

Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's
Yashavantrao Chavan Institute of Science (Autonomous),
Satara

Research Advisory Committee and Ethics Committee

- Principal: Dr. B. T. Jadhav.
- Dean Research and Development: Dr. S. H. Mujawar.
- Member: Dr. S. S. Kanase
- Member: Dr. S. B. Kamble.
- Member: Dr. M. L. Ahire.
- Member: Dr. S. D. Shaikh.
- Member: Dr. P. A. Bharad.
- Member: Dr. S. M. Nimbale.
- Member: Dr. G. M. Nivhekar.
- Member: Dr. V. B. Ghanwat
- Member: Mr P.R. Dure

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CODE OF ETHICS IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Introduction:

Ethics is the most significant element of the academic activities in teaching and research. Teaching and research forms a novel combination of knowledge transfer which needs freedom to express the knowledge. Freedom in the academic process to express the knowledge and invention in the most ethical way. It includes the freedom to inquire for innovation of new things in the subject that encourages an intellectual concern, to present findings, to publish data and conclusions without control or censorship and to teach in the manner they consider professionally appropriate. This requires integrity with the teaching and research.

Objectives

- i. To create awareness about responsible conduct of research, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic integrity and prevention of misconduct including plagiarism in academic writing among student, faculty, researcher and staff.
- ii. To establish institutional mechanism through education and training to facilitate responsible conduct of research, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic integrity and deterrence from plagiarism.
- iii. To develop systems to detect plagiarism and to set up mechanisms to prevent plagiarism and punish a student, faculty, researcher or staff committing the act of plagiarism.

Plagiarism

- Although the general consensus is that plagiarism is a bad idea, it can be difficult to avoid it or discuss it if we have different understandings of the definition:
- To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own;
- To use (another's production) without crediting the source;
- To commit literary theft;
- To present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

There are software's available to check the plagiarism. To quote a few:

- 1) <https://www.duplichecker.com>
- 2) <https://searchenginereports.net/plagiarism-checker>
- 3) <https://www.copyscape.com/plagiarism.php>
- 4) www.plagramme.com

Institute has purchased a software which includes **Typeset** and **iTHENTICATE** for plagiarism checking.

Avoiding Plagiarism

Plagiarism could be avoided by paraphrasing, citing, quoting and referencing the original work. There are five basic rules regarding the use of information in professional and in academic writing:

1. If you use the language of your source, you must quote it exactly, enclose it in quotation marks, and cite the source in bibliography.
2. If you use ideas or information that is not common knowledge, you must cite the source.
3. If you didn't invent it, cite the source.
4. Unless your professor explicitly tells you to paraphrase, don't paraphrase.
5. When in doubt, cite the source. Doing so can only enhance your readers sense of your honesty.

Awareness Programs and Trainings:

- a) Institute will instruct the students, faculty, researcher and staff about proper attribution, seeking permission of the author wherever necessary, acknowledgement of source compatible with the needs and specificities of disciplines and in accordance with rules, international conventions and regulations governing the source.
- b) Institute will conduct sensitization seminars/ awareness programs on responsible conduct of research, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic integrity and ethics in education for students, faculty, researcher and staff.
- c) Institute will:
 - i. Include the cardinal principles of academic integrity in the curricula of Undergraduate (UG)/Postgraduate (PG)/Master's degree etc. as a compulsory course work/module.

- ii. Include elements of responsible conduct of research and publication ethics as a compulsory course work/module for Masters and Research Scholars.
- iii. Include elements of responsible conduct of research and publication ethics in Orientation and Refresher Courses organized for faculty and staff members.
- iv. Train student, faculty, researcher and staff for using plagiarism detection tools and reference management tools.
- v. Establish facility equipped with modern technologies for detection of plagiarism.
- vi. Encourage student, faculty, researcher and staff to register on international researcher's Registry systems.

Shortening of Plagiarism

1. Institute use plagiarism software so as to ensure that documents such as thesis, dissertation, term papers, reports, publications or any other such documents are free of plagiarism at the time of their submission.
2. Every student submitting a thesis, dissertation, technical papers or any other such documents to the supervisor/guide shall submit an undertaking indicating that the document has been prepared by him or her and that the document is his/her original work and free of any plagiarism.
3. Every faculty- researcher submitting a thesis, dissertation, technical papers or any other such documents to the Board of Anti-Plagiarism shall submit an undertaking indicating that the document has been prepared by him or her.
4. The undertaking shall include the fact that the document has been duly checked through a Plagiarism detection tool approved by the institution.
5. Each supervisor/guide shall submit a certificate indicating that the work done by the researcher under him/her is plagiarism free.

The institute has stated following code of ethics in academic research:

- ❖ Starting with the notion of academic freedom as the leading principle of our research, at all levels, our institute is committed to promote and maintaining high standards of integrity and accountability in the conduct of academic research and is keen to embed and endorse a culture of honesty and transparency in all its institutional activities.
- ❖ In undertaking this commitment, the Institute emphasizes that academic freedom is a core value to be safeguarded and sustained. The Institute is dedicated to guaranteeing a free academic environment to conduct research, to teach, to speak and to publish, subject to the norms and standards of scholarly inquiry, without interference or penalty, wherever the search for truth, knowledge, scholarship and/or understanding may lead.

The basic ethics which should be followed are given below:

- ❖ **Honesty:** An academic community should advance the quest for truth, knowledge, scholarship and understanding by requiring intellectual and personal honesty in teaching, learning, and research.
- ❖ **Trust:** An academic community should foster a climate of mutual trust to encourage the free exchange of ideas and enable all to reach their highest potential.
- ❖ **Fairness:** An academic community should seek to ensure fairness in institutional standards, practices and procedures as well as fairness in interactions between members of the community.
- ❖ **Respect:** An academic community should promote respect among students, staff and faculty: respect for self, for others, for scholarship and research, for the educational process and intellectual heritage.
- ❖ **Responsibility:** An academic community should uphold high standards of conduct in learning, teaching and research by requiring shared responsibility for promoting academic integrity among all members of the community.

- ❖ **Legality:** An academic community should observe valid legal norms related to the conduct and publication of research particularly in relations to copyright, the intellectual property rights of third parties, the terms and conditions regulating access to research resources and the laws of libel.
- ❖ **Communication:** An academic community should seek to make the results of its research as widely and as freely available as possible.

Tasks of the Ethics Committee

- to provide advice and guidance to the institute academic community on all matters pertaining to academic research ethics.
- to advise the committee on compliance with the 'Code of Ethics in Academic Research' of the various academic activities at the institute.
- to provide guidance and academic support to scholars on ethical issues in respect of teaching, research and other academic activities. On an entirely voluntary basis, researchers may ask the Ethics Committee for consultation on ethical aspects of their research.
- to confirm to external parties on behalf of the institute compliance with ethical standards in respect of research projects undertaken by scholars at the institute. The Committee is only convened at the open request of scholars needing an assessment of the ethical dimensions of a research project.
- to advise the Committee of any policies that may be required in relation to accepting funds from particular sponsors of research
- to act as an investigative/consultative body for any disputed matter concerning research ethics and conduct
- to make recommendations to the internal Disciplinary Committee on what action, if any, should be taken as a result of the investigations.