

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION ETHICS
(Compulsory Paper for all the department research Scholar in II Semester)
Sub Code: 20RPE01

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 judgments and reactions

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

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 Suggested, 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 Tumitin, 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, SIR, IPP, Cite Score
2. Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics