**Research and Publication Ethics**

**Programme(s) in which it is offered: Ph.D. in Education**

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| --- | --- |
| **Course Category**: Core | **Schedule of Offering**: |
| **Course Credit Structure:** 2 | **Course Code:** |
| **Total Number of Hours:** 30 | **Contact Hours Per Week:** |
| **Lecture:** 1, 1 | **Tutorial:** 1, 1 |
| **Practical:** 0, 0 | **Medium of Instruction:** English |
| **Date of Revision:** | **Skill Focus:** |
| **Short Name of the Course:** RPE | **Course Stream *(Only for Minor Courses)*:** |
| **Grading Method:** Regular | **Repeatable:** Credit |
| **Course Level:** Beginner |  |

**Course Description**

This is a core course offered to PhD students of Education. The course is mandatory to all the PhD students of the school of EGCS, CVV. It intends to enable the research scholars to understand the importance of being ethical in carrying out research and publication activities.

**Course Introduction**

The course is an UGC mandated course for PhD students and discusses the theory and practice of ethics and scientific conduct in research.

**Course Outcomes**

By the end of the course, research students will be able to

* understand the importance of being ethical in carrying out research and publication activities.
* differentiate the quality publication practices
* be cognisant about dubious publishing practices/publishers
* Gain awareness about ‘open-access’ and contribution of research output to open access publishing platforms
* get acquainted with the software/databases which are necessary for carrying out research work

**Prerequisites and other constraints**

There are no prerequisites for this course.

**Evaluation Pattern**

**Evaluation Matrix**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Continuous Internal**  **Assessment (CIA) Components\*** | **Component Type** | **Weightage Percentage** | **Total**  **Marks** | **Tentative Dates** |
| Presentations | 20% | 30 | Weekly |
| Assignment | 10% | 20 | Last Week of the course |
| CIA Marks | 30% | 50 |  |
| **ESE** | | 70% | 100 | End of the semester |

\* The assignments involved in CIA will be subject to plagiarism checks. A submission with unexplained similarities exceeding 30% for Undergraduate courses, 20% for Postgraduate courses and 10% for PhD courses will be reverted for resubmission. The final submission is subject to score penalization as defined by the course instructor at the start of the course, with a clear communication of the same to all the registered candidates.

**Module Sessions**

**Module 1: Theory (15 Hours)**

**Philosophy and Ethics:** (3 hours)

1. Introduction to philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches

2. Ethics: definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgements and reactions

**Scientific Conduct:** (5 hours)

1. Ethics with respect to science and research

2. Intellectual honesty and research integrity

3. Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism (FFP)

4. Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing

5. Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data

**Publication Ethics** (7 hours)

1. Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance

2. Best practices / standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, WAME, etc.

3. Conflicts of interest

4. Publication misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behaviour and vice versa, types

5. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributor-ship

6. Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals

7. Predatory publishers and journals

**Module 2: Practice (15 Hours)**

**Open Access Publishing** (4 hours)

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 Suggested, etc.

**Publication Misconduct** (4 hours)

**A. Group Discussions** (2 hours)

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 hours)

1. Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open-source software tools

**Databases and Research Metrics** (7 hours)

**A. Databases** (4 hours)

1. Indexing databases

2. Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc.

**B. Research Metrics** (3 hours)

1. Impact Factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report, SNIP, SIR, IPP, Cite Score 2. Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics