



ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Saraswathi College of Arts and Science recognizes the importance of academic integrity among students, faculty, researchers, and staff in keeping with its essential values and mission. This is also in keeping with the University Grants Commission Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions, 2018 regulations. The Regulation aims to create a culture of academic integrity in teaching, learning, assessment, research, and publication.

The regulation intended to maintain high academic standards in the college and to ensure the promotion of integrity and ethical conduct.

The regulation shall apply to students, faculty, researchers, and staff of the College. The regulation shall apply to all academic and research work including class assignments, seminars, presentations, digital presentations, examinations, projects, reports, research papers, chapters in books, full-fledged books, and any other scientific and academic work.

Objectives

1. To create awareness about the responsible conduct of Project research, thesis, dissertation, promotion of academic integrity, and prevention of misconduct including plagiarism in academic writing among students, faculty, researcher, and staff.
2. To establish an institutional mechanism through education and training to facilitate responsible conduct of writing and publishing research including, thesis, dissertation, publication, and promotion of academic integrity and prevention from plagiarism.
3. To develop systems and support existing systems that detect academic dishonesty, particularly plagiarism and, establish penalties for students.

2. Principles of Academic Integrity

All members of the Saraswathi College community are expected to:

- Uphold honesty in all academic endeavors.
- Ensure fairness and transparency in assessments and research.
- Respect intellectual property and give proper credit to sources.
- Maintain accountability for personal and collective academic responsibilities.
- Foster an environment of trust and ethical conduct.

3. Forms of Academic Misconduct

3.1 Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves using another person's ideas, words, or work without proper acknowledgment. This includes:

- Copying text without citation.
- Paraphrasing without crediting the source.
- Submitting work written by someone else as one's own.
- Using AI-generated content without disclosure (when applicable).

3.2 Cheating

Cheating undermines the learning process and includes:

- Using unauthorized materials during assessments.
- Copying or attempting to copy from another student.
- Impersonating another student during exams.
- Sharing answers or engaging in dishonest collaboration.



3.3 Fabrication and Falsification

This involves:

- Creating false data or results in research or assignments.
- Altering official academic records or documents.
- Misrepresenting participation in academic activities.

3.4 Conflict of Interest

Conflicts of interest occur when personal relationships or external pressures compromise academic objectivity. Examples include:

- Faculty grading or assessing students unfairly based on personal relationships.
- Accepting gifts or favours in exchange for academic advantages.

4. Responsibilities of the College Community

4.1 Student Responsibilities

Students must:

- Submit original work and properly cite sources.
- Avoid unauthorized assistance in academic tasks.
- Report instances of academic misconduct.
- Understand and adhere to the guidelines of this policy.

4.2 Faculty Responsibilities

Faculty members must:

- Promote academic integrity through clear guidelines and expectations.
- Design assessments that minimize opportunities for dishonesty.
- Detect and report academic misconduct.
- Serve as role models for ethical scholarship.

4.3 Institutional Responsibilities

The college administration is responsible for:

- Providing resources on academic integrity.
- Implementing fair procedures to address violations.
- Educating students and faculty on ethical academic practices.

5. Reporting and Consequences of Violations

5.1 Reporting Violations

Academic misconduct should be reported to the concerned faculty or the Academic Committee.

Reports must include evidence and a description of the violation.

5.2 Consequences

Violations of this policy may result in:

- Warnings or remedial education on academic integrity.
- Suspension or expulsion in severe cases.
- Termination from service in cases of falsified data or documentation

6. Appeals Process

Students accused of academic misconduct have the right to appeal decisions. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Academic Committee within a specified timeframe.

7. Awareness and Training

The college will conduct workshops, training sessions, and awareness programs on academic integrity for students and faculty.