

Approval of Anti-Plagiarism policy for
prevention of plagiarism in the
postgraduate thesis/project reports



**Directorate of Research
Junagadh Agricultural University
Junagadh - 362 001**

NOTIFICATION

It is hereby notified to all concerned that the Academic Council, in its 61st meeting held on 17/12/2025 has resolved the “Approval of Anti-Plagiarism policy for prevention of plagiarism in the postgraduate thesis/project reports” vide item 61.14, as under:

“It is hereby resolved that the Anti-Plagiarism Policy for prevention of plagiarism in the postgraduate thesis/project reports as outlined in the Annexure-E, is approved for implementation in Junagadh Agricultural University w.e.f. April 01, 2026. Furthermore, based on the recommendation of the Dean, Faculty of Post-Graduate studies, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor may revise the policy as and when necessary, in the interest of the University.”


Director of Research
& Dean, P.G. Studies

Encl.: Annexure-E

9718-67

No. JAU/DR/PGT/T-6/AC/

/ 2026, Junagadh.

Dt 01.01.2026

Copy F.W.R. to:

1. All members of Academic Council of Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh
2. P.S. to Hon. Vice Chancellor, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh

Copy to:

1. The Registrar, JAU, Junagadh
2. All the Officers of this University, JAU, Junagadh
3. All the Principal & Deans of various faculties, JAU, Junagadh for implementation
4. All the Unit/ Sub Unit Officers, JAU, Junagadh
5. Director, IT Cell, JAU, Junagadh for circulation through email/JAU website
6. Notification file



POST GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMME

ANTI-PLAGIARISM POLICY

for

Prevention of Plagiarism

in

Thesis/Project Report

of

Post Graduate Students



Faculty of Post Graduate Studies
Junagadh Agricultural University
Junagadh - 362001
(Gujarat, India)



Annexure-E

ANTI-PLAGIARISM POLICY JUNAGADH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JUNAGADH

As amended in accordance with the UGC Notification called “University Grants Commission (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018”

1. Preamble

Ethical and moral integrity is an essential requirement in academic research, and every researcher is expected to produce and submit original and genuine work. In the present era, a vast amount of information is readily available either online or offline, in the form of journals, articles, reports, books, and other academic resources. While this availability supports learning and research, it has also significantly increased the risk of plagiarism, making it a serious concern in higher education. Plagiarism undermines academic honesty, intellectual property rights, and the credibility of research outputs. Therefore, it is imperative for any reputed and prestigious university to establish comprehensive and well-defined guidelines to effectively address and prevent this menace. In line with this objective, Junagadh Agricultural University has framed anti-plagiarism policy guidelines in accordance with the University Grants Commission (UGC) Regulations to prevent plagiarism in theses and project reports submitted by postgraduate students.

2. Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Establish a clear, transparent and standardized operational procedure for detecting, evaluating and addressing plagiarism in all postgraduate theses and project reports submitted to University
- Maintain academic integrity and uphold the highest standards of research ethics in all postgraduate theses and project reports submitted to University
- Prevent plagiarism and ensure that all submitted postgraduate theses and project reports represent the original work of the student
- Provide guidelines for the use of plagiarism detection software

3. Scope of the policy

These guidelines apply to postgraduate students of all the faculties of Junagadh Agricultural University who are submitting any of the following as part of the requirements for the award of an academic degree

- Master's Theses
- MBA Project Reports
- Doctoral (Ph. D.) Theses

4. Definition of plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of using another person's words, ideas, data, images, creative work or any form of intellectual output without proper acknowledgment. It includes, but is not limited to:

- **Verbatim copying:** Directly copying text from any published, unpublished or online source without quotation marks or proper citation.
- **Paraphrasing without attribution:** Rewriting or summarizing someone else's ideas in one's own words without giving credit to the original source.
- **Using another person's intellectual material:** Incorporating words, ideas, data, images, tables, charts or illustrations without proper acknowledgment or permission.
- **Self-plagiarism:** Copying or reproducing one's own previously published or submitted work, in whole or in part, without appropriate citation or authorization.
- **Data plagiarism:** Using another person's data, statistics, charts, experimental results or research findings without credit.
- **Image plagiarism:** Copying diagrams, figures, photographs or any other visual material without proper referencing or permission.
- **Improper collaboration:** Presenting group or collaborative work as an individual's original effort.
- **Submitting purchased or stolen work:** Presenting work that has been bought, borrowed, or taken from another person as one's own original submission.
- **AI-generated plagiarism:** Submitting content produced by artificial intelligence without disclosure, proper attribution, or adherence to institutional guidelines regarding AI use.
- **Similarity:** The similarity score is simply the percentage of matter in a submission that matched to other sources.

5. Software for detection of plagiarism

The plagiarism in the postgraduate students' theses and project reports will be checked by standard plagiarism detection software provided by **Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, Gandhinagar**, under the *ShodhShuddhi* programme. The software will be made available centrally in the University Library of the JAU. All theses and project reports must be checked for plagiarism at the University Library only.

6. Permitted similarities

Category	Maximum Permitted Similarities
Master's Thesis / MBA Project Report	Up to 20%
Ph. D. Thesis	Up to 15%

7. Similarity checks for exclusion from plagiarism

The similarity checks for plagiarism shall exclude the following:

- Published research papers in which the researcher is an author
- All quoted work reproduced with all necessary permission and/or attribution
- All title pages, acknowledgements, certificates, declaration, preface, table of contents, references or bibliography
- All generic terms, laws, standard symbols and standard equations



- Standard phrases, definitions and protocols
- Common knowledge or coincidental terms, up to fourteen (14) consecutive words

8. Procedure for plagiarism checking

a) Submission for plagiarism checking

- The plagiarism checking procedure must be completed before the submission of the 'kachcha bound' thesis or project report.
- The student shall fill up the **"Application for Plagiarism Check"** and submit the same along with a soft copy of the 'kachcha bound' thesis in searchable PDF format to the University Library. The soft copy shall be an exact copy of the print version of the thesis to be submitted for evaluation by external examiner(s).

b) Plagiarism checking and report generation

- The plagiarism checking will be carried out by the Plagiarism Verification Officer at University Library.
- The official plagiarism detection software, as provided by the Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, Gandhinagar, shall be used.
- The similarity report shall be generated by the Plagiarism Verification Officer through plagiarism detection software.
- The similarity report generated by the plagiarism detection software and its corresponding certificate (**Plagiarism Verification Report**) shall be submitted to the Major Guide through e-mail, with copies to concerned HoD and the Principal.

c) Revision based on similarity report

- The Major Guide, in coordination with the concerned student, shall jointly review and evaluate the similarity report generated by the plagiarism detection software.
- If the similarities fall **within the permitted limit**, the thesis/project report shall be accepted for submission.
- If the similarities **exceed the permitted limit**, the student shall be required to revise the thesis/project report and resubmit it for plagiarism checking after incorporating appropriate corrections. For each attempt of plagiarism check, the student shall fill up a new **"Application for Plagiarism Check,"** clearly indicating the attempt number and providing details of previous attempt(s).

Handling self-plagiarism

- In cases of self-plagiarism, where a student's previously published work appears as plagiarized in the similarity report, a **"Self-Plagiarism Exclusion Certificate"** must be issued by the Major Guide.
- This certificate should clearly list only those articles that the student has published from his/her research or project work. Only the specified articles may be excluded from the plagiarism check; no other publications by either the Major Guide or the student should be exempted.

Additional exclusions

- The Major Guide may recommend additional exclusions, as outlined in Point No. 7, using the prescribed format (**Major Guide's Exclusion Report**).

- **Plagiarism Verification Report**

- For each attempt of plagiarism check, a new “**Plagiarism Verification Report**” will be prepared, after incorporating the exclusions due to self-plagiarism, additional exclusions recommended by the Major Guide (if any) and necessary corrections done by the student in line with UGC Regulation-2018 and this report will be issued to the Major Guide through e-mail, with copies to concerned HoD and the Principal. This process will be repeated until the similarity comes **within the permitted limit** set by the university.

Note :

- The draft of *kachcha* bound thesis/project report shall undergo repeated plagiarism checks until the similarities fall within the permissible limit set by the University.
- The major guide of the concerned student should ensure that all the above steps are duly followed and the final draft of the thesis or project report meets the required standards of academic integrity and originality before submission.
- The major guide shall provide appropriate academic guidance to the student for revising and improving the thesis/project report in cases where the similarities exceed the permissible limit.

d) Review of the plagiarism checking process

- The entire process shall be reviewed by the concerned Head of the Department and the Principal and Dean of the respective faculty to ensure proper execution of plagiarism checking procedures.

e) Final submission

- Once the ‘*kachcha* bound’ thesis/project report meets the plagiarism standards set by the university, it will be accepted for final submission.
- The students shall have to submit the last plagiarism report along with the ‘*pakka* bound’ of the thesis/project report.

9. Record keeping

All plagiarism reports, along with the final accepted version of the thesis/project report, shall be archived by the department/college for record and future reference.

10. Review and amendment in the policy

- The Anti-Plagiarism Policy Committee shall review these guidelines regularly to maintain relevance and alignment with best academic practices.
- Any amendments deemed necessary during the review shall be submitted to the Dean, Faculty of Post-Graduate Studies, JAU, Junagadh.
- Based on the recommendation of the Dean, Faculty of Post-Graduate Studies, the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, is empowered to revise the guidelines of the policy as and when necessary, in the interest of the university.

ANNEXURES

- 1. Annexure-I :** Application for Plagiarism Check
- 2. Annexure-II :** Plagiarism Verification Report
- 3. Annexure-III :** Self-Plagiarism Exclusion Certificate
- 4. Annexure-IV :** Major Guide’s Exclusion Report



Annexure-I
COLLEGE OF A B C
JUNAGADH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
JUNAGADH



APPLICATION FOR PLAGIARISM CHECK

Details of the Thesis/Project Report		
Title of the Thesis/Project Report		
Details of the PG Student		
Name of Student		
Reg. No.		
Faculty		
Discipline		
Name of Degree Submitted for		
Department		
Mobile No.		
E-mail ID		
Details of the Major Guide		
Name of Major Guide		
Designation & Address		
Mobile No.		
E-mail ID		
Attempt of Plagiarism Check		
Attempt No.	Date of Submission to Library	Reason for submission (Whichever applicable)
1		Initial Plagiarism Check
2		Resubmission after exclusions/corrections
3		Resubmission after exclusions/corrections

Enclosure : *Kachcha bound* thesis/project report in soft copy in a single searchable PDF file
(From the title page to the last page of the thesis/project report)

Signature of Student

Signature of Major Guide

(Name of Student)

(Name of Major Guide)



Annexure-II
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
JUNAGADH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
JUNAGADH



PLAGIARISM VERIFICATION REPORT
(Use the same proforma for each attempt of plagiarism check)

Title of the Thesis/Project Report	
Name of Student	
Reg. No.	
Name of Major Guide	
Faculty	
Department	

The above thesis/project report was checked for plagiarism detection. The report(s) is/are as follows:

Plagiarism Check Report

Attempt No.	First / Second / Third /		
Date of report		Submission ID	
Software used		Similarity found (%)	
Total pages		Status of report	☐ Acceptable
Total word count			☐ Revision Required

Note: Attempt No. 1 = Initial check, Attempt No. 2, 3... = Revised submissions

The plagiarism check report for the above thesis/project has been forwarded to the Major Guide for review and for consideration of any admissible exclusions (in case of revision) as per UGC Regulations (2018).

Date :

Signature of Plagiarism Verification Officer

(Name of Plagiarism Verification Officer)

To,

The Major Guide

(Through e-mail along with the software generated plagiarism report)



Annexure-III
COLLEGE OF A B C
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JUNAGADH



SELF-PLAGIARISM EXCLUSION CERTIFICATE

Title of the Thesis/Project Report	
Name of Student	
Reg. No.	
Name of Major Guide	
Faculty	
Department	

The content of the thesis/project report has been published in

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

This published work has been included in the thesis/project report and has not been submitted for any degree to any University/Institute.

Date :

Signature of Student

(Name of Student)

Recommended by

Signature of Major Guide

(Name of Major Guide)



Annexure-IV
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JUNAGADH



MAJOR GUIDE'S EXCLUSION REPORT

Title of the Thesis/Project Report	
Name of Student	
Reg. No.	
Name of Major Guide	
Faculty	
Department	

In view of UGC Regulation-2018 on Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions, the following exclusions are recommended: **Generic terms, laws, standard symbols and standard equations, common knowledge or coincidental terms, up to fourteen (14) consecutive words.**

In view of this and based on Plagiarism Verification Report dated _____ the below mentioned similarities may kindly be excluded from the report as they fall under one or more of the above mentioned allowed exclusion. (Attach additional sheets if required)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

After incorporating the above exclusions, a revised Plagiarism Verification Report may kindly be issued.

Date :

Signature of Major Guide

(Name of Major Guide)