

**UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU**  
**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY**  
**Syllabus for Pre-Ph.D. Course Work**

**Title: Research and Publication Ethics**

**Credits: 2**

**Duration of Examination: 2 hours**

**Max Marks: 50**

**Note: Detailed syllabus for examination to be held in 2026 & 2027 & 2028**

**Objectives:**

This course is designed to instill a strong foundation of academic integrity, ethical publishing standards, and data metric proficiency for doctoral researchers.

**Course structure**

- The course comprises of six modules listed in table below. Each module has 4-5 units.

| Modules         | Unit title                     | Teaching hours |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Theory</b>   |                                |                |
| RPE 01          | Philosophy and Ethics          | 4              |
| RPE 02          | Scientific Conduct             | 4              |
| RPE 03          | Publication Ethics             | 7              |
| <b>Practice</b> |                                |                |
| RPE 04          | Open Access Publishing         | 4              |
| RPE 05          | Publication Misconduct         | 4              |
| RPE 06          | Databases and Research Metrics | 7              |
|                 | <b>Total</b>                   | <b>30</b>      |

**Syllabus in detail**

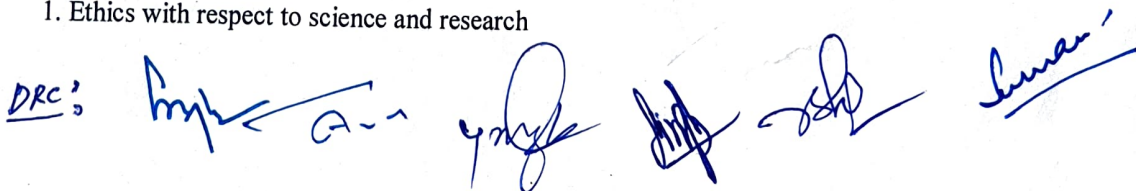
**THEORY**

- **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

DRC: 

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.)**

DRC:

*[Handwritten signatures and initials follow the DRC label]*

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:

1. Bird, A. (2006). Philosophy of Science, Routledge.
2. MacIntyre, Alasdair (1967) A Short History of Ethics: London.
3. P. Chaddah, (2018) Ethics in Competitive Research: Do not get scooped; do not get plagiarized, ISBN: 978-9387480865.
4. National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering and Institute of Medicine. (2009). On Being a Scientist: A Guide of Responsible Conduct in Research: Third Edition. National Academic Press.
5. Rensik, D.B. (2011). What is ethics in research & why is it important. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, 1-10. Retrieved from <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/resources/bioethics/whatis>
6. Beall, J. (2012) Predatory publishers are corrupting open access. Nature, 489(7415), 179-179, <https://doi.org/10.1038/489179a>
7. Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Ethics in Science Education, Research and Governance (2019), ISBN: 978-81-939482-1-7. [http://www.insaindia.res.in/pdf/Ethics\\_Book.pdf](http://www.insaindia.res.in/pdf/Ethics_Book.pdf)

ORC:      