LACK OF SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY IN MEXICAN UNIVERSITIES

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INTRODUCTION

Our research focuses on addressing academic and scientific misconduct among PhD graduates in two Mexican public universities who benefit from government-funded maintenance scholarships.

Specifically, our study aims to ascertain whether doctoral program coordinators incorporate teachings on scientific integrity and whether universities have established internal protocols to promote academic honesty and combat various forms of misconduct.

Our premise is that current educational programs and institutional guidelines within universities are insufficient in addressing these issues effectively.

Our goal is to broaden this investigation to provide a comprehensive overview of academic doctoral programs nationwide. Additionally, we aim to develop essential guidelines and academic recommendations to enhance the practices of researchers, educators, and students.

>>> OBJECTIVES

We will examine the teaching-learning strategies and the regulatory framework concerning scientific integrity within doctoral programs acknowledged by the Mexican Council of Science, Humanities, and Technologies (CONAHCyT) under category 1 at two Public Higher Education Universities.

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BACKGROUND



Public disclosure of plagiarism cases.

Public perception can impact the prestige of scientific research and academic institutions.

The most pertinent case involves a minister of the National Supreme Court of Justice, where evidence of plagiarism was uncovered in both her Bachelor's and Ph.D. theses.

Godercharle (2014) conducted a content analysis using 49 guides, each displaying significant variations.

Bonn et al. (2017) conducted a study on integrity guidelines within EU universities, revealing disparate initiatives lacking consistency in conceptual frameworks.

In a study by Hirsch (2019), 21 UNAM SNIs professors highlighted honesty, objectivity, openness, respect, responsibility, and integrity as key values in scientific research.

In Croatia, Ljubenkovic et al. (2021) identified a significant prevalence of research misconduct among 429 participants, particularly in the context of authorship.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Scientific Integrity: deontological requirement to behave in accordance with good practices common to the way of being of a scientist who cannot be affected by his own interests, ideas or external pressures

Characteristics:

- Honesty
- Independence
- Impartiality

Misconduct:

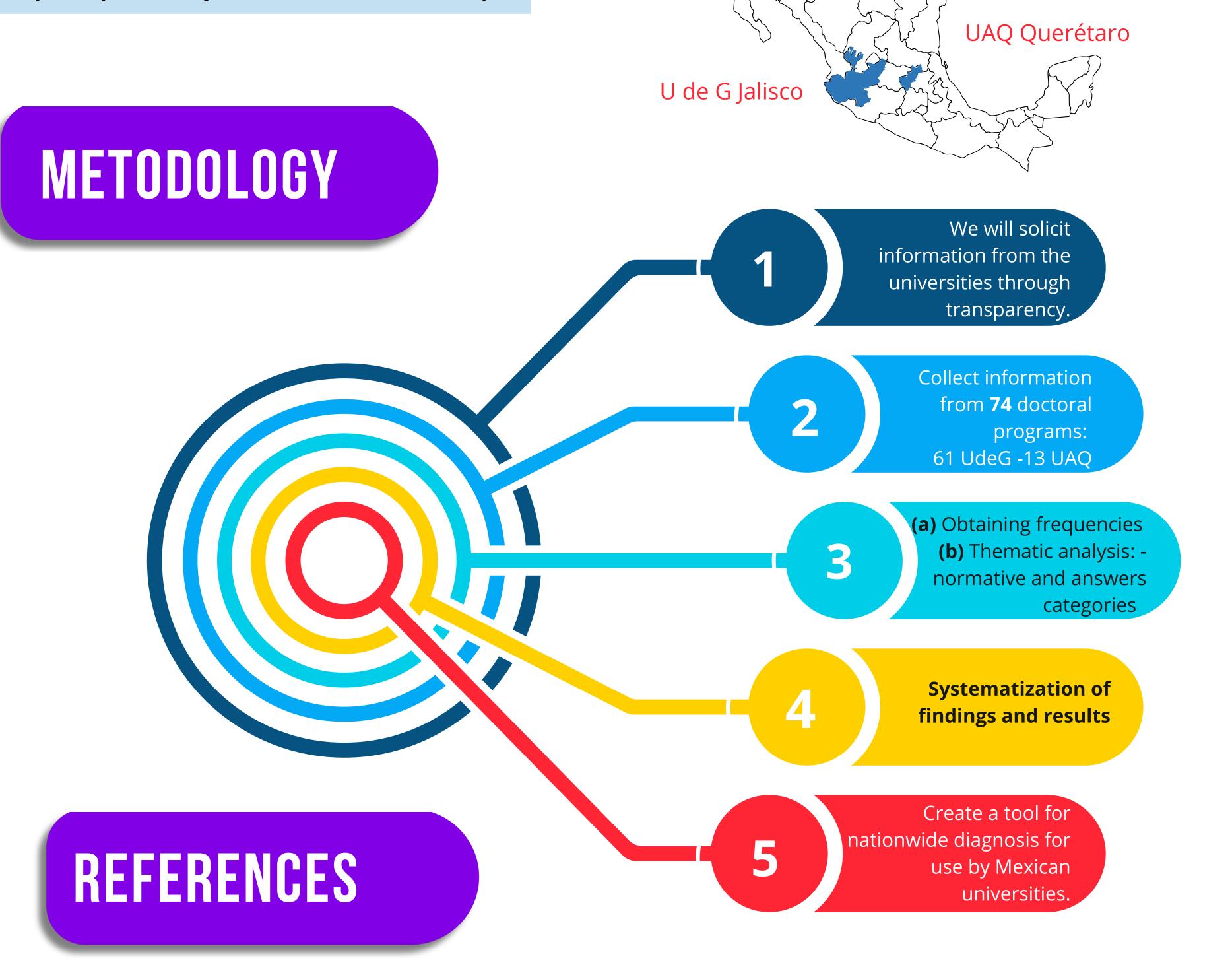
- Falsifying and fabricating data
- Plagiarism
- Inappropriate personal behavior,
- Using inappropriate research methods,
- Claiming, denying or granting undeserved authorship,
- Inappropriate use of research funds
- Undeclared and uncontrolled conflict of interest
- Making malicious allegations of misconduct

Internal Standards of Scientific Integrity in Universities

National Platform for Transparency and Access to Public Information

National Council of Humanities, Sciences and Technologies (Conahcyt)

 Category 1 = Research-oriented PhD Programs of Public Universities



Bonn, N., Godecharle, S., & Dierickx, K. (2017). European Universities' Guidance on Research Integrity and Misconduct: Accessibility, Approaches, and Content. *Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics: An International Journal, 12(1), 33–44*.

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