

RESEARCH CODE OF CONDUCT

To uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and promote responsible research practices, all research scholars, supervisors, co-supervisors, and other stakeholders associated with research activities shall adhere to the following Code of Conduct:

1. Academic Integrity

Researchers shall conduct their work honestly, objectively, and ethically, maintaining the highest standards of academic integrity and professional conduct.

2. Originality of Research

Research work submitted for the award of a degree shall be original and shall not contain fabricated, falsified, or manipulated data. Plagiarism in any form shall be treated as academic misconduct and dealt with in accordance with the applicable UGC Regulations and University norms.

3. Compliance with Ethical Standards

Researchers shall comply with all ethical requirements, including approvals from Institutional Ethics Committees, Animal Ethics Committees, Biosafety Committees, or any other statutory bodies wherever applicable.

4. Responsible Data Management

Researchers shall maintain accurate records of experimental procedures, observations, data, and results and ensure proper storage, confidentiality, and accessibility of research data.

5. Respect for Intellectual Property Rights

Researchers shall duly acknowledge the work of others and respect copyrights, patents, and intellectual property rights. Any invention or innovation arising from research shall be governed by the University's Intellectual Property Policy.

6. Publication Ethics

Research findings shall be published only in reputable journals and conference proceedings. Researchers shall avoid predatory journals and ensure that authorship is based solely on substantial academic contributions.

7. Anti-Plagiarism Compliance

Every thesis, dissertation, research paper, synopsis, and report shall undergo plagiarism checks as prescribed under the UGC (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations and the University guidelines.

8. Duties and Responsibilities of Research Scholars

Research scholars shall:

- Maintain regular interaction with their supervisor(s).
- Adhere to the timelines prescribed by the University.
- Submit progress reports periodically.
- Attend coursework, seminars, workshops, and other academic activities.
- Conduct research in a professional and ethical manner.

9. Duties and Responsibilities of Supervisors

Research supervisors shall:

- Provide academic guidance and mentorship to scholars.
- Monitor research progress periodically.
- Ensure compliance with ethical and quality standards.
- Encourage publication of quality research outputs.
- Foster an environment of mutual respect and academic excellence.

10. Avoidance of Conflict of Interest

Researchers and supervisors shall disclose any potential conflict of interest that may affect the objectivity and integrity of the research.

11. Non-Discrimination and Professional Behaviour

All stakeholders shall maintain a respectful and inclusive research environment free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or exploitation.

12. Confidentiality

Confidential information obtained during research shall be protected and used only for legitimate academic purposes.

13. Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

The use of Artificial Intelligence tools shall be transparent and ethical. AI-generated content shall not substitute original scholarly work. Researchers shall remain fully responsible for the accuracy, authenticity, and integrity of their research outputs.

14. Research Misconduct

Research misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Plagiarism;
- Fabrication or falsification of data;
- Misrepresentation of findings;
- Improper authorship practices;
- Duplicate publication;
- Violation of ethical norms.

Any act of research misconduct shall invite disciplinary action in accordance with the UGC Regulations and University Ordinances.

15. Compliance with UGC Regulations and University Ordinances

All researchers shall abide by the provisions of the UGC Regulations, University Ordinances, and other statutory guidelines governing research and doctoral studies.

This Code of Conduct shall be applicable to all research scholars, supervisors, co-supervisors, faculty members, research staff, and other stakeholders involved in research activities of the University.