

Dated: 28.12.2020

**CIRCULAR**

Sub:- Directorate of Research -Ph.D. Preliminary Qualifying Examination Paper III- Research Ethics & Publication- Exemption from Coursework- reg.

- Ref :- 1.Letter D.O.No.F1.1/2018((Journal/CARE)dated December, 2019 recieved from Prof. Rajnish Jain, Secretary, University Grants Commission.  
2.U.O.No. 2508/2020/Admn dated 24.02.2020  
3.Letter No STC/RPE/UoC/2020/1 dated 6th October, 2020, recieved from the Principal St Thomas' College Thrissur  
4.Orders of the Vice Chancellor in the file even no dated 12.12.2020

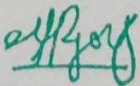
The UGC had made it mandatory for all the Ph.D. Research Scholars vide letter cited 1<sup>st</sup> under reference to undertake two Credit Courses for awareness about publication ethics and publication misconducts and to make the paper entitled "Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)" compulsory for students who have started the course work on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 and the same has been implemented by this University vide Order cited 2<sup>nd</sup>.

In this regard the Principal St Thomas college, Thrissur, while informing vide letter cited 3<sup>rd</sup> that the Research Council and Department of Library and Information Studies of their College jointly organised an online course on Research and Publication Ethics during 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020 - 05<sup>th</sup> October 2020 strictly adhering to the Course Contents, credits as prescribed by the UGC guidelines, has requested to exempt the successful participants from attending Paper -3, Research and Publication Ethics, in the Ph.D course work.

Considering the matter in detail, sanction has been accorded by Vice Chancellor to exempt the candidates who have successfully completed online course on Research and Publication Ethics conducted by St. Thomas College Thrissur in association with the Directorate of Research, University of Calicut from attending course work on submitting the certificate issued by the College . It has further been ordered that **all the candidates will have to appear for the Preliminary Qualifying Examination for Paper III-Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)" conducted by the University of Calicut.**

All the Heads of the Research Centres are, therefore, informed the matter and are thereby requested to conduct the course work for Paper III-Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)", at their respective Reserach Centres, for the candidates who have not attended the online course conducted by St. Thomas College Thrissur, strictly following the UGC Guidelines.



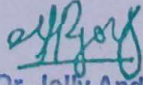
  
**Fr. Dr. Jolly Andrews**  
Assistant Professor-  
In-charge of Principal  
Christ College (Autonomous)  
Irinjalakuda

**Abdul Azeze P.K**  
Deputy Registrar

To

The all the Head of Research Centres



  
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ज्ञान-विज्ञान विभूतम्

प्रो. रजनीश जैन  
सचिवProf. Rajnish Jain  
Secretary

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग

Directorate of Research

04 FEB 2020

University of Calicut

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग  
University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

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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

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**ANNEXURE****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.



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### 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.)**

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 (5hrs.)**

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 behavior and vice versa, types
5. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship
6. Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals
7. Predatory publishers and journals

#### PRACTICE

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

1. Open access publications and initiatives



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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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# Model question paper for Ph.D. Preliminary Qualifying Examination

Paper III – Research and Publication Ethics (RPE)-C

Time : 3 hours

Maximum : 70 marks

I. Write an essay on any two of the following;

1. Discuss ethics in research.
2. Open access publications – Advantages and disadvantages
3. Ethics in publication
4. Discuss various aspects of publication misconduct

(2 x 15 = 30 marks)

II. Write short essays on any two of the following

5. Comment on Scientific misconducts
6. Describe the different plagiarism soft wares used.
7. Indexing data bases
8. Intellectual honesty and research integrity


(2 x 10 = 20 marks)

III. Write short notes on any four of the following:

9. Salami slicing
10. H-index
11. Scopus
12. Predatory journals
13. Conflict of interest
14. Impact factor
15. i10 index

(4 x 5 = 20 marks)

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