

Lecture02: Ethical issues in research

Ethical issues in research refer to moral principles and guidelines that researchers must follow to ensure integrity, fairness, and respect for participants. Some key ethical concerns include:

1. Informed Consent

- Researchers must obtain voluntary and informed consent from participants before involving them in a study.
- Participants should be fully aware of the purpose, procedures, risks, and benefits of the research.

2. Privacy and Confidentiality

- Researchers must protect the personal information of participants.
- Data should be anonymized or securely stored to prevent unauthorized access.

3. Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

- Researchers must give proper credit to sources and avoid fabricating or falsifying data.
- Ethical research involves honesty in reporting findings and avoiding any form of deception.

4. Harm and Risk Minimization

- Research should not expose participants to physical, psychological, or social harm.
- If risks exist, they should be minimized and clearly explained to participants.

5. Bias and Objectivity

- Researchers should avoid personal or financial conflicts of interest that could influence the study.
- Findings should be presented honestly without manipulation.

6. Ethical Treatment of Animals

- If research involves animals, it must follow ethical guidelines to minimize suffering.
- Proper care and humane treatment must be ensured.

7. Data Integrity and Transparency

- Researchers should not manipulate or misrepresent data.
- Transparency in methodology and results is essential for credibility.

8. Fair Participant Selection

- Participants should be selected fairly without discrimination or coercion.
- Vulnerable populations (e.g., children, elderly, disabled) require special ethical considerations.