

JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ANTI-PLAGIARISM POLICY

JULY 2024

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology

Anti-plagiarism Policy

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Policy Title:	Anti-Plagiarism		
Policy Theme:	Provision of essential guidelines for conducting Scholarly work		
Policy Contact:	Deputy Vice-Chancellor, ASAR		
Approval Authority:	The Council		
Policy Category:	Academic		
Reference No:	JOOUST/ASA/RIE/06		
Commencement Date:	Upon approval by the Council		
Revision Date:	March, 2024		
Approval Status:	Approved by Council		
Signed:	Prof. Emily Achieng' Akuno, PhD, OGW Vice-Chancellor and Secretary to the Council Date:24.01.2025		
Signed:	Chairman of Council Prof. Shem Oyoo Wandiga Date: 2901/2025		

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

For purposes of this policy, unless otherwise stated, the following abbreviations and acronyms shall apply:

ASAR

Academic, Student Affairs and Research

BPS

Board of Postgraduate Studies

DRIP

Directorate of Research, Innovation and Partnerships

DVC (ASAR)

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic, Student Affairs and Research)

DVC (PAF)

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Planning, Administration and Finance)

JOOUST

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology

NACOSTI

National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation

PAF

Planning, Administration and Finance

VC

Vice-Chancellor

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

Academic staff: Any employee of the University who holds any teaching or research post which the Council has recognized as a post having academic status in the University;

Plagiarism: Presenting work or ideas from other sources without full acknowledgement

Publication: Putting into the public domain any paper, book, report, brochure, thesis, model or any such manuscripts, orally or in writing;

Research fund: Financial resources set aside to support research activity in the University;

Research Proposal: A formal and structured document that describes an idea for an investigation, outlines the process from beginning to end;

Research: A systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources to establish facts and reach new conclusions;

Scholarly Work: A copyrightable work created by any University Personnel as evidence of academic advancement or academic accomplishment;

Similarity index: A numerical value or percentage that indicates the level of similarity between a submitted document and other sources;

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOOUST) was established in 2009 as a Constituent College of Maseno University following which it was granted a charter to a full-fledged public university on the 13th February 2013. The University derives its mandate of teaching and learning, research and community outreach from the Universities Act 2012 and its Charter. Article 7 of the Act gives the functions of the University as; (a) "to provide for the integration of teaching, research and effective application of knowledge and skills to the life, work and welfare of citizens of Kenya; (b) "participate in scholarly work, the discovery, transmission, utilization, preservation and enhancement of knowledge".

The University is committed to scholarly excellence and aims to create a research and learning environment that fosters and instils the qualities of independent scholarship, critical judgment, academic integrity and ethical practices.

1.1 Vision

The beacon of excellence in University Education.

1.2 Mission Statement

To provide quality education that nurtures creativity and innovation through integrated training, research and community outreach for sustainable development.

1.3 Philosophy

A holistic scholarship service to humanity through wisdom, science and technology

1.4 Core Value

- Customer focus
- Impartiality
- Professionalism
- Responsiveness
- Integrity
- Meritocracy

1.5 Motto

Oasis of Knowledge.

2.0 THE POLICY

2.1 Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a framework for detecting, handling and dealing with plagiarism incidents among staff, students and collaborators.

2.2 Policy Statement

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology is committed to upholding high standards of academic integrity and honesty.

2.3 Objectives of the Policy

The objective of this policy is to:

- i) Promote quality and standards of scholarly works;
- ii) Prevent, detect and control plagiarism;
- iii) Guide establishment of rules, and procedures for preventing, detecting and addressing plagiarism;
- iv) Provide a mechanism for reporting plagiarism cases.

2.4 Scope of the Policy

The policy will apply to all print and electronic materials generated by Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology community, their partners and collaborators and to any other documents submitted to the University, such as books, journals, theses, dissertations, reports, other publications and products.

3.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

3.1 Professionalism

The University shall uphold the tenets of best practice in all academic activities.

3.2 Academic Integrity

The University shall uphold the principles of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility

3.3 Consistency

The University shall encourage consistency and diligence among scholars.

3.4 Deterrence and Detection

The University shall adopt measures to deter and detect elements of plagiarism in scholarly material as per the Plagiarism Handling Procedures.

3.5 Openness

The University shall ensure transparency in handling plagiarism.

3.6 Recognition and Respect

The University shall encourage respect for and recognition of other people's creative and scholarly works.

4.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The policy shall continually be monitored and evaluated for its effectiveness, performance and relevance.

5.0 SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES

The following penalties shall apply to confirmed cases of plagiarism:

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MINOR (16-30%)	MAJOR (More than 30%)
i) Academic counselling	i) A Failing Grade in the affected course
ii) Resubmission of work after correction	ii) Recommendation for disciplinary action
iii) Warning	iii) Withholding the award
	iv) Revocation of the award

ii) Staff

MINOR (16-30%)	MAJOR (More than 30%)
i) Warning	i) Blacklist
ii) Retraction of work	ii) Revoke recognition/award
	iii) Legal action
	iv) Demotion of the staff
	v) Dismissal

6.0 AMENDMENTS AND REVIEW

Any amendments to this policy shall be approved by the University Council. The policy shall be reviewed every three (3) years or as and when the need arises.

7.0 REFERENCES

This Plagiarism policy shall be administered in compliance with:

- 1. The Constitution of Kenya, 2010
- 2. JOOUST Intellectual Property Rights Policy (2013)
- 3. JOOUST University Research Policy (2013)
- 4. JOOUST Student Rules and Regulations Governing the Discipline and Conduct of Students, 2013 (Any amendments thereof)
- 5. JOOUST Statutes, 2013
- 6. The Public Officers Ethics Act, 2003
- 7. Economic Crimes Act, 2003
- 8. Copyright Act, No. 12 of 2001
- 9. Information and Communications Act, 2013
- 10. Books and Newspapers Act Cap 111 (Revised Edition 2012 (2003)
- 11. Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013
- 12. Universities Act, 2012
- 13. Trade Marks Act, 2012
- 14. The Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act, 2003
- 15. Commission for University Education Guidelines, 2014
- 16. University Statutes 2013 (Any amendments thereof)
- 17. The Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering Act No. 9 of 2009
- 18. The Public Universities Code of Conduct Legal Notice No. 170 of 22nd October, 2003.
- 19. Data Protection Act No. 24 of 2019 of 8th November 2019
- 20. All laws passed and applicable in the Republic of Kenya.