



OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC REGISTRAR

GURUCHARAN UNIVERSITY

SILCHAR, CACHAR : ASSAM

গুরুচরণ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

শিলচর, কাছাড় : আসাম

A State University established by upgrading Gurucharan College under Assam Act No. LVII of 2023

Ref. No.104/1/2025/I/152

Date:18/04/2026

PhD Coursework Routine

Admitted candidates for the PhD Programme are hereby informed to follow the course work routine and to remain present in the Venue given below by 2:30 PM on 22/04/2026, Wednesday.

Venue: Conference Hall, Gurucharan University, Silchar

Day & Date	Time	Paper
Wednesday 22/04/2026	3:00PM-4:00PM	RC-01
Wednesday 22/04/2026	4:00PM-5:00PM	RC-02
Friday 24/04/2026	3:00PM-4:00PM	RC-01
Friday 24/04/2026	4:00PM-5:00PM	RC-02
Saturday 25/04/2026	3:00PM-4:00PM	RC-01
Saturday 25/04/2026	4:00PM-5:00PM	RC-02

All the admitted candidates are also hereby informed to submit a print copy of the receipt of their admission on 22/04/2026.

The syllabus for RC-01 (Research and Publication Ethics) and RC-02(Research Methodology) are attached along with this notice.

Further, the candidates are also informed to collect the department based syllabus ie RC-03 and RC-04 from their respective departments. The class routine for the department based courses will be intimated by the respective departments.

This is issued with the approval of the hon'ble Vice Chancellor.

Dr Nilendu Dhar
Chairperson
PhD Admission Committee 2026
Gurucharan University, Silchar

Dr. Abhijit Nath
Academic Registrar
Gurucharan University, Silchar

Research and Publication Ethics
Course Code: RC01
Total Marks: 100 (Theory-75, Practice -25)
30 Hours (2 Credits)

Course Objective:

This course creates awareness about publication ethics and common publication misconduct, such as plagiarism and data falsification. It helps researchers understand ethical issues in research, promotes intellectual honesty and research integrity, and explains best practices in the publication process. The course also guides learners in identifying quality journals using impact factors and other research metrics.

UNIT 1: PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

4 Hours

- a) Introduction to Philosophy: Definition, nature and scope, concept, branches,
- b) Ethics: Moral Philosophy, nature of moral judgments and reactions.

UNIT 2: SCIENTIFIC CONDUCT

4 Hours

- a) Ethics with respect to science and research
- b) Intellectual honesty and research integrity
- c) Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication and Plagiarism (FFP)
- d) Redundant Publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing
- e) Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data.

UNIT 3: PUBLICATION ETHICS

7 Hours

- a) Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance
- b) Best practices/standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, WAME, etc.
- c) Conflicts of interest
- d) Publication misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behaviour and vice versa, types
- e) Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship
- f) Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals
- g) Predatory publishers and journals.

PRACTICE

UNIT 4: OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

4 Hours

- a) Open access publications and initiatives
- b) SHERPA/RoMEO online resource to check publisher copyright & self-archiving policies
- c) Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU
- d) Journal finder/ journal suggestion tools, viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer, Journal Suggester, etc. Research Gate, Google Scholar, ORCHID ID.

UNIT 5: PUBLICATION MISCONDUCT

4 Hours

A) Group Discussions (2 hrs.)

- a) Subject-specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship
- b) Conflicts of interest
- c) Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad

B) Software Tools (2 hrs.)

- a) Use of plagiarism software like DrillBit, Turnitin, Urkund and other open-source software tools

UNIT 6: DATABASES AND RESEARCH METRICS

7 Hours

A) Databases (4 hrs)

- a) Indexing databases
- b) Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc.

B) Research Metrics (3 hrs.)

- a) Impact Factor of journal as per Journal Citations Report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score
- b) Metrics: h-index, g-index, i10 Index, altmetrics.

Referred Books:

1. Leefmann, J., & Jungert, M. (2020). *Research Ethics and Scientific Integrity in Neuroscience. Handbook of Research Ethics and Scientific Integrity, 1013-1035.*
2. Iphofen, R., & Tolich, M. (Eds.). (2018). *The SAGE handbook of qualitative research ethics.* Sage..
3. Temple, A. (2019). *The Postgraduate's Guide to Research Ethics.* United Kingdom: Macmillan International Higher Education.
4. *Research and Publications Ethics by Santosh Kumkar Yadav, Ane Publications, 2020*
5. Kara, H. (2018). *Research Ethics in the Real World: Euro-Western and Indigenous Perspectives.* United Kingdom: Policy Press.
6. Anil. K. Jain, *Ethical issues in scientific publication, Indian J Orthop.* 2010 Jul-Sep; 44(3): 235–237.
7. Gupta, S., Kamboj, S. (2020). *Research and Publication Ethics.* (n.p.): Alexis Press LLC.
8. Bos, J. (2020). *Research ethics for students in the social sciences (p. 287).* Springer Nature. Cavaliere, P., De Souza, D., Fenton, A. L., Giridharan, B., Gralla, C., Inshakova, N., & Zaharuk, G. (2020). *Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism: Case Studies from Universities Around the World.* Lexington Books.

9. Bretag, T. (Ed.). (2016). *Handbook of academic integrity*. Springer Singapore.
10. Dobrick, F. M., Fischer, J., & Hagen, L. M. (2018). *Research Ethics in the Digital Age*. Wiesbaden: Springer.
11. *Manual for research and publication ethics in science and engineering*, Korean Federation of Science and Technology Societies, Seoul, Korea, 2016
12. Kleinert S & Wager E (2011) *Responsible research publication: international standards for editors. Promoting Research Integrity in a Global Environment*. Imperial College Press / World Scientific Publishing, Singapore (pp 317-28). (ISBN 978-981-4340-97-7)

Research Methodology

Course Code: RC02

Full Marks:100

30 Hours (2 Credits)

Course Objective:

This course is designed to create awareness of the basic concept of research, creativity in research, research paradigms and analytical frameworks. This course will also stress methodological issues in research.

Unit 1: Basic Concept of Research

Meaning, objectives and motivations in research, Characteristics and limitations of research – Components of research work - Criteria of good research, Research process – Types of Research, -Qualitative, quantitative, applied, basic, historical, comparative, interdisciplinary research.

Unit 2: Creativity in Research

Meaning and Importance of Creativity, Types and Dimensions of Creativity, Creative Thinking Techniques (Brainstorming, Mind Mapping, Lateral Thinking), Application of Creativity in Research Design, Psychology of Research Student, Intelligence Vs Creativity, Time management and stress management – Sample vs Population, Training and field work in research.

Unit 3: Research Paradigms and Analytical Frameworks

Meaning and Importance of Experimentation. Paradigms of Research – Positivism, Interpretivism and Pragmatism, Research Methods in Experimental Studies, Variables in Research – Independent, Dependent and Control Variables, Hypothesis – Meaning and Significance, Formulation of Hypothesis, Characteristics of a Usable Hypothesis, Different Forms of Hypothesis – Null, Alternative, Testing of Hypothesis – Procedure and Interpretation of Results, research questions.

Unit 4: Data Analysis in Research

Different types of data- Primary, secondary- Time series, cross-section, tools of data collection, Statistics and computer applications in research, techniques of web searching, basic tools and techniques of data analysis.

Unit 5: Research Report Writing

Research report, Different types, Contents of report and chapterisation - Introduction, Title, Abstract, Plan of Paper, Sections of Paper, Diagrams, Graph and Table, Instructions to authors, Clarity. Writing a Research Report, Types of reports, Steps in report writing, Format of the research report, Style and typing of research report, Problems in preparing a research report. Referencing- different styles.

Referred Books:

1. *Research Methodology: Ranjit Kumar, 3rd Edition.*
2. *Research Methodology and Statistics Techniques- Santosh Gupta, Deep & Deep Publications.*
3. *“How to get a PhD- a handbook for PhD and their Students” – E.M. Phillips & D.S. Pugh.*
4. *Practical Physics- G.L. Squires, Cambridge University Press.*

5. *Handbook of Science Communication- compiled by Anthony Wilson, Jane Gregony, Steve Miller, Shirley, Earl, Overseas Press India Pvt. Ltd.*
6. *Ganguly, Prabuddha. Intellectual Property Rights, Unleashing the Knowledge Economy. Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing Company Ltd. (2008).. Gopalakrishnan, NS, KN Chandrasekharan Pillai, and T. G. Agitha. Principles of Intellectual Property. Eastern Book Company (2014).*
7. *Alka Chawla. Law of Copyright: Comparative Perspectives. LexisNexis (2013).*
8. *Ahuja, Virendra Kumar. Law Relating to Intellectual Property Rights. LexisNexis Butterworths (2007).*
9. *Robert P. Merges, Peter S. Menell& Mark A. Lemley, Intellectual Property in the New Technological Age. Aspen Publishers (2017)*