



A. Preamble

In academic institutions around the world, plagiarism is universally acknowledged as a major issue because it is an act of fraud. Because of this, every institution should have a clear policy on dealing with plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty committed by students or faculty, as well as on warning them about the consequences of such behavior. Most individuals are unaware of what plagiarism is, how serious it can be, and how it affects both the individual and the institution. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated at Nims University Rajasthan.

B. Definition

Plagiarism is defined as "an act or instance of using or closely imitating the language and thoughts of another author without authorization and the representation of that author's work as one's own, as by not crediting the original author," according to the online dictionary (<http://www.dictionary.reference.com>).

C. Scope

Almost every academic assignments, such as essays, term papers, project reports, theses, dissertations, presentations, research publications, etc., are susceptible to plagiarism. Plagiarism examples include the following:

1. Purchasing, stealing, or borrowing tasks, tests, or outcomes.
2. Reproducing someone else's thoughts or creations in whole or in part without their consent and passing them off as one's own.
3. Copying a chunk of a book or paper without adequate citation from another person's report or dissertation.
4. Using direct quotations from sources without citing them.
5. Self-plagiarism is the act of replicating or releasing one's own published work in full or in part without citing the previously published work.

D. Prevention and Control

A little attention to detail and caution are needed to prevent unintended plagiarism. To maintain good academic practice, utilize the following checklist as a guide:

1. Whenever possible, just use your own intelligence and resources.
2. If a term from someone else's work must be used, it must always be followed by the appropriate citation.
3. Requesting permission from the original author is crucial if the work is likely to generate income. If not, a comprehensive reference should be included beneath any Figures or Tables that are used.
4. Copyright breaches should always be carefully examined and avoided.

E. Obligations of the University

1. Orientation Programme

- I. NUR should commit to holding frequent workshops concerning its plagiarism policy, scope, prevention, and punishment in order to educate all of its students and staff members about the importance of academic honesty.



- II. A copy of the NUR's plagiarism policy should be given to each employee, research scholar, and senior student.
- III. The University Research Committee (URC) in collaboration with the Academic Section shall arrange an orientation session for all new arrivals. What constitutes plagiarism, how to prevent it, the appropriate writing style for reports and research papers, and an explanation of the university's plagiarism policy should all be covered in the orientation program.

2. Plagiarism detection

- I. In order to use and interpret the results of a plagiarism detection program like Turnitin, NUR will arrange additional training sessions for all parties involved.
- II. A report from the plagiarism detection tool should be included with every thesis or report that is submitted to the university.
- III. To determine the level/extent of plagiarism, if any, the DRC (for PhD theses) or Department Academic Committee (for PG theses) shall review the Report of the plagiarism detecting software tool.
- IV. A statement or certificate of original work must be submitted with each thesis by all research scholars and graduate students. A Form should be created and sent to them to help with this.
- V. Prior to submission, the detection tool should review each study paper and discuss its findings with the guide.

F. Reporting and Handling

1. The Director of the School (for PG students) or the URC (for research scholars) shall be contacted in the event of a complaint or claim of plagiarism against a student. For time-bound action within 30 days, complaints received from outside authorities should be forwarded to these people. Any suspected case may be taken into consideration by the URC or Department alone.
2. In the aforementioned circumstance, the Dean of the Faculty will form a Fact-finding Committee made up of the Director of the involved School, the Head of the Department, and one senior faculty member from another Department. The Committee will review the case's specifics and obtain a report from the detection instrument, if one was used. In addition,
3. The Committee must submit its recommendation along with the report on the plagiarism detection and any other pertinent paperwork. The following categories must be clearly stated in the recommendation:
 - I. Plagiarism is not proven to have occurred. The degree of resemblance between the documents is acceptable, and all necessary citations are included. No other action is necessary.
 - II. Low-level plagiarism appears to be the outcome of carelessness and lack of a deliberate attempt to duplicate. The student might be excused with advice on plagiarism and instructed to submit the Report again within a specific time frame.
 - III. Mid-level plagiarism: copying a few passages from online sources without referencing them, failing to list a few sources, and having just a minimal desire to cheat—which can be due to ignorance.



Resubmitting the assignment should be requested of the student, and the grade to be given should have a cap.

- IV. High-level plagiarism: a conscious effort to plagiarize someone else's work, with significant chunks taken directly from the source and an obvious desire to cheat. The program for the student can be stopped.
- V. If a student's accusation of plagiarism is proven true after they have been granted a degree, the degree may be revoked.

Note: The Committee's opinion will determine the extent and measurement of plagiarism.

- 4. A similar three-person Fact-Finding Committee, established by the President and composed of two senior faculty members in the relevant specialism and a faculty member from another academic department, should investigate a complaint of alleged plagiarism against a faculty member.
 - I. The Committee's recommendations must be received within 30 days of its formation.
 - II. The Committee should carefully review all the available proof to determine whether or not the accusation of plagiarism is supported. Its Report must include all pertinent documentary evidence.
 - III. The responsible authority would take appropriate action against the person in light of the Committee's conclusions, which could range from a decrease in pay or rank to suspension or termination.

G. Appeal

A professor or student who is found guilty of plagiarism and given penalty has the option to appeal the punishment.

References

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4. India, Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education, New Delhi. A Hand Book of Copyright Law. Ministry of Human Resource Development.
5. India, UGC, New Delhi. (2018). Draft UGC Plagiarism Regulations
6. Indian Copyright Act 1957, Chapter 11, Section 52.