



तमिलनाडु केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय

(संसद द्वारा पारित अधिनियम 2009 के अंतर्गत स्थापित)

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU

(Established by an Act of Parliament, 2009)

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CUTN-1(36)/COE Sec/2021-2022

April 8, 2021

NOTIFICATION

**Sub: Compulsory two Credit Course on "Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)"
for all Ph.D students – for Compliance - reg**

UGC vide its letter DO No.F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE) December 2019 has communicated to all Central Universities that 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 from 2020-2021.

The Academic Council at its 20th Meeting held on 19.02.2020 has recommended to implement the above UGC Guidelines for all **Ph.D students registering on or after 1st July, 2020.**

The Course Code for this compulsory two Credit Course shall be **CPE-RPE.**

A copy of the UGC Circular is enclosed for perusal and necessary compliance.

Controller of Examinations (c/c)

प्रो. एस. नागराजन / Prof. S. Nagarajan
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Encl: as above

To

All Head of the Departments
All Regular Faculty
PS to VC
PA to Registrar



प्रो. रजनीश जैन
सचिव
Prof. Rajnish Jain
Secretary



विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
University Grants Commission

(मानव ससाधन 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.)**

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

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

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

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

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 behavior and vice versa, types
5. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship
6. Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals
7. 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

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- 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.
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