

SYLLABUS OF RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION ETHICS



ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

A State University Accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC (CGPA: 3.64) in the Third Cycle

KARAIKUDI – 630 003, Tamil Nadu, India





ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

प्रो. रजनीश जैन
सचिव

Prof. Rajnish Jain
Secretary



सत्यमेव जयते

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

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D.O.No.F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE)

December, 2019

Respected Sir/Madam,

University Grants Commission in its 543rd meeting held on 9th August, 2019 approved two Credit Courses for awareness about publication ethics and publication misconducts entitled "**Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)**" to be made compulsory for all Ph.D. students for pre-registration course work (**attached as Annexure**).

In view of the above, you are requested to ensure that the above two Credit courses may be made compulsory for all Ph.D. students for pre-registration course work undertaken in your University from the forthcoming academic session.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Rajnish Jain)

TO THE VICE-CHANCELLORS OF ALL UNIVERSITIES

ANNEXURE

Course Title:

- **Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)**-Course for awareness about the publication ethics and publication misconducts.

Course Level:

- 2 Credit course (30 hrs.)

Eligibility:

- M.Phil., Ph.D. students and interested faculty members (It will be made available to post graduate students at later date)

Fees:

- As per University Rules

Faculty:

- Interdisciplinary Studies

Qualifications of faculty members of the course:

- Ph.D. in relevant subject areas having more than 10 years' of teaching experience

About the course

Course Code: CPE- RPE

Overview

- This course has total 6 units focusing on basics of philosophy of science and ethics, research integrity, publication ethics. Hands-on-sessions are designed to identify research misconduct and predatory publications. Indexing and citation databases, open access publications, research metrics (citations, h-index, Impact Factor, etc.) and plagiarism tools will be introduced in this course.

Pedagogy:

- Class room teaching, guest lectures, group discussions, and practical sessions.

Evaluation

- Continuous assessment will be done through tutorials, assignments, quizzes, and group discussions. Weightage will be given for active participation. Final written examination will be conducted at the end of the course.

Course structure

- The course comprises of six modules listed in table below. Each module has 4-5 units.

| Modules | Unit title | Teaching hours |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Theory | | |
| RPE 01 | Philosophy and Ethics | 4 |
| RPE 02 | Scientific Conduct | 4 |
| RPE 03 | Publication Ethics | 7 |
| Practice | | |
| RPE 04 | Open Access Publishing | 4 |
| RPE 05 | Publication Misconduct | 4 |
| RPE 06 | Databases and Research Metrics | 7 |
| | Total | 30 |

Syllabus in detail

THEORY

- RPE 01: PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS (3 hrs.)**

- Introduction to philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches
- Ethics: definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgements and reactions

- RPE 02: SCIENTIFIC CONDUCT (5hrs.)**

- Ethics with respect to science and research
- Intellectual honesty and research integrity
- Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism (FFP)
- Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing
- Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data

- RPE 03: PUBLICATION ETHICS (7 hrs.)**

- Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance
- Best practices / standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, WAME, etc.
- Conflicts of interest
- Publication misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behavior and vice versa, types
- Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship
- Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals
- Predatory publishers and journals

PRACTICE

- RPE 04: OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING(4 hrs.)**

1. Open access publications and initiatives
 2. SHERPA/RoMEO online resource to check publisher copyright & self-archiving policies
 3. Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU
 4. Journal finder / journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggester, etc.
- **RPE 05: PUBLICATION MISCONDUCT (4hrs.)**
 - A. Group Discussions (2 hrs.)**
 1. Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship
 2. Conflicts of interest
 3. Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad
 - B. Software tools (2 hrs.)**

Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools
 - **RPE 06: DATABASES AND RESEARCH METRICS (7hrs.)**
 - A. Databases (4 hrs.)**
 1. Indexing databases
 2. Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc.
 - B. Research Metrics (3 hrs.)**
 1. Impact Factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score
 2. Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics

References

- Bird, A. (2006). *Philosophy of Science*. Routledge.
- MacIntyre, Alasdair (1967) *A Short History of Ethics*. London.
- P. Chaddah, (2018) *Ethics in Competitive Research: Do not get scooped; do not get plagiarized*, ISBN:978-9387480865
- National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering and Institute of Medicine. (2009). *On Being a Scientist: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in Research: Third Edition*. National Academies Press.
- Resnik, D. B. (2011). What is ethics in research & why is it important. *National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences*, 1–10. Retrieved from <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/resources/bioethics/whatis/index.cfm>
- Bcall, J. (2012). Predatory publishers are corrupting open access. *Nature*, 489(7415), 179–179. <https://doi.org/10.1038/489179a>
- Indian National Science Academy (INSA), *Ethics in Science Education, Research and Governance*(2019), ISBN:978-81-939482-1-7. http://www.insaindia.res.in/pdf/Ethics_Book.pdf

Alagappa University

Research Section

Rc.R1/RAC/2020

Dt: 10.09.2020

Submitted to the Vice-Chancellor:

Sub: Ph.D. Course work - Implementation of two credit course -
Research and Publication Ethics (RPE) - Reg.

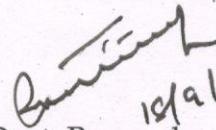
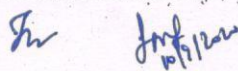
Ref: 1. UGC, D.O.No.F1-1/2018 (Journal/CARE), December 2019.
2. Resolution no. 13 of RAC dt.07.02.2020

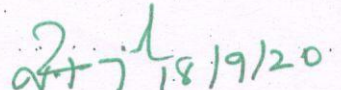
It is submitted that the Research Advisory Committee at its meeting held on 07.02.2020 has approved the inclusion of a two credit course for creating awareness about publication ethics and publication misconducts entitled "Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)" as a compulsory course for all Ph.D. scholars as part of the course work, from the forthcoming academic session, as notified by the UGC dt. Dec. 2019. (Copy appended).

In this regard, kind orders of the Vice-Chancellor are requested to implement the above said resolution and ratify in the ensuing Standing Committee on Academic Affairs and Syndicate.

Further, this compulsory course may be implemented to the Ph.D. Scholars, who have joined on or after 01.06.2020. (At present 22 scholars have been permitted to register Ph.D. programme, from 01.06.2020 to 09.09.2020).

Kind direction is requested in this regard.


18/9/2020
Dean-Research



18/9/20
Vice-Chancellor

Committee
1. Dean CDC
2. S.O. (PHD)
3. Dr. Sankaranarayanan
4. Dean Resch (convenor)

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY, KARAIKUDI – 630 003, TAMIL NADU

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee Constituted to include Research and Publication Ethics (RPE) course as part of the course work for Ph.D. Programme held on 09.10.2020 at the Administrative Building of the University

Members Present:

| | |
|----|--|
| 1. | Dr. K. Sankaranarayanan Member of the Syndicate Alagappa University, Karaikudi. |
| 2. | Dr. C. Sekar Special Officer (P & D) Alagappa University, Karaikudi. |
| 3. | Dr. S.Thanuskodi Dean, College Development Council Alagappa University, Karaikudi. |
| 4. | Dr. A. Narayanamoorthy Dean-Research Alagappa University, Karaikudi. |

AGENDA:

To include "Research and Publication Ethics" (RPE) as a compulsory course for all Ph.D. scholars, as part of the course work, from the forthcoming academic session, as notified by the UGC vide letter D.O.No. F.1-1/2018 (Journal/CARE), December, 2019.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee has carefully gone through the UGC notification on including "Research and Publication Ethics" as a compulsory course for all Ph.D. scholars and recommended the following:

1. To provide awareness about the publication ethics and publication misconducts, "Research and Publication Ethics" can be included as a compulsory course, as a part of course work for all Ph.D. Scholars (both full-time and part-time), who have joined on or after 01.06.2020.

2. The course can be conducted either online or off-line mode based on the prevailing situation.

3. A fee of Rs. 2,000 can be fixed for this course work, in addition to the existing coursework fee.

4. A honorarium of Rs.1,000 per hour can be paid to the experts for handling classes for this course.

5. The office of the Dean-Research can be permitted to coordinate and workout modalities to implement this course by following the structure given by the UGC.

6. RPE need to be included as one of the papers in the course structure of the Ph.D., Programme and the examination for the same can be conducted as per the existing norms.

(Dr. K. Sankaranarayanan)
9/10/2020

Dr. Jayachitra
(Edm)
to assist
Dean Research.

(Dr. C. Sekar)
9/10/2020

(Dr.S.Thanuskodi)
9.10.20

(Dr. A. Narayanamoorthy)
09/10/2020

Submitted to the Vice-Chancellor for kind perusal and approval.

Dean-Research
13/10/2020

Vice-chancellor
16/10/20