



# **SOURASHTRA COLLEGE (Autonomous)**

(A Linguistic Minority Co-education Institution)

(Affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University & Re-Accredited with 'B+' Grade by NAAC)

Vilachery Main Road, Pasumatai (P.O) Madurai 625004.

Website : [sourashtracollege.com](http://sourashtracollege.com)

E-Mail : [soucollege@gmail.com](mailto:soucollege@gmail.com)

Date: 06-11-2023

## **Research & Development Cell**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

- It is decided to give circular to all the HOD and Guide and Supervisor to inform all the research activities to RDC to strengthen the Research in our College.
- It is suggested to frame RPE(Research Public & Ethics) Exam syllabus and to conduct the RPE Exam after getting consent from Controller of Examination and Dean-Academic Affairs as per the norms of Madurai Kamaraj University.
- Faculty members and research scholars are insisted to publish articles in UGC Care list journal at least two per year.
- The five committee co-ordinators and members are asked to conduct at least two meetings per year.
- It is decided to frame a separate logo for RDC.

**Dr. M.P. Ganesan**

Director - Research & Development Cell

**Dr. S.R.V. Ravindran**

Principal



ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

प्रो. रजनीश जैन  
सचिव

Prof. Rajnish Jain  
Secretary



सत्यमेव जयते

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग  
**University Grants Commission**

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

बहादुरशाह जफर मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110002  
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D.O.No.F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE)

December, 2019

**Respected Sir/Madam,**

University Grants Commission in its 543<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 approved two Credit Courses for awareness about publication ethics and publication misconducts entitled "**Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)**" to be made compulsory for all Ph.D. students for pre-registration course work (**attached as Annexure**).

In view of the above, you are requested to ensure that the above two Credit courses may be made compulsory for all Ph.D. students for pre-registration course work undertaken in your University from the forthcoming academic session.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Rajnish Jain)

**TO THE VICE-CHANCELLORS OF ALL UNIVERSITIES**

**Course Title:**

- **Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)**-Course for awareness about the publication ethics and publication misconducts.

**Course Level:**

- 2 Credit course (30 hrs.)

**Eligibility:**

- M.Phil., Ph.D. students and interested faculty members (It will be made available to post graduate students at later date)

**Fees:**

- As per University Rules

**Faculty:**

- Interdisciplinary Studies

**Qualifications of faculty members of the course:**

- Ph.D. in relevant subject areas having more than 10 years' of teaching experience

**About the course**

**Course Code: CPE- RPE**

**Overview**

- This course has total 6 units focusing on basics of philosophy of science and ethics, research integrity, publication ethics. Hands-on-sessions are designed to identify research misconduct and predatory publications. Indexing and citation databases, open access publications, research metrics (citations, h-index, Impact Factor, etc.) and plagiarism tools will be introduced in this course.

**Pedagogy:**

- Class room teaching, guest lectures, group discussions, and practical sessions.

**Evaluation**

- Continuous assessment will be done through tutorials, assignments, quizzes, and group discussions. Weightage will be given for active participation. Final written examination will be conducted at the end of the course.

## 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.)**

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

- RPE 02: SCIENTIFIC CONDUCT (5hrs.)**

- 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

- RPE 03: PUBLICATION ETHICS (7 hrs.)**

- 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

### PRACTICE

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

- 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.)**

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

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# MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY

(University with Potential for Excellence)  
Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle



**Prof. Dr. V.S. Vasantha**, M.Sc., Ph.D.,  
Registrar i/c

**Palkalai Nagar, Madurai – 625 021,**  
Tamil Nadu, India.

Ref: MKU/PhD/CW2016/Circular-AC

Date: August 25, 2020

To

The Principals of all affiliated Colleges/  
The Directors of Approved Research Centres

Sir/Madam,

Sub: Madurai Kamaraj University - Ph.D. Course Work as per UGC Regulations 2016 - reg.

- Ref: 1. Notification of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. degrees) Regulations, dated 5.5.2016.  
2. Minutes of the annual meeting of the Senate, dated 31.03.2017.  
3. Letter from the Secretary, UGC, D.O.No.F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE), dt. Dec, 2019.

\* \* \*

I am, by direction to inform that the meeting of all Chairpersons of Schools of the Madurai Kamaraj University and all Principals of Affiliated Colleges/ Directors of Approved Research Centres were convened under the chairmanship of the Vice-Chancellor on 04.08.2020 and 14.08.2020 respectively to implement the Ph.D. course work as per UGC Regulations 2016 and a mandatory two credit course on Research and Publication Ethics from the current academic session as per the communication of the UGC cited third above.

According to the UGC Regulations 2016 for award of Ph.D. degrees, the course work shall be treated as pre-requisite for Ph.D. preparation. The Department where the scholar pursues research shall prescribe the course(s) based on the recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee for each scholar (Doctoral Committee) stipulated under regulations 2016. All candidates admitted to Ph.D. program are required to complete the course work within one year of provisional registration. If the course work is not completed within the stipulated period, the minimum duration will be two more years from the date of completion of course work.

It is also informed that the UGC has introduced a 2-credit course for awareness about publication ethics and publication misconducts entitled “**Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)**” to be made compulsory for all Ph.D. students for pre-registration course work from the academic session 2020-2021.

- i. In view of the above, the course work shall comprise of the following papers with a minimum of 8 credits for M.Phil. students and 12 credits for P.G. students :

**For those who registered from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2019**

Course – I	Research Methodology	4 credits	(Exempted for M.Phil. degree holders, provided they have secured 55% in Research Methodology)
Course – II	Core Subject paper	4 credits	Both for P.G. & M.Phil. qualified
Course - III	Relevant to research topic (or) Mini Project	4 credits	Both for P.G. & M.Phil. qualified

**For those who registered from 01.04.2019**

Course – I	Research Methodology	4 credits	(Exempted for M.Phil degree holders, provided they have 55% in Research Methodology course)
Course – II	Core Subject paper	4 credits	Both for P.G. & M.Phil. qualified
Course - III	Relevant to research topic	4 credits	Both for P.G. & M.Phil. qualified
Course - IV	Research and Publication Ethics	2 credits	For all the students registering from the academic session 2020 – 21

.../p.t.o./



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Registrar i/c

**Palkalai Nagar, Madurai – 625 021,**  
**Tamil Nadu, India.**

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- ii. The attendance of the research scholars shall be provided by the respective course co-ordinators.
- iii. The Mini project (as an option for those who registered from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2019) shall be a concise report of the preliminary research work with a minimum of 40 pages but not exceeding 50 pages.
- iv. The Research Advisory Committee (Doctoral Committee) constituted for each scholar shall guide the student to develop the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that the research scholar have to do.
- v. The Grades in the course work, including research methodology courses shall be finalized after a combined assessment by the Research Advisory Committee and the final grades shall be communicated to the University.
- vi. The Mark Statement for the course work will be issued by the Controller of Examinations and Course completion certificate will be issued by the Research Co-ordinator.
- vii. It is mandatory to have the course work mark statement to confirm their provisional Ph.D. registration and final submission of thesis.

Therefore, it is requested to circulate and inform all the Research Supervisors in your Research Departments / Research Centres to adhere to the above guidelines for conducting the Ph.D. course work as per regulations 2016.

Yours sincerely,

/signed/

**REGISTRAR i/c**

## ***Amendments***

### ***4.2 Entrance Test***

*The Entrance Test shall be qualifying with qualifying marks as 50%, provided that a relaxation of 5% of marks (from 50% to 45%) shall be allowed for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy layers) / Differently-abled category in the entrance examination conducted by the Universities.*

### ***4.3 Interview***

*For the selection of candidates, a weightage of 70% to the entrance test and 30% to the performance in the interview / viva voce shall be given.*

### ***11.4 Research Publications:***

*The Ph.D candidates shall publish atleast 2 (two) research papers relevant to their area of research as first author in a National / International journals as listed by the UGC.*

### ***13.3 List of Examiners:***

*The Supervisor shall submit along with the thesis a panel of 10 (ten) Examiners with their designation, years of experience, area of specialization, email address, Phone/ Mobile number, etc. Of the 10 (ten) Examiners, 4 (four) shall be within the State from other Universities and Colleges excluding Madurai Kamaraj University and its affiliated Colleges. Another 6 (six) shall be from other States not more than one examiner from each State. The Research Supervisors may also provide Foreign Examiners from different countries. The Examiners shall preferably be given at the level of Professors / Associate Professors as prescribed.*

### ***Research and Publication Ethics***

*The UGC has introduced a 2-credit course for awareness about publication ethics and publication misconducts entitled “**Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)**” to be made compulsory for all Ph.D. students for pre-registration course work from the academic session 2020-2021. Please visit our Website for further details about the course plan.*

## ***6. Guidelines for approval of Research Centres***

*The recognition fee for research centres has been enhanced from Rs.20,000/- to Rs.25,000/- and a review shall be made once in three years. The revised recognition fee of Rs.25,000/- and visiting fee of Rs.5,000/- shall be paid along with applicable GST. The approved Research Centres shall pay Annual renewal fee of Rs.10,000/- as per Ph.D regulations of Madurai Kamaraj University 2016.*