

<b>Course Code:</b> RPE-900-C	<b>Course Title: Research and Publication Ethics*</b>	
<b>Credits: 02</b>	<b>Course Type: Core</b>	<b>L-1 T-0 P-1 S-0</b>
<b>Weekly Contact Hours</b>	<b>03</b>	

*\* The course is a mandatory course by UGC, and will be taught and coordinated by the Department of Philosophy for all newly enrolled scholars of IUST.*

### **Course Objectives:**

- To acquaint the scholars with the fundamental concepts of philosophy, ethics, and the imperative of responsible conduct in research
- To enable scholar to critically engage with issues related to scientific integrity, publication practices, and research evaluation in the contemporary academic world

### **Course Outcomes:**

- The scholars will be equipped with conceptual clarity and practical awareness regarding ethical research and publication standards.
- The scholars will be able to identify misconduct, utilize plagiarism tools, evaluate journals, and confidently navigate the ecosystems of research and academic world.

### **Unit I: THEORY**

#### **a. Philosophy and Ethics**

Introduction to Philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches.

Ethics: definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgments and reactions.

#### **b. Scientific Conduct**

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.

#### **c. Publication Ethics**

Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance.

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

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

Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributor ship.

Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals.

Predatory publishers and journals.

### **Unit-II: PRACTICE**

#### **a. Open Access Publishing**

Open access publications and initiatives.  
SHERPA/RoMEO online resource to check publisher copyright and self-archiving policies.  
Software tool to identify predatory publication developed by SSPU.  
Journal finder/ journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier, Springer Journal Suggested.

## **b. Publication Misconduct**

Group Discussions: Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship, Conflicts of Interest, Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad.

Software tools: Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools.

## **c. Databases and Research Metrics**

Databases: Indexing and citation databases, Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc. Research Metrics: Impact factor of journal as per journal Citation Report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score, Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics.

## **Essential Readings**

1. Bird, Alexander. *Philosophy of Science*. London: Routledge, 2006.
2. Chaddah, P. *Ethics in Competitive Research: Do Not Get Scooped; Do Not Plagiarize*. 2018. ISBN: 9789387480865.
3. Chaudhari, Nilesh, and V. Baliga. *Intellectual Property Rights (Module 3)*. UNESCO Curriculum for Researchers. Paris: UNESCO, 2015.
4. Das, A. K. *Research Evaluation Metrics (Module 4)*. UNESCO Curriculum for Researchers. Paris: UNESCO, 2015.
5. Das, A. K., and S. Mishra. "Genesis of Altmetrics or Article-Level Metrics for Measuring Efficacy of Scholarly Communications: Current Perspectives." *Journal of Scientometric Research* 3, no. 2 (2014): 82–92.
6. Indian National Science Academy, ed. *Ethics in Science Education, Research and Governance*. Edited by K. Muralidhar, A. Ghosh, and A. K. Singhvi. New Delhi: Indian National Science Academy, 2019.
7. Kanjilal, U., and A. K. Das. *Introduction to Open Access (Module 1)*. UNESCO Curriculum for Library Schools. Paris: UNESCO, 2015.
8. MacIntyre, Alasdair. *A Short History of Ethics*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1967.
9. Madalli, D. P. *Concepts of Openness and Open Access (Module 2)*. UNESCO Curriculum for Researchers. Paris: UNESCO, 2015.
10. National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and Institute of Medicine. *On Being a Scientist: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in Research*. 3rd ed. Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 2009. <https://doi.org/10.17226/12192>.
11. Resnik, David B. *What Is Ethics in Research & Why Is It Important?* National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, 2011. <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/resources/bioethics/whatis/index.cfm>.