

**CODE OF ETHICS
AT
NMAM INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY-NITTE**

A. Academic Freedom, Integrity and Responsibility

Academic freedom is the freedom to teach, learn and enhance knowledge through research activities without undesirable interference or restriction from the law, institutional rules and regulations, or public pressure. Its basic elements include the freedom of scholars to inquire into any subject that evokes intellectual concern, to present findings, to publish data and conclusions without control or plagiarism, and to teach in the manner they consider professionally appropriate.

At the same time, integrity, accountability, and responsibility in conducting academic research form the cornerstone of any academic person, and violations of widely-recognized academic research standards represent serious offenses to the entire academic community at NMAMIT Nitte.

Academic integrity requires that academic research follows elevated professional standards, including appropriate research design and frameworks, adheres to high levels of research ethics, and abides by the requirements set out by professional and regulatory research guidance and research ethics frameworks issued in appropriate areas.

The definition of research includes the following:

- a) **Basic Research:** Experimental and theoretical work undertaken to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundation of phenomena and observable facts, without any particular application or use in view.
- b) **Strategic Research:** Applied research that is in a subject area that has not yet advanced to the stage where eventual applications can be specified.
- c) **Applied Research:** Work undertaken to acquire new knowledge. It is, however, directed primarily towards practical aims or objectives.
- d) **Creative Work:** The invention and generation of ideas, images, and artifacts including design. Usually, applied to the pursuit of knowledge in the arts.
- e) **Consultancy:** The deployment of existing knowledge and resource for the resolution of specific problems presented by a client, usually in an industrial or commercial context.

Principles and Values of Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is defined in terms of the commitment and promises to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, sincerity & responsibility, strive for consistency, legality, and dissemination.

Trust: Academic excellence at NMAMIT-Nitte should foster an environment of mutual faith to encourage the free exchange of ideas and enable all to reach their highest potential.

Fairness: Academic body of this Institute should seek to ensure fairness in institutional standards, practices, and procedures as well as fairness in interactions between members of the community.

Respect: Academic environment of NMAMIT should promote respect among students, staff, and faculty: self-respect, for others, and treat them fairly for scholarship and research, for the educational process, and intellectual heritage.

Responsibility: Academic community of NMAMIT should uphold high standards of conduct in learning, teaching, and research by requiring shared responsibility for promoting academic integrity among all members of the community by striving to promote social good and prevent or mitigate social harms through research, public education, and advocacy.

Legality: Academic committee should observe the valid legal norms related to the conduct and publication of research particularly in relation to copyright, the intellectual property rights of third parties, the terms and conditions regulating access to research resources, and obey relevant laws and institutional and governmental policies.

Communication: The R & D committee of this Institute should seek to make the results of its research as widely and as freely available as possible.

Non-Discrimination: The Institute should avoid discrimination against colleagues or students based on sex, race, ethnicity, or other factors that are not related to their scientific competence and integrity.

B. Institutional Responsibilities

Head of the Institute, Deans, Head of the departments together with the other faculty members, are responsible for promoting and endorsing a transparent academic environment conducive to the application of the high professional and ethical criteria of good practice for academic research. Senior faculty members are expected to create and sustain an atmosphere of mutual cooperation that facilitates the open exchange of ideas and the development of academic research skills. They are also expected to ensure the provision of appropriate supervision and direction for researchers, in accordance with the nature of the individual academic discipline and associated mode of research.

C. Publication Practice and Authorship, Notification, Archiving and Depositing Copies of Research Publications with the Institutional Repository (IR)

NMAMIT encourages the publication and dissemination of results of high-quality research. It also expects that researchers engage in the process of publication and dissemination of their work responsibly and with awareness of the consequences of any such dissemination in the wider media. Results should be published in a form appropriate to the academic discipline.

D. Tasks of the Ethics Committee

- To advise and guide the NMAMIT faculty on all matters pertaining to academic research ethics
- To guide and support students on ethical issues in respect of teaching, research, and other academic activities. On an entirely voluntary basis, researchers may ask the Ethics Committee for consultation on ethical aspects of their research.
- To conform to external parties on behalf of the NMAMIT compliance with ethical standards in respect of research projects undertaken.
- To act as an investigative/consultative body for any disputed matter concerning research ethics and conduct.

Composition of the Ethics Committee

The committee shall be composed of six voting members:

- Principal, Chairperson
- Dean of Research, Convener
- Department Heads
- Two Senior faculty members nominated by the Institution Innovation Council

The legal advisor and the System Admin/Librarian as advisor(s) to the Committee with voice but no vote.

The members' mandate is for two years – renewable once. In case of conflict of interests, members of the Ethics Committee shall be temporarily replaced by substitutes nominated by the Principal.
