



Title: Research Policy

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Review: The policy is subject to a periodic review every 4 years or in a shorter cycle as per amendments of University policies

1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to describe research at Gulf University. It details principles to accomplish scholarly research, publication and various other research activities by academic staff and students at GU.

2. Scope

This document applies to all academic staff, visiting academics, and students at Gulf University.

3. Acronyms

GU	Gulf University
HEC	Higher Education Council

4. Definitions

Academic Publication: An academic publication is the subfield that distributes academic research and scholarship. Most academic works are published in the form of academic journal articles, books or theses.

Co-Researcher: A Co-Researcher is the researcher, who engages in research with another researcher as joint contributor to the finding of the research project. Students cannot be designated as Co-Researcher.

Evaluator: An evaluator is the researcher from the team of main area of research, who evaluates research/project proposals and their achievements of other researchers within the relevant main area.

Lead Researcher: Lead researcher is the researcher, who leads a research group, takes responsibility for management and completion of the research project, supervises funding and expenditures on the research project, and reports to Gulf University and funding organization (if any).

Researcher: A researcher is an academic staff member or a visiting academic at Gulf University undertaking research at the University.

Research Team: A research Team is a group of researchers with interdisciplinary, diversity, integrated competencies, and potential research expertise to ensure the quality of the research.

Scientific Research: A scientific research is a methodology for investigating and acquiring both new and existing knowledge in systematical way. Scientific research can either be pure or applied.

Student: A student is any individual who is formally registered in a program offered by Gulf University.

Visiting Academic: A visiting academic is an academic invited by Gulf University (upon approval from HEC) for a specific period, such as for a semester or an academic year to undertake teaching and/or research in the offered programs.

5. Policy Statement

- 5.1 Gulf University ensures that the research strategy and policy are aligned with “Bahrain Vision 2030” and “HEC National Research Strategy 2014-24”.
- 5.2 Gulf University commits to complying with the HEC regulations related to research.
- 5.3 Gulf University commits to complying with the provisions of “Act No. 22 of the Year 2006”- relating to the Protection of Copyright and Neighboring Rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and “Act No. 12 of the Year 2008” - amending article 13 of Act No. 22 of the Year 2006.
- 5.4 Gulf University encourages a responsible research culture, that demonstrates:
 - honesty and integrity.
 - ethical behavior in research.
 - acknowledging credibility of others in research.
 - effective communication of research findings.
- 5.5 Gulf University commits to review the ethical aspect of research conducted by staff and students within given principles and no research shall be supported for financial grant without the ethical approval. Any research involving human beings, personal data, human samples, human tissues for clinical research, animal producing results for the purpose of publication shall be reviewed critically.
- 5.6 GU is committed to the following aspects of ethics of any research namely, respecting autonomy; minimizing the potential for distress of participants; prevent harm and hazard to any participant, maximizing benefit and add values; ensure fairness; confidentiality; integrity.
- 5.7 GU ensures that the rights of researchers, participants and all the stakeholders are maintained including right to give consent to participate in the research process; right to be anonymous; obligation for not disclosing any confidential information related to organization or personal.
- 5.8 GU ensures that design and impact of research outcome do not have detrimental effect on environment, provoke cultural and ethnic sensitivity or discrimination at any level.

- 5.9 Gulf University commits to supporting research through its resources and activities.
- 5.10 Gulf University commits to funding research activities from its own budget in accordance with the regulations of HEC.
- 5.11 Gulf University ensures a clear and transparent mechanism for the expenditure of research budget, and that all expenditure is spent on the purposes set for exclusively as stated in “HEC Regulations of Scientific Research in HE Institutions”.
- 5.12 Gulf University encourages interdisciplinary research teams.
- 5.13 Gulf University commits to developing quality research in collaboration with stakeholders in the community and other research institutions and encourages commercialization of its outcomes through links with industry and other organizations in the community.
- 5.14 Gulf University commits to reflecting research on education through linking and research activities.
- 5.15 Gulf University ensures timely and responsible dissemination of research findings such as publications, journals, exhibitions, forums and conferences by offering a cooperative environment for researchers.
- 5.16 Gulf University ensures communication with HEC to get approval for research done in collaboration with fellow researchers from other universities subject to fees payable from the research budget.

6. Responsibilities

Researchers and Students are responsible for:

- Following this document appropriately.

Head of departments and Deans are responsible for:

- Appropriate implementation of this document.

University Research Council is responsible for:

- Ensuring all academic staff and students are fully informed of this document.
- Appropriate implementation of this document.

Finance Department is responsible for:

- Appropriate implementation of this document.

The University Library is responsible for:

- Appropriate implementation of this document.

University Policy Development and Review Committee is responsible for:

- Systematic review of the effectiveness of this policy.

7. Related Policies

- No related Policy

8. Related Procedures

- Conduct of Research Procedures

9. Related References and Standards

BQA	Institutional Review Handbook
BQA	Programs-within-College Reviews Handbook
HEC	Academic Regulations