Globethics.net

Policy on Plagiarism and Research Integrity

Purpose

1. The present policy is provided to offer clarity and transparency for staff and participants in Globethics.net academic course programmes. It builds upon existing policies with regard to the institution's practices for publication, honours its ethical direction and purpose, however it does not intend to replace them. This policy document applies within the framework of Globethics.net Academy and its programmatic offer.

2. References and links to existing Globethics.net plagiarism related documents:

    GE Publications Plagiarism Policy 1
    GE Publications Research Ethics and Publication Ethics as a Typography – Plagiarism Policy 2

3. Globethics.net endeavours to create an inspirational study environment for all reposing on good academic practices. The course programmes offered on the Globethics.net online platform constitute a propitious opportunity to familiarise oneself and to strengthen good academic practices, at the heart of which is research integrity. The academic style guide used by Globethics.net and made accessible for all students at the beginning of their students constitute one instrument of introducing good academic practices.

Definition: What is Plagiarism?

4. Plagiarism constitutes a breach of academic conventions, based on the understanding that intellectual property needs to be protected by adequate referencing and indication of sources. Any part of texts, published or unpublished, from another source used within an academic work without reference of the quoted sources constitutes a case of plagiarism.

5. *Non-Referencing*
    Quoting from another source without referencing the source (full bibliographic reference with author and location of the source), including class material and own published and unpublished material, is considered as attempt to plagiarise.

6. *'Copy-and-paste'*
    Copying and pasting text passages from sources, such as books, academic journals, websites and other internet sources without referencing are considered as attempted plagiarism.

7. *Collusion*
    The compilation of own text material with those of others is referred to as collusion and constitutes a case of attempted plagiarism.

8. *Falsifying information*
    Inventing results or findings, fabricating data and presenting information in an exaggerated manner, and using data and information produced by others without referencing are considered as attempted case of plagiarism.

Assessment, Good Academic Practices and Plagiarism

9. Globethics.net understands the importance of addressing plagiarism as part of its overall educational and ethical responsibility to contribute to an ethos of honesty and values-based

behaviour. It understands plagiarism as a violation to the respect and protection of the intellectual property of all.

10. Globethics.net as academic institution requests and encourages all staff, partners and participants of its course programmes to adhere to this understanding and to counter plagiarism by emphasising research integrity and autonomous academic work. It supports corresponding practices in accordance with internationally recognised academic conventions, such as the *European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity* (https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-ethics_code-of-conduct_en.pdf) or the United Kingdom Code of Practice for Research Integrity (https://ukrio.org/publications/code-of-practice-for-research/).

11. Consequently, the assessment of academic work submitted by students constitutes both a method of guidance with regard to good academic practices and research integrity, as well as a formal record on the achievements in the subject area taught.

Procedures to Prevent and Take Action against Plagiarism Evidence
Securement of Evidence Basis

12. Globethics.net uses text comparison software to detect potential plagiarism. Currently, the institution uses *Compilatio.net*, and may change to *Turnitin.com* in future. The utilisation of text comparison software aims at the following three objectives:

a. To introduce students to good academic practices and research integrity by using the feedback functionalities of the software packages

b. To conduct systematic originality checks on assignments and offer feedback on results, also at pre-final assignment stages to allow students to integrate fully good practices and to encourage original and autonomous research

c. To provide an evidence basis (threshold of the originality check indicator is defined at 20%) for further investigation and possible sanctions through procedures by the respective habilitated bodies as described below.

Procedures after Securement of Evidence basis

13. Upon detection of indicators for attempted plagiarism on the basis of an originality report indicator above 20%, the course instructor informs the course coordinator, who sends the report to the Academic Dean.

14. The Academic Dean upon receipt of the report, informs the student and solicits her/his statement on his position within a period of eight working days.

15. Detected cases of plagiarism in a submitted final assignment of a student, above the threshold of 20%, as above mentioned and explained, after the originality check with the text comparison software, are submitted to the Academic Committee.

16. The Academic Committee considers and evaluates the evidence provided from the originality check and the report of the assessor. The documentation required for the assessment of the Academic Committee are as follows:

a. The report of the assessor on the detected evidence of plagiarism, including a reference to the phase of academic supervision prior to the final submission of the assignment

b. The originality check result as per text comparison software

Globethics.net – Plagiarism Policy

c. The statement of the student after information on the evidenced plagiarism.

17. The Academic Committee may consult with the Globethics.net Ethics Committee as deemed appropriate to determine the evidence of plagiarism as deemed appropriate.

18. The Academic Committee may decide on the appropriate sanction to apply depending on the scrutiny of the case and proposal by the Academic Dean:

a. The academic work is assessed as nil for the reason of evidenced plagiarism and cannot be considered for the final assessment and certification

b. The academic work is assessed as 'not accepted' for the reason of not clearly evidenced plagiarism (e.g. usage of own material) and the work may be revised and resubmitted for the final assessment and certification

10 February 2020