



Thunchath Ezhuthachan
Malayalam University

Policy on Laboratory Safety



1. Purpose

The purpose of this laboratory policy is to ensure the safe and effective operation of laboratory facilities within the Environmental Studies School of Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University. This policy is designed to promote a culture of safety, responsibility, and professionalism among all laboratory users.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, and visitors utilizing laboratory facilities within the Environmental Science department.

3. Laboratory Facilities

The Environmental Science department maintains several specialized laboratory facilities:

- Wet Laboratory: Equipped for conducting experiments involving the use of liquids, chemicals, and sample preparations.
- Instrumentation Laboratory: Houses specialized equipment for analytical procedures and instrumental analysis.
- Microbiology Laboratory: Dedicated to the study of microorganisms and related research activities.
- Upcycling Laboratory: Focused on innovative methods for reusing and repurposing materials to reduce environmental impact.

4. General Laboratory Rules

- All laboratory users must adhere to safety guidelines and protocols established by the department and the university.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE), including lab coats, safety glasses, and gloves, must be worn at all times while in the laboratory.
- Laboratory work should only be conducted under the supervision of qualified personnel.
- Eating, drinking, and smoking are strictly prohibited inside laboratory facilities.

- Laboratory equipment and materials must be used responsibly and in accordance with established procedures.
- Cleanliness and tidiness must be maintained in all laboratory areas. Spills and accidents should be promptly reported and cleaned up.

5. Access and Scheduling

- Access to laboratory facilities is restricted to authorized personnel only.
- Prior reservation or scheduling may be required for the use of specific laboratory equipment or resources.
- Laboratory hours may vary and will be communicated to all users in advance.

6. Safety and Emergency Procedures

- Emergency exits, fire extinguishers, and safety showers must be easily accessible and kept clear at all times.
- In the event of an emergency, all laboratory users must follow evacuation procedures and assemble at designated meeting points.
- First aid kits and emergency contact information should be readily available in all laboratory areas.
- Any accidents or incidents occurring within the laboratory must be reported immediately to supervisory staff.

7. Waste Management

- Proper disposal procedures must be followed for all laboratory waste, including chemicals, biological materials, and other hazardous substances.
- Users are responsible for segregating waste materials according to established guidelines and labeling containers appropriately.

8. Equipment Maintenance and Calibration

- Laboratory equipment must be maintained in good working condition, and regular inspections should be conducted to ensure safety and reliability.

- Calibration and validation procedures should be performed as necessary to maintain the accuracy of instrumentation.

9. Training and Education

- All laboratory users must undergo appropriate training and orientation before being allowed to work independently in laboratory facilities.
- Continuing education and professional development opportunities will be provided to enhance skills and knowledge related to laboratory practices and safety.

10. Compliance and Enforcement

- Non-compliance with laboratory policies and procedures may result in disciplinary action, including the restriction or suspension of laboratory privileges.
- All laboratory users are expected to cooperate with supervisory staff and comply with instructions given in the interest of safety and regulatory compliance.

11. Review and Revision

- This laboratory policy will be periodically reviewed and revised as necessary to reflect changes in regulations, best practices, and departmental requirements.
- Feedback from laboratory users will be solicited and considered in the ongoing improvement of laboratory operations and safety measures.