



**SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY**  
**Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat**  
**(Reaccredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC (CGPA 3.25))**  
**Syllabus with effect from the Academic Year 2021-2022**

**M.Sc. (Botany) Semester-II**

Course Code	PS02EBOT51	Title of the Course	Research Ethics and Scientific Writing
Total Credits of the Course	04	Hours per Week	04

Course Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To inculcate professional ethics in students of Science, especially in Biology</li><li>2. To familiarize types of plagiarism and tools for their detection</li><li>3. To teach various modes of data collection and its processing</li><li>4. To impart professional, scientific writing skills</li></ol>
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Course Content		
Unit	Description	Weightage* (%)
1.	Definition and significance of ethics; Professional ethics in Scientific research and development: Common ethical breaches; data fabrication; data falsification. Plagiarism: redundant publication; duplicate publication.	25%
2.	Types of plagiarism; tools and techniques for detection of plagiarism. Conflict of interest; salami slicing and authorship issues. Good Laboratory Practices (GLP): Instrument validation, reagents and materials certification, documentation and its record, Quality assurance and certification of laboratory facilities.	25%
3.	Data collection methods: Primary data and secondary data. Internet, online data collection, journals and books. References: Basic types of referencing; Quoting, paraphrasing and citing. APA, MLA and the Chicago/ Turabian styles of listing references.	25%
4.	Scientific writing: Basic differences between popular and scientific writing; fundamental rules of scientific writing; structure and content of research papers, thesis and dissertations. Do's and don't for scientific writing. Tools and techniques for correction and editing of manuscripts. Selection and publication in journals.	25%

Teaching-Learning Methodology	Topics will be taught and discussed in interactive sessions using conventional black board and chalk as well as ICT tools such as power point presentations and videos. Practical sessions will be conducted in a suitably equipped laboratory either individually or in groups depending on the nature of exercise as well as availability of infrastructure. Course materials will be provided from primary and secondary sources of information.
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Evaluation Pattern		
Sr. No.	Details of the Evaluation	Weightage
1.	Internal Written / Practical Examination (As per CBCS R.6.8.3)	15%
2.	Internal Continuous Assessment in the form of Practical, Viva-voce, Quizzes, Seminars, Assignments, Attendance (As per CBCS R.6.8.3)	15%
3.	University Examination	70%

Course Outcomes: Having completed this course, the learner will be able to	
1.	Understand the significance of professional ethics in Scientific research
2.	Appreciate the types and pitfalls of plagiarism
3.	Learn how to collect data from primary and secondary sources
4.	Understand the differences between, common, popular and scientific writing and learn the basics of scientific writing

Suggested References:	
Sr. No.	References
1.	Professional ethics and human values: M. Govindarajan, S. Natarajan and V.S. Senthilkumar
2.	The craft of Scientific writing: Michael Alley
3.	Science and Technology ethics: Raymond Spier

4.	Scientific writing and research quality: Prasanna Kumar and Pawan Kumar Bharti
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On-line resources to be used if available as reference material
On-line Resources

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