

## **Academic freedom policy**

### **Have a policy on supporting academic freedom (freedom to choose areas of research and to speak and teach publicly about the area of their research)**

Manav Rachna University (MRU) upholds a strong policy supporting academic freedom and the pursuit of independent scholarship. In alignment with national initiatives promoting research, innovation, and entrepreneurship, the University strives to empower its faculty, staff, and students to contribute meaningfully to the country's socio-economic development. MRU also actively encourages its employees to participate in conferences, symposia, workshops, and training programs both in India and abroad to foster knowledge exchange, professional growth, and academic collaborations. These efforts collectively strengthen the University's vibrant academic and research environment.

### **Policy for Faculty and Staff Members**

Manav Rachna University encourages its faculty and staff to actively participate in the academic, research, and governance processes of the institution while upholding professional responsibility, ethical conduct, and confidentiality. Key provisions of the policy include:

**1. Freedom of Expression:**

Faculty and staff members are free to express their views on governance matters related to their respective Schools, units, and libraries without institutional restraint. They are expected to exercise this freedom responsibly, respecting the privacy and confidentiality of others.

**2. Academic and Research Engagement:**

Faculty members have the autonomy to pursue research in areas of their choice and engage in collaborations both within and outside the University. They may participate in seminars, conferences, and workshops to present or publish their research.

**3. Industry and Community Collaboration:**

Faculty members may collaborate with industry to develop industry-oriented courses, establish Centers of Excellence, and contribute to executive, management, and faculty development programs, while complying with university norms and keeping the University informed of such activities.

**4. Curriculum Design and Teaching:**

Faculty members are empowered to design, revise, and develop course curricula in their areas of expertise. They can also provide free educational resources and lectures through

designated platforms, ensuring the University is informed.

#### 5. **Feedback and Academic Contribution:**

Faculty and staff members are encouraged to provide feedback on academic, research, and curricular development at any time to the head of the course committee, program head, or Dean/Director of the School.

This policy ensures that faculty and staff enjoy academic freedom and professional autonomy while fostering accountability, transparency, and excellence in teaching, research, and community engagement.

- The University offers research freedom to both senior and junior academicians, allowing them to pursue projects aligned with their interests and expertise. Multidisciplinary research across various Schools is actively encouraged, and faculty members may collaborate with other institutions or industries to enhance the scope and impact of their work.
- Manav Rachna University believes in giving its faculty full freedom to pursue innovative ideas and explore new areas of research with strong institutional support. **Prof. (Dr.) S.K. Shukla and Dr. Jitendra Pal Singh** are shining examples of this culture of academic independence and encouragement. Prof. Shukla has earned global recognition by being listed among the world's top 2% scientists by Stanford University for two consecutive years (2023 and 2024), and he also ranks among the leading researchers worldwide in hydrochloric acid research and corrosion inhibitors. Dr. Singh, listed in Stanford's 2024 ranking of top scientists for his exceptional work in materials science, has published over 177 research papers, received more than 3,900 citations, and led major funded projects such as a ₹1.19 crore SERB grant on advanced battery materials. Both professors have contributed significantly to developing research infrastructure, guiding young scholars, and strengthening the university's research environment, reflecting Manav Rachna University's continuous commitment to empowering its faculty and fostering a vibrant scientific community. All faculty members enjoy autonomy in their research activities, and their work is made publicly visible through platforms such as Google Scholar, Scopus, and ORCID.



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<a href="#">Experimental study for growth potential of unicellular alga <i>Chlorella pyrenoidosa</i> on dairy waste water: an integrated approach for treatment and biofuel production</a> R Kothari, VV Pathak, V Kumar, DP Singh Bioresource technology 116, 466-470	272	2012
<a href="#">Experimental and kinetic studies for phycoremediation and dye removal by <i>Chlorella pyrenoidosa</i> from textile wastewater</a> VV Pathak, R Kothari, AK Chopra, DP Singh Journal of environmental management 163, 270-277	181	2015
<a href="#">Biodiesel production from waste cooking oil: a comprehensive review on the application of heterogeneous catalysts</a> S Banga, VV Pathak Energy Nexus 10, 100209	158	2023
<a href="#">Phycoremediation: algae as eco-friendly tools for the removal of heavy metals from wastewaters</a> S Ahmad, A Pandey, VV Pathak, VV Tyagi, R Kothari Bioremediation of Industrial Waste for Environmental Safety, 53-76	123	2020

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India  
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Corrosion inhibition microwave and ultrasound ...

TITLE	CITED BY	YEAR
<a href="#">Cefotaxime sodium: a new and efficient corrosion inhibitor for mild steel in hydrochloric acid solution</a> SK Shukla, MA Quraishi Corrosion Science 51 (5), 1007-1011	300	2009
<a href="#">Inhibitive Effect of <i>Argemone mexicana</i> Plant Extract on Acid Corrosion of Mild Steel</a> G Ji, SK Shukla, P Dwivedi, S Sundaram, R Prakash Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research 50 (21), 11954-11959	265	2011
<a href="#">Streptomycin: A commercially available drug as corrosion inhibitor for mild steel in hydrochloric acid solution</a> SK Shukla, AK Singh, I Ahmad, MA Quraishi Materials Letters 63 (9-10), 819-822	264	2009
<a href="#">Experimental and quantum chemical studies of some bis (trifluoromethyl-sulfonyl) imide imidazolium-based ionic liquids as corrosion inhibitors for mild steel in hydrochloric ...</a> LC Murulana, AK Singh, SK Shukla, MM Kabanda, EE Eberoso Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research 51 (40), 13282-13299	239	2012
<a href="#">Inhibitive effect of ceftazidime on corrosion of mild steel in hydrochloric acid solution</a>	229	2011

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## Policy on Teaching and Academic Freedom at Manav Rachna University

Manav Rachna University provides full teaching freedom to both senior and junior academicians, allowing them to select subjects based on their expertise, research interests, and professional strengths. Faculty members are also empowered to choose their teaching load through a structured process, wherein they submit their preferences via a Google Form, ensuring alignment with their academic and research priorities.

### **Key Activities Ensuring Teaching and Academic Freedom:**

- Faculty have the autonomy to conduct research in areas of their choice, including multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary collaborations within the University and with external institutions or industries.
- Faculty can partner with industry to develop industry-oriented courses or establish Centers of Excellence, in accordance with university norms.
- Participation in Faculty Development Programs (FDPs), Management Development Programs (MDPs), and Executive Development Programs (EDPs) within and outside the University is encouraged to impart quality education and expand professional exposure.
- Faculty design their own class curricula, participate in curriculum revision, and develop course content.
- Attendance at seminars, conferences, and workshops, as well as publication of research papers, is encouraged.
- Faculty can provide free educational resources and lectures through designated online portals.
- Students benefit from a Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS), allowing them to select courses from their specialization as well as from other departments, provided prerequisites are met.
- Student feedback is actively considered for curriculum development and course content.
- Initiatives such as peer learning through 'Flip Educator' programs allow academically proficient senior students to mentor juniors.
- Weekly research talks by faculty and research students are open to the entire University community and the general public.
- Technical societies and clubs enable students from different departments to collaborate with faculty on interdisciplinary projects, learning beyond the curriculum, and contribute to research and product innovation.
- The University organizes over 100 conferences, seminars, workshops, and symposiums annually, accessible to students, faculty, staff, and the public.

Guidelines for providing financial assistance to Faculty for their career and research:  
[https://manavrachna.edu.in/assets/campus/mru/pdf/Guidelines-for-providing-Financial-Assistant-to-Faculty-for-their-Career-Progression-etc\\_Final.pdf](https://manavrachna.edu.in/assets/campus/mru/pdf/Guidelines-for-providing-Financial-Assistant-to-Faculty-for-their-Career-Progression-etc_Final.pdf)

Policy for promotion of Research and Innovation :  
<https://manavrachna.edu.in/assets/campus/mru/pdf/Policy-for-Promotion-of-Research-and-Innovation.pdf>

**Policy for Students:**

- Students are free to undertake research in areas of their choice and may collaborate with internal or external institutions, with prior information to the University.
- Participation in quality education programs, lectures, and workshops within and outside the University is encouraged.
- Students can exercise their choice of courses through CBCS, open electives, audit courses, minors, and honors options as per their curriculum.
- Feedback from students on academic, research, and curriculum development is actively solicited and considered.

This policy ensures that both faculty and students enjoy academic and teaching freedom while fostering a culture of collaboration, research innovation, and holistic learning.