you will learn tons more about how ethics is conceptualized across disciplines and have one more thing to boast about on your CV. You will also set yourself apart from other doctoral students in your ability to be interdisciplinary, brave, and just plain awesome.
7. **There's money involved.** A thousand bucks for the top prize?! That's well over 300 trips to Starbucks, 65 trips to Highland Bakery, and 125 much-needed mixed drinks. Even if you get second place, you could easily drown your sorrows with beers—approximately 150 of them with the 700 bucks you'd still receive.
8. **Public Recognition:** If you are among the top finalists, your work will be featured at a fall symposium organized by LGS. You will receive immediate positive feedback which could be far greater than your advisor's traditional smirk and nod. You will be commended for your creativity, hard work, and will be motivated to move ahead in life knowing that you are just damn amazing.
9. **Competitive advantage:** As in any field, academia can be competitive. You need to publish more, present/lecture better, and know the ropes of how to be a good colleague. This competition is a great way to demonstrate that you can think outside the proverbial box. By earning high distinctions in this competition, you can show future employers that you can go above and beyond expectations of merely being a lonely doctoral student.
10. **You owe it to those who you met abroad and throughout your studies.** We've all met people in the course of our studies and travel experiences that reminded us of why we do what we do. As researchers, we seek to ensure that their views, cultures, and communities are valued. What better way to do so than to devise a training to get other researchers to think critically about the way they approach international cultures and norms.