

Kannada University - Hampi Plagiarism Policy

Kannada University is a research oriented university which takes research seriously and has a strong ethical policy with regard to plagiarism. Research involves consultation of existing literature on the subject, which is called as existing body of knowledge in that domain/area. The existing body of knowledge may be in the form of published and unpublished books, articles, reports and theses. Kannada University admits researchers to explore, in addition to the published and not published sources, oral sources of knowledge. There are established practices of consulting and acknowledging the material from the above sources. If the researcher fails to adhere to the established practices of consulting and acknowledging the material from the existing body of knowledge, that amounts to plagiarism. In order to create awareness and consequences of plagiarism, the University has drafted a plagiarism policy. This plagiarism policy of the University has been drafted based on the UGC's *Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions Regulations, 2017*.

Objectives

1. To create awareness among the faculty and researchers about ethical practices of carrying out research
2. To promote academic integrity
3. To prevent plagiarism in academic activities among students, researchers, faculty and other members of academic staff as well as employees of the University
4. To educate students and faculty on responsible conduct of research, study, project work, assignment, dissertation
5. To develop systems to detect plagiarism and to set up mechanisms to prevent plagiarism
6. To take action whenever a student, faculty or staff of the Kannada University commits the act of plagiarism

Awareness Programs

1. The University shall regularly organize training workshops for students, faculty and others involved in research to seek permission of the author/copyright holder of the material wherever necessary, acknowledge the original source and follow the reference-giving practice of the specific disciplines.
2. The University shall organize seminars and workshops to create awareness on the responsible conduct of research among the students and faculty.

3. Ethical aspects of research and publication shall be made a compulsory part in the coursework of the M.Phil., and Ph.D., programmes.
4. The University shall include elements of ethical/responsible conduct of research and publication in Orientation and Refresher courses organized for faculty and other members of the University.
5. The University shall train student, faculty, staff in using plagiarism detection tools and reference management tools
6. The University shall encourage students, faculty, staff and researchers to register on international researchers' Registry systems.

Preventing Plagiarism

1. Every student submitting a thesis, dissertation, term paper, report or any other such documents to the University shall submit an undertaking indicating that the document has been prepared by him or her, and that the document is his/her original work and free of any plagiarism.
2. The undertaking shall include the fact that the document has been duly checked through a plagiarism detection mechanism approved by the University
3. Each supervisor shall submit a certificate indicating that the work done by the researcher under him / her is plagiarism free
4. The University shall submit to INFLIBNET soft copies of all M.Phil., Ph.D. dissertations carried out in its various departments/campus after the award of degrees for hosting in the digital repository under the "Shodhganga e-repository" program
5. The University shall take steps to create appropriate software to ensure that documents such as dissertations, term papers, reports, publications or any other such documents are free of plagiarism at the time of their submission.

Similarity Checks for exclusion and Plagiarism

The similarity checks for plagiarism shall exclude the following –

1. All quoted work either falling under public domain or reproduced with all necessary permission and acknowledgement.
2. All references, bibliography, table of content, preface and acknowledgements.
3. All minimal similarities of minor nature
4. All generic terms, laws, standard symbols and standards equations.

Levels of Plagiarism

Plagiarism would be quantified into following levels in ascending order of severity for the purpose of its definition -

1. Similarities upto 10% excluded
2. Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40%
3. Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60%
4. Level 3: Similarities above 60%

Plagiarism Disciplinary Authority (PDA)

1. University shall constitute PDA to investigate the complaint of plagiarism and to take disciplinary action against those who are involved in the act of plagiarism
2. There shall be three members in the PDA chaired by the Vice-Chancellor of the University. The other members shall be one senior academician not below the rank of Professor and another Director Adhyananga.
3. The PDA shall assess the level of plagiarism and recommend the penalty accordingly

Penalties

1. Penalties in the cases of plagiarism shall be imposed on students pursuing studies at the level of UG, PG, Masters, M. Phil., Ph.D. and faculty & staff of the Kannada University, only after academic misconduct on the part of the offender has been established without doubt.
2. Penalties shall be imposed only when all avenues of appeal have been exhausted and the individual in question has been provided enough opportunity to defend himself or herself in a fair, transparent manner.
3. Since the act of plagiarism, witting or unwitting, is potentially detrimental to the academic credibility and social reputation of the individual concerned, all proceedings of investigations and imposition of penalties shall be conducted in camera so as to prevent encrustation of stigma and slur upon individual concerned:

Penalties for Students

Plagiarism Disciplinary Authority (PDA) of the University based on its investigation shall recommend penalty considering the severity of the Plagiarism.

- 1. Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40%** - Such student shall not be given any mark and/or credit for the plagiarized script and shall be asked to submit a revised script within a stipulated time period not exceeding 6 months.
 - 2. Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60%** - Such student shall not be given any mark and/or credit for the plagiarized script and shall be asked to submit a revised script after a time period of one year but not exceeding eighteen months.
 - 3. Level 3: Similarities above 60%** - Such student shall not be given any mark and/or credit for the plagiarized script and his/her registration for that course to be cancelled.
- Note 1: Penalty on repeated plagiarism-** Such student shall be punished for the plagiarism of one level higher than the previous level committed by him/her. In

case where plagiarism of highest level is committed then the punishment for the same shall be cooperative.

Note 2: Penalty in case where the degree/credit has already been obtained—If plagiarism is proved on a date later than the date of award of degree or credit as the case may be then his/her degree or credit shall be put in abeyance for a period decided by PDA.

Penalties for faculty, staff, researcher of the University

1. Level 1: Similarities above 10% to 40% - shall be asked to withdraw manuscripts submitted for publication and shall not be allowed to publish any work for a minimum period of one year.

2. Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60% - shall be asked to withdraw manuscripts submitted for publication and shall not be allowed to publish any work for a minimum period of two years and shall be denied the right to one annual increment and shall not be allowed to be a supervisor to any UG, PG, M.Phil., Ph.D. student/scholar for a period of two years.

3. Level 3: Similarities above 60% - shall be asked to withdraw manuscripts submitted for publication and shall not be allowed to publish any work for a minimum period of three years and shall be denied the right to two successive annual increments and shall not be allowed to be a supervisor to any UG, PG, M.Phil., Ph.D. student/scholar for a period of three years.

Note 1: Enhanced penalty on repeated plagiarism - shall be punished for the plagiarism of one level higher than the lower level committed by him/her. In case where plagiarism of highest level is committed then the punishment for the same shall be cooperative. In the case of level 3 offences is repeated then the concerned person shall be dismissed.

Note 2: Penalty in case where the benefit or credit has already been obtained -If plagiarism is proved on a date later than the date of benefit or credit obtained as the case may be then his/her benefit or credit shall be put in abeyance for a period decided by the PDA.

Note 3: If there is any complaint of plagiarism against the Head of Institution/Department/Center/Chair/University, a suitable action, in line with these regulations, will be taken by the Competent Authority/Senate/Syndicate as the case may be.