

PLAGIARISM AWARENESS AMONG POST GRADUATE STUDENTS OF KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY KURUKSHETRA (KUK) OF HARYANA

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Abstract

The study was conducted on plagiarism awareness among the post graduate students of physics and Political Science students of Kurukshetra university of Kurukshetra. There are 92 respondents were response out of 100. The study was empirical and used survey methods. Questionnaire tool was used for data collection. The present study describes various aspects of plagiarism such as plagiarism awareness among respondents, understanding the concept of plagiarism, reason for plagiarism, awareness about standard of citation style and citing a book. The study was founded that majority of respondents not aware about plagiarism. Time pressure is main problem in plagiarism.

Keywords: Plagiarism; Anti plagiarism software; Post Graduate; Physics; Political Science.

1.0 Introduction: Everything recorded in the form of a document, is the property or product of the person responsible for its creation. When we need /use the document written by someone, we must acknowledge this fact and whenever, we write something which we have taken from someone else's document, we need to acknowledge the source in the form of citation of the original source. When we fail to acknowledge properly, we enter the sphere of plagiarism.

According to Carroll (2002), "Plagiarism is defined as passing off someone else's work whether intentionally or unintentionally, as your own benefits." (Quoted in Bioscience Higher Education Academy 2006)

2.0 Anti-Plagiarism Software

There are many plagiarism detection software which help the students in their research work. They help to know whether a particular research work is plagiarized or not.

Some important plagiarism detection software are given below:

1. Copytracker
2. Dupli checker
3. VIPER
4. EVE2
5. See sources
6. The plagiarism checker
7. Paper rater
8. Cite Plag
9. Copy scope
10. Turnitin
11. iThenticate
12. URKUND

3.0 Review of The Literature :

- Prasantha Kumara & Lakshmi (2015) conducted a study on awareness of plagiarism among research scholars of Sri Venkateshwara University. The results show that 98.37% respondents were aware of anti-plagiarism tools and 52.84% respondents were facing the problems of language skills, and 26.61% of writing skills.

- Tripathi et.al. (2015) tried to find out awareness about plagiarism among research scholars in Hindustan University Chennai. They found that the majority respondents were not aware about plagiarism. The study recommended to organize awareness programs and workshops to update their knowledge.
- Scanlon and Neumann (2002) reported a study based on internet plagiarism among college students. The study found that majority of respondents reported copying some text and using it without citation, 19% did this sometimes and 9.6% often or very frequently. 24.5% of these respondents reported plagiarizing online sometimes to very frequently.
- Jakson (2006) reported a study that evaluated undergraduate students' understanding of plagiarism through the use of an interactive, web-based tutorial. The study found that students have difficulty in grasping concepts related to paraphrasing.

4.0 Objectives:

The purpose of the study was to know the plagiarism awareness of the post graduate students of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra of Haryana. The specific objectives of the study were:

1. To know students' acquaintance with the word plagiarism.
2. To know the students understanding of plagiarism.
3. To know the sources of information used by PG students.
4. To know the students' understanding of citation.

5.0 Methodology :

The present study being empirical in nature, survey method was adopted to collect data from the population. The study was conducted on 290 PG students from Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra of Haryana. The Total population of students in KUK was 360 out of them sample was taken 100 students and response obtained of 92 students filled in questionnaires were received back with a response rate of 92 percent.

6.0 Data Analysis**Table-1: Gender wise distribution**

Statement	Response	Percentage
Male	40	43.47
Female	52	56.52
Total	92	99.99

Table1 shows that 52 (56.52%) of respondents female and 40 (43.47%) of respondents were male in both subjects in Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra.

Table-2: Background of Respondents

Statement	Response	Percentage
Rural	53	57.60
Urban	39	52.39
Total	92	99.99

Table2 shows that there were 53 (57.60%) of respondents from rural background followed by 39 (52.39%) from urban background.

Table-3: Age Wise Distribution

Statement	Response	Percentage
Up to 20	7	7.60
21-22	48	52.17
23-24	22	23.91
More than 24	15	16.30
Total	92	98.98

Table3 shows that most of respondents 48 (52.17%) aged between 21-22 years followed by 22 (23.91%) aged between 23-24 years and 15 (16.30%) aged more than 24 years. Only 7 (7.60%) of respondents age up to 20 years.

Table-4: Plagiarism Awareness among Respondents

Statement	Response	Percentage
Yes	48	52.17
No	44	47.82
Total	92	99.99

Table-4 shows that 52.17% respondents were aware of the word plagiarism and 47.82% respondents were unaware of the word plagiarism.

Table-5: Understanding of the Concept of Plagiarism

Statement	Yes	No	Total
Physics	64(69.56%)	28 (30.43%)	92
Political Science	58 (63.04%)	34 (36.95%)	92

The respondents were given 11 statement covering various facts of plagiarism and they had to tick the appropriate column whether in their opinion the statement showed plagiarism or, not they were not sure the response shows that 64 (69.56%) of respondent answered in yes by physics students and 58(63.04%) from Political Science.

Table-6: Frequency of Use of Information Source

Statement	Response	Percentage
Yes	51	55.43
No	41	44.56
Total	92	99.99

The respondents were asked to specify the frequently of various information sources they concerned for writing class assignment. 55.43% of respondents response yes and 44.56% response no for use of information source.

Table-7: Essential Information for Citing a Book

Statement	Author	Title	Publisher	Year
Physics	26 (28.26%)	25 (27.17%)	28 (30.43%)	13 (14.13%)
Political Science	25 (27.17%)	24 (26.08%)	29 (31.52%)	14 (15.21%)
Total	51	49	57	27

The respondents were asked what the essential information items to cite a book are. The response shows that the largest number of respondent cite a book by publisher in both subjects. Only (15.21%) in Political Science and (14.13%) in physics respondents were cite a book through year.

Table-8: Awareness of Standard Citation System

Statement	Response	Percentage
Yes	35	38.04%
No	57	61.95%
Total	92	99.99%

Table-8 shows that only 38.04% students knew the standard style of citation of work and 61.95% respondents did not know any standard style of citation.

Table-9: Reasons for Plagiarism

Statement	Excess work load	Language problem	Writing skill	Unaware	Time pressure
Physics	15 (16.30%)	18 (19.56%)	16 (17.39%)	16 (17.39%)	27 (29.34%)
Political Science	19 (20.65%)	14 (15.21%)	17 (18.47%)	18 (19.56%)	24 (26.08%)
Total	34	32	33	34	51

Table-9 Presents response on the reasons of plagiarism. The largest number of respondents particularly in physics (29.34%), Political Science (26.08%) felt that students resortedtoplagiarism due to time pressure. There are unaware and excess of work load also major reason of plagiarism and followed by language problem (19.56%) in physics and writing skills (18.47%) in Political Science.

7.0 Conclusion

Present study based on plagiarism awareness between physics and Political Science students. There were 52 male and 40 female respondents students. Most of respondents were from rural background. There were 52.17% of respondents aware of the word plagiarism. There were 64 (69.59%) of respondents understand the concept of plagiarism by physics students in compare of Political Science 58 (63.04%). Publisher was first choice to citing

a book by both subject. Only few students were aware about standard citation system. The study found that maximum students do plagiarism because of time pressure and language problem.

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