विश्वभारती / **VISVA-BHARATI**

केंद्रीय पुस्तकालय / **CENTRAL LIBRARY**

विश्वभारती लाइब्रेरी नेटवर्क / **(Visva-Bharati Library Network)**

Memo No. CL/ 983 /2025-26/(RPE) **Date 18 March 2026**

Notice

Class for Paper – IV (Research and Publication Ethics) for 2025-26.

This is to notify all concerned that the classes (blended mode) for the Research & Publication Ethics (RPE) – Paper – IV, as a general paper for the admitted candidates of PhD course work during the session 2025-26, is scheduled to be held on and from **01 April 2026 at the Conference Hall, Central Library, Visva-Bharati from 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm.**

Candidates must reach the physically at the Conference Room, Central Library for the physical class or join virtually through the online Zoom meeting link mentioning full name at least five minutes before the scheduled time.

Zoom Meeting link to join:

https://zoom.us/j/95596408739?pwd=jWUMqNbcGJbVZpMnbWbs3LbWtDPeHv.1

Meeting ID: 955 9640 8739, Passcode: 123456

Please note that the attendance of the classes for appearing in the examination will be based on the university's general examination rules. No further request will be entertained for under attendance.

Question patterns, full marks, and marks distribution for examinations will be discussed during class.

All the principals and HODs are requested to communicate the message among the intended candidates and enable them to attend the courses noted above.

Cooperation from all the faculties, administration, and examination sections is highly solicited for the smooth conduction of the course, as last year.

The notice with the syllabus is annexed on the next page.

Course Co-ordinator and
Librarian, Visva-Bharati

Proposed Routine (may be changed in reality to comply with the situation)

Course title: **Research and Publication ethics (RPE)**

Course Code – **CPE-RPE**

For the session **– 2025-26**

Date	**Name of the Teachers with time**	
01/04/2026 (Wednesday)	Attendance and Introduction of the course (2.30pm – 3.30pm)	
	IS (3.30pm - 4.30pm)	KG (4.30pm – 5.30pm)
02/04/2026 (Thursday)	KG (2.30pm-4.00pm)	NCS (4.00pm – 5.30pm)
06/04/2026 (Monday)	IS (2.30pm - 4.00pm)	NCS (4.00pm – 5.30pm)
07/04/2026 (Tuesday)	SSM (2.30pm- 4.00pm)	AS (4.00pm – 5.30pm)
08/04/2026 (Wednesday)	SSM (2.30pm - 4.00pm)	PH (4.00pm – 5.30pm)
09/04/2026 (Thursday)	AS (2.30pm-4.00pm)	KG (4.00pm -5.30pm)
10/04/2026 (Friday)	SB (2.30pm- 4.00pm)	TKD (4.00pm – 5.30pm)
13/04/2026 (Monday)	SN (2.30pm – 4.00pm)	NCS (4.00pm – 5.30pm)
15/04/2026 (Wednesday)	SN (2.30pm-4.00pm)	TKD (4.00pm – 5.30pm)
16/04/2026 (Thursday)	TKD (2.30pm- 4.00pm)	SB (4.00pm – 5.30pm)
17/04/2026 Reserve Day – For special class		

AS – Sri Ajay Kumar Sharma, Deputy Librarian and In-charge, Cheena Bhavana Library. (Topics - Indexing databases; and Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc. including Practical Demonstration) **RPE: 06 (A: 01-02)**

IS – Dr. Ipsita Sarkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy & Religion, Vidya Bhavana. (Topics - Introduction to philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches; and Ethics definition, oral philosophy, nature of moral judgements and reactions) – **RPE:01 – 01 and 02**

KG – Dr. Koushik Ghosh, Assistant Librarian and In-charge, PSB Library. (Topics - Predatory publishers and journals; and Use plagiarism software like Tumitin, DrillBit and other open-source software tools) - **RPE:03 – 01, RPE:03 – 7 and RPE: 05(B)**

NCS – Dr. Nimai Chand Saha, Librarian, Visva-Bharati. (Topics - Intellectual honesty and research integrity; Redundant Publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, Salami Slicing; Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship; Conflicts of interest; Publication, misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behaviour and vice versa, types; Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals) - **RPE:02 – 02 & 04 and RPE:03 - 03-06**

PH – Sri Pradip Hembram, Assistant Librarian and In-charge, Sangeet Bhavana Library. (Topics - Open Access Publications and Initiatives – Practical Demonstration) **RPE:04 -01**

SB – Dr. Sanat Bhattacharya, Assistant Librarian and In-charge, Siksha Bhavana Library. (Topics - Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship; Conflicts of interest; and Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad) **RPE: 05 (A: 01-03)**

SN – Dr. Sabahat Nausheen, Assistant Librarian and In-charge, Rabindra Bhavana Library. (Topics - Impact Factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report, SNP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score; and Metrics: h-index, g index, i index, altmetrics) **RPE: 06(B: 01-02)**

SSM – Prof. Sudhansu Sekhar Maity, Head, Department of Statistics, Siksha Bhavana. (Topics - Ethics with respect to science and research; Scientific misconducts Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism (FFP); and Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data) – **RPE:02 – 01, 03 and 05**

TKD – Dr. Tapas Kumar Das, Deputy Librarian and In-charge, Kala Bhavana Library. (Topics - Best practices / standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, WAME; SHERPA/RoMEO online resource

to check: publishers copyright & self-archiving policies; Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU; and Journal finder / journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggester, etc.). **RPE:03 – 2 and 04: 02 – 04.**

Total ten days @three hours each day to reach thirty hours of the total class duration in compliance with the UGC regulations and University guidelines, available through the link - (https://visvabharati.ac.in/files/965231221_UniversityPlagiarismPolicy231221.pdf).

Course Co-ordinator and
Librarian, Visva-Bharati

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 जफ़र मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110002
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002
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D.O.No.F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE) December, 2019

Respected Sir/Madam,

University Grants Commission in its 543rd meeting held on 9th 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

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.

Course structure

- The course comprises of six modules listed in table below. Each module has 4-5 units.

Modules	Unit title	Teaching hours
Theory		
RPE 01	Philosophy and Ethics	4
RPE 02	Scientific Conduct	4
RPE 03	Publication Ethics	7
Practice		
RPE 04	Open Access Publishing	4
RPE 05	Publication Misconduct	4
RPE 06	Databases and Research Metrics	7
	Total	**30**

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: SCIENTIFICCONDUCT (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

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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