



UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS  
(Established under the Act of Incorporation XXVII of 1857 – Madras  
University Act 1923)  
(State University)



University Centenary Building, Chepauk, Chennai - 600 005, Tamil  
Nadu, INDIA.

Ref. No. : Ph.D Registration Section / 2020/ 2020

Dated : 14 DEC 2020

From  
The Registrar i/c,  
University of Madras,  
Chepauk, Chennai- 600 005.

- To
1. The Controller of Examinations
  2. All Campus Directors in Various Campuses
  3. All HOD's / Directors
  4. The Secretary to Vice Chancellor
  5. The Senior PA to Registrar
  6. The Director Network Operations.
  7. All College Principals / Directors of Research Institutions

Sir/Madam,

Sub: Circular regarding implementation of two credit course for awareness about publications Ethics and publication misconducts entitled "Research and publication Ethics (RPE) - Regarding

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It is informed that the University Grants Commission recommended a two credit course entitled "Research and publication Ethics" as a part of course work for Ph.D Students.

Recommended by University Board of Research Studies, the Syndicate (14/02/2020) and Academic Council (29/02/2020) passed the Syllabus. The Syllabus was also presented in Senate on May 2020.

Now, it is hereby informed all Ph.D Students admitted from July 2020 session should complete this course within one year.

The Ph.D Students without M.Phil, the course work shall have four papers including "Research and publication Ethics", for Ph.D Students who have been exempted from course work, because they completed M.Phil, should write this paper "Research and publication Ethics". The M.Phil candidates those who had registered on inter-disciplinary mode should write three papers including "Research and publication Ethics" within one year of admission in Ph.D Programme.

Registration for Ph.D Programme shall be conformed only after the passing course including Research and publication Ethics.

The syllabus and guidelines are uploaded herewith.

Yours faithfully,

N. Mathuraman  
REGISTRAR i/c  
10/2/2020

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

Guidelines for two Credit Courses

- (1) The written examination for the theory components of the course 'Research And Publication Ethics' shall be conducted by the Department/Colleges/Research Institutions for 50 marks.
- (2) The examinations for the Practical component of the course 'Research and Publication Ethics' shall be conducted by the Department/Colleges/Research Institutions for 50 marks.
- (3) The Theory/ practical examination will have to be evaluated by the respective Ph.D guide and the results should be passed in the doctoral Committee and then be submitted to the University, within one year from the date of admission of Ph.D programme
- (4) The students shall obtain at least 55% in each of internal and external examination, that is 55% in this minimum pass mark of each of the internal and external examinations.
- (5) A pass in the course 'Research and Publication Ethics' is an essential for pre registration course work .
- (6) This course is offered in addition to the existing course work of three papers. Students with M.Phil degree who are exempted from course work, also should take this course and obtain a pass mark of 55%.

## UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

### Syllabus in Detail for two credit courses:

#### 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 ( 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 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

## PRACTICE

- RPE 04 : OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING (4hrs.)
  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 (2hrs.)
    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 (2hrs.)

Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools
  
- RPE 06: DATABASES AND RESEARCH METRICS (7HRS.)
  - A. DATABASES (4HRS.)
    1. Indexing databases
    2. Citation databases: Web of science, Scopus, etc.
  
  - B. RESEARCH METRICS (3HRS.)
    1. Impact Factor of journal as per journal Citation Report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite score
    2. Metrics: h-index, G index, i10 index, altmetrics

## **Research Methodology**

BSc Viscom – Research Methodology in communication

Bcom Honours – Research Methodology

BA criminology – Research methods & statistics

BA sociology - Research methods

Msc BioTech – Research methodology Bio ethics & Bio statistics

Msc Applied Microbiology – Research Methodology & Biostatistics

MBA - Research Methodology

MA Economics - Research Methodology

MSW – Social work Research

MA HRM - Research Methodology

MA Journalism – Communication Research methods

BBA – Research Methodology

M.Com – Research Methodology