Ph.D Entrance Test Syllabus
Research and Publication Ethics

PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

1. Introduction to philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches
2. Ethics: definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgments and reactions

SCIENTIFICCONDUCT

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

PUBLICATION ETHICS

1. Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance
2. Best practices/ standards setting initiatives and guidelines
3. Conflicts of interest, Disclosure Policy.
4. Funding and Role of funders in the study. Copyright issues.
5. Availability of data and materials.
6. Publication misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behavior and vice versa, Levels of misconduct, investigation of and sanctions for misconduct.
7. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship guidelines, Good Science Practices, Collaborative studies, Whistle Blowers.
8. Identification of publication misconduct, dealing with misconduct, complaints and appeals.
9. Redundant/Salami Publications, Predatory publishers, journals and conferences.

OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

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.

PUBLICATION MISCONDUCT

1. S u b j e c t specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship
2. Conflicts of interest
3. Complaints and appeals
4. Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tool

DATABASES AND RESEARCH METRICS

A. Databases
   I   Indexing databases
   2. Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc.

B. Research Metrics
   1. Impact Factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score
   2. Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics