

Course - III

Research and Publication Ethics

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit Distribution			Teaching Hours	Internal Marks	Exam Marks	Total Marks
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice				
Course - III: Research and Publication Ethics	2	1	0	1	30 Hours	10	40	50

Course Objectives

After completion of the course, students will be able to understand the philosophy of science and ethics, research integrity, and publication ethics. They will gain hands-on experience to identify and avoid research misconduct and predatory publications, and understand the use of indexing/citation databases, open access initiatives, research metrics, and plagiarism detection tools.

Part I: Theory

RPE 01: Philosophy and Ethics (4 Hours)

- ☞ Introduction to Philosophy: Definition, nature, scope, concepts, and branches.
- ☞ Ethics: Definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgements, and reactions.

RPE 02: Scientific Conduct (4 Hours)

- ☞ 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 Hours)**

- ☞ Publication Ethics: Definition, introduction, and importance.
- ☞ Best Practices / Standards Setting Initiatives: Guidelines by COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics), WAME (World Association of Medical Editors), etc.
- ☞ Publication Misconduct: Definition, concept, types, and problems that lead to unethical behavior and vice-versa.
- ☞ Violation of publication ethics, authorship, and contributorship.
- ☞ Conflicts of interest.
- ☞ Identification of publication misconduct, complaints, and appeals.
- ☞ Predatory publishers and journals.

Part II: Practice**RPE 04: Open Access Publishing****(4 Hours)**

- ☞ Open access publications and initiatives.
- ☞ SHERPA/RoMEO: Online resources to check publisher copyright and self-archiving policies.
- ☞ Software Tool / Website: UGC-CARE website to identify predatory publications (developed by Savitribai Phule Pune University-SPPU).
- ☞ Journal Finder / Journal Suggestion Tools: JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggester, etc.

RPE 05: Publication Misconduct**(4 Hours)****A. Group Discussions:**

- ☞ Subject-specific ethical issues, FFP, and authorship.
- ☞ Conflicts of interest.
- ☞ Complaints and appeals: Examples and fraud cases from India and abroad.

B. Software Tools:

- ☞ Use of plagiarism detection software like Turnitin, Urkund (Ouriginal), and other open-source software tools.

RPE 06: Databases and Research Metrics**(7 Hours)****A. Databases:**

- ☞ Indexing databases.
- ☞ Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc.

B. Research Metrics:

- ☞ Impact Factor of journals as per Journal Citation Report (JCR), SNIP, SJR, IPP, and CiteScore.
- ☞ **Metrics: h-index, g-index, i10 index, and Altmetrics.**

Essential Readings

- ☞ AHUJA (VK) and BAISHYA (K). Ed. Research and Publication Ethics. National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam, Guwahati. 2024.
- ☞ BOS (J). Research Ethics for Students in the Social Sciences. 1st ed. Springer International Publishing, Cham. 2020.
- ☞ MURLIDHAR (K), GHOSH (A) and SINGHVI (AK) Ed. Ethics in Science Education, Research and Governance. New Delhi: Indian National Science Academy. 2019. https://www.insaindia.res.in/pdf/Ethics_Book.pdf
- ☞ OLIVER (P). The Student's Guide to Research Ethics. 2nd ed. Open University Press, Maidenhead. 2023.

Suggested Readings

- ☞ PULIDO (MP). Ethics Management in Libraries and Other Information Services. Chandos Publishing. 2017.
- ☞ STENECK (NH). Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research. Office of Research Integrity, Washington, DC. 2007.
- ☞ SHAMOO (AE) and RESNIK (DB). Responsible Conduct of Research. Ed. 3. Oxford University Press, New York. 2015.
- ☞ VERMA (V) and Others. Textbook on Research and Publication Ethics. 1st ed. Jaya Publishing House, New Delhi. 2022.