COURSE-2: RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION ETHICS (RPE)

Unit 01(Theory): Philosophy and Ethics (4hrs.)

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

Unit 02(Theory): Scientific conduct (4hrs.)

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

Unit 03(Theory): Publication ethics (7hrs.)

Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance
Best practices / standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, WAME, etc.
Conflicts of interest
Publication misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behavior and vice versa, types
Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship
Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals
Predatory publishers and journals

Unit 04(Practice): Open access publishing (4hrs.)

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

Unit 05(Practice): 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

Unit 06(Practice): 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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MacIntyre, Alasdair (1967) *A Short History of Ethics*. London.
P. Chaddah, (2018) Ethics in Competitive Research: Do not get scooped; do not get plagiarized, ISBN:978-9387480865
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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