

# **CODE OF ETHICS FOR PLAGIARISM IN RESEARCH**



## **SREE VIDYANIKETHAN ENGINEERING COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)**

(Approved by AICTE, Accredited by NBA, New Delhi and NAAC, Bengaluru  
Affiliated to JNTUA, Anantapuramu)  
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Chittoor Dist., Andhra Pradesh – 517 102

[www.vidyanikethan.edu](http://www.vidyanikethan.edu)



## 1. PREAMBLE:

Ethics and honesty are the two most important components of the academic activities be it teaching or research. Teaching and research is a noble profession based on extremely high moral values. Many times it is observed that some of the "academicians" intentionally or unintentionally publish or present other's work as their own. Such acts will affect academic atmosphere in the institution and reputation of the institution as well as the individual. It is therefore important for the Institution to have in place a policy on plagiarism to avoid such type of acts.

## 2. DEFINITION OF PLAGIARISM:

- Plagiarism is defined as presenting another person's work as one's own work.
- Presentation includes copying or reproducing it without the acknowledgement of the source.
- Plagiarism involves copying of: phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or longer extracts from published or unpublished work (including from the Internet) that exceeds the boundaries of the legitimate cooperation without acknowledgement of the source.

## 3. TYPES OF PLAGIARISM:

### a. Secondary sources (Inaccurate citation)

Secondary Source Plagiarism happens when a researcher uses a secondary source like a Meta study but only cites the primary sources contained within the secondary one.

Secondary source plagiarism not only fails to attribute the work of the authors of the secondary sources but also provides a false sense of the amount of review that went into the research.



**b. Invalid sources (Misleading citation, Fabrication, Falsification)**

Invalid Source Attribution occurs when researchers reference either an incorrect or nonexistent source. Though this may be the result of sloppy research rather than intent to deceive, it can also be an attempt to increase the list of references and hide inadequate research.

**c. Duplication (Self-plagiarism, Reuse)**

Duplication happens when a researcher reuses work from their own previous studies and papers without attribution. The ethics of duplication is highly debated and often depends upon the content copied.

**d. Paraphrasing (Plagiarism, Intellectual theft)**

Paraphrasing is taking another person's writing and changing the words, making it appear that an idea or even a piece of research is original when, in truth, it came from an uncited outside source. Paraphrasing ranges from simple rephrasing to completely rewriting content while maintaining the original idea or concept.

**e. Repetitive research (Self-plagiarism, Reuse)**

Repetitive Research Plagiarism is the repeating of data or text from a similar study with a similar methodology in a new study without proper attribution. This often happens when studies on a related topic are repeated with similar result but the earlier research is not cited properly.

**f. Replication (Author Submission Violation)**

Replication is the submission of a paper to multiple publications, resulting in the same manuscript being published more than once. This can be an ethical infraction, particularly when a researcher claims that a paper is new when it has been published elsewhere.



#### **g. Misleading attribution (Inaccurate Authorship)**

Misleading Attribution is an inaccurate or insufficient list of authors who contributed to a manuscript. This happens when authors are denied credit for partial or significant contributions made to a study, or the opposite-when authors are cited in a paper although no contributions were made.

#### **h. Unethical collaboration (Inaccurate Authorship)**

Unethical Collaboration happens when people who are working together violate a code of conduct. Using written work, outcomes and ideas that are the result of collaboration, without citing the collaborative nature of the study and participants involved, is unethical. Using others' work without proper attribution is plagiarism.

#### **i. Verbatim plagiarism (Copy-and-Paste. Intellectual Theft)**

Verbatim Plagiarism is the copying of another's words and works without providing proper attribution, indentation or quotation marks. This can take two forms. First, plagiarists may cite the source they borrowed from, but not indicate that it is a direct quote. In the second, no attribution at all is provided, essentially claiming the words of someone else to be their own.

#### **j. Complete plagiarism (Intellectual Theft, Stealing)**

Complete plagiarism is an extreme scenario when a researcher takes a study, a manuscript or other work from another researcher and simply resubmits it under his/her own name

### **4. DETECTING PLAGIARISM:**

It is the prime responsibility of an institute or individual to distinguish original content from plagiarized work. The detection of plagiarism is a judgment to be made by a person who understands the subject and who is also aware of the definition of plagiarism. Such person should also be aware of the tools available to detect the plagiarism. SVEC will use the best tools / software to detect plagiarism. It is at most

important for an academic institute like SVEC to educate its student and teaching community about what constitutes plagiarism, how it is detected and of course the action that is going to follow if plagiarism is proved.

## 5. GUIDELINES TO CHECK PLAGIARISM

1. Plagiarism reports must be generated by available software at the time of submission of Ph.D. thesis/ research reports/ credit assignments and other documents claimed as original.
2. The exclusion at the time of performing the check should be limited to the following:
  - a. Quotes
  - b. Bibliography/References/Citations
  - c. Phrases
  - d. Small matches up to 10 words
  - e. Format
  - f. Idea /works or language of the lab/team/group or the supervisor(s)
  - g. Small similarity less than 1%
  - h. Mathematical Formulae
  - i. Name of Institutions, Departments etc.
3. In case of self-plagiarism or cases where published work of a researcher from the lab/group etc. is shown by Plagiarism check, a certificate (plagiarism Self Exclusion Certificate) has to be issued by the Supervisor specifying and attaching the articles that have been published by the student from thesis work. Only these articles should be excluded from the check. No other article of the Supervisor or the student should be excluded from the check. This will be for reference of the library-which will perform the final check.



4. The final Plagiarism check from the library is essential so that the correct report is submitted at the time of submission of thesis/ other documents.
5. For B.Tech/M. Tech /Ph.D. thesis, the library will issue the final certificate of Plagiarism Check called the Plagiarism Verification Certificate certifying and authenticating the check performed by the student/Department. This certificate has to be submitted to the Exam Branch at the time of submission of thesis along with certificate from the students, signed by Supervisor

## 6. GUIDELINES FOR ACTION WHEN PLAGIARISM IS REPORTED

When a case of plagiarism is reported the following procedure will apply:

- The Principal of SVEC will form a committee of experts, from the departments who will establish whether there is a plagiarism or not, if it is then there, what is the level. This committee will submit its report to the competent authority for a final decision in this regard.
- The committee will use the best possible software provided by UGC, INFLIBNET or National Knowledge Commission or specified software made available by the Institution for detecting the plagiarism.

The onus of plagiarism shall rest with the student in case of PhD thesis and on the first author in case of a research paper.

Depending on the severity of crime a **student** may be awarded any of the following punishments:

- Fine or warning or both.
- Rustication, for a limited period or permanent removal from SVEC.
- Withdrawal of degree awarded on plagiarized work.



➤ Depending on the severity of crime a **supervisor/ teacher** may be awarded any of the following punishments:

- Warning or stoppage of increments or both.
- Removal from SVEC
- Any other punishment as decided by the committee

The quantum of punishment will be decided by the Principal based on the recommendations of the committee and confirmed by the Governing Body based on the recommendations of the Academic Council.



  
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