



Code of Conduct for Scrupulous Academic Practice and Integrity at Utrecht University

Utrecht University's core objective is to provide an academic education to young people and carry out groundbreaking research. Scrupulousness and integrity are fundamental to scrupulous academic practice and integrity and are important preconditions for the university being able to achieve these primary objectives.

Utrecht University helps students get the best out of themselves and their study programmes. For students that means, among other things, that acquiring an understanding of scrupulous academic practice, integrity and how to participate in a critical debate is part of their curriculum. An organisational culture of scrupulousness and integrity is also essential for achieving good, groundbreaking research. This means ensuring that staff take a critical stance and feel able to address each other's shortcomings and engage in open debate.

This Code of Conduct for Scrupulous Academic Practice and Integrity sets out what Utrecht University stands for. It describes the basic principles of the culture of scrupulousness and integrity we strive for in our teaching and research and how we achieve and monitor that as a university community. Utrecht University's aim is for this to encourage students and staff to behave with integrity and scrupulousness.

The Code of Conduct for Scrupulous Academic Practice and Integrity has been formulated partly in response to debates with staff and students over the past three years. Specific rules of behaviour are set out in the Utrecht University Code of Conduct, the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Scientific Practice, the Education and Examination Regulations and Utrecht University's principles in relation to partnerships under indirect funding and contract funding. This Code of Conduct for Scrupulous Academic Practice and Integrity builds on these. The complaints regulations and whistleblowers regulations also apply as a way of enforcing the code and dealing with complaints related to scrupulous academic practice and integrity.

What does Utrecht University stand for?

- 1. Utrecht University maintains an organisational culture in which quality takes precedence over quantity.**
- 2. Within Utrecht University, the onus is on all staff, students and other stakeholders in teaching and research to uphold scrupulous academic standards and integrity.**
- 3. All study programmes within Utrecht University (Bachelor's/Master's/PhD) and all research focus on the importance of scrupulousness and integrity.**
- 4. At Utrecht University, safety and trust provide the basis for a teaching atmosphere where there is room for discussion, doubt and questions, and for an open and transparent research atmosphere where researchers share data and discuss issues related to the scrupulousness and integrity of academia.**
- 5. Utrecht University provides accessible and readily understandable information on scrupulousness and integrity in academia.**
- 6. Researchers at Utrecht University are transparent in the way in which data is stored and research results are achieved.**
- 7. Partnerships with third parties are based on total independence and are encouraged where they bring added value to academic research and teaching. Utrecht University has formulated basic principles for partnerships with third parties to ensure that the academic interests of the university and its scholars and scientists are safeguarded.**