



STUDENT HANDBOOK 2025



Faculty of Graduate Studies
University of Sri Jayewardenepura
Sri Lanka



STUDENT HANDBOOK

2025

Third Edition

Effective from 1st October 2025

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Chief Editor

Professor Rasika Perera

Dean

Faculty of Graduate Studies

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Editorial Assistance

Mrs. Madushi Egodage

Mr. Mohomed Atheeq

Mr. Sachith Welarathna

Design and Layout

Mr. Mohomed Atheeq

Mr. Sachith Welarathna

Inquiries

Professor Rasika Perera

Dean

Faculty of Graduate Studies

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

+94 (0) 11 2802551

deanfgs@sjp.ac.lk

Mrs. Madushi Egodage

Senior Assistant Registrar

Faculty of Graduate Studies

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

+94 (0) 11 2804606

dr.fgs@sjp.ac.lk

Mrs. Lekha Wickramasinghe

Deputy Bursar

Faculty of Graduate Studies

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

+94 (0) 11 2881559/+94 (0) 11 2745502

fgsfinance@sjp.ac.lk

Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS)

<https://www.graduate.sjp.ac.lk>



Email

info.fgs@sjp.ac.lk

fgsdeanoffice@sjp.ac.lk

International Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies (IJMS)

<https://journals.sjp.ac.lk/index.php/ijms>



Email

ijms@sjp.ac.lk

International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches (iCMA)

<http://graduate.sjp.ac.lk/icma>



Email

icma@sjp.ac.lk

Contributors

Ven. Prof. Medagampitiye Vijithadhamma Thero

Senior Prof. B.N.F. Warnakulasooriya

Senior Prof. M. Samarakoon

Senior Prof. R.L.S. Fernando

Prof. B.W.R. Damayanthi

Prof. C. Jayathilake

Prof. C. Konthesingha

Prof. D. Jayawardhana

Prof. G. Weerasinghe

Prof. K.G.L.R. Jayathunge

Prof. K.L.W. Perera

Prof. L. Ananda

Prof. L.D.C. Peiris

Prof. M.M. Weerasekara

Prof. M.S.S. Perera

Prof. N. Malavige

Prof. R.N. Nugara

Prof. T.G.I. Fernando

Dr. A. Cooray

Dr. D. Weerathunga

Dr. H.P.T.N. Silva

Dr. I. Senanayake

Dr. K. Hewawasam

Dr. K.M.P. Perera

Dr. L. Weerasinghe

Dr. M.A.S. Wijesinghe

Dr. M.K.A. Ariyaratne

Dr. M.T.M. Perera

Dr. P.D.A. Abeysundara

Dr. T.M.K.K. Jinasena

Dr. T.S. Thalagala

Dr. Y. Alahakoon

Mr. U.K. Amarasinghe

Abbreviations

| | |
|---------|---|
| BoS | - Board of Study |
| ERC | - Ethics Review Committee |
| ERC-AS | - Ethics Review Committee in Animal Studies |
| ERC-HSS | - Ethics Review Committee in Humanities and Social Sciences |
| FERCSL | - Forum for Ethics Review Committees in Sri Lanka |
| FGS | - Faculty of Graduate Studies |
| GP | - Grade Point |
| GPA | - Grade Point Average |
| HEI | - Higher Education Institute |
| iCMA | - International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches |
| IJMS | - International Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies |
| IIVCC | - Innovation, Invention, and Venture Creation Council |
| MA | - Master of Arts |
| MPhil | - Master of Philosophy |
| NVQ | - National Vocational Qualification |
| PG | - Postgraduate |
| PGCert | - Postgraduate Certificate |
| PGDip | - Postgraduate Diploma |
| PhD | - Doctor of Philosophy |
| RC | - Research Council |
| SLQF | - Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework |
| TESL | - Teaching English as a Second Language |
| UBL | - University Business Linkage |
| UGC | - University Grants Commission |
| USJ | - University of Sri Jayewardenepura |

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Welcome to the University of Sri Jayewardenepura

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJ) welcomes you. Situated in a scenic location in Gangodawila, approximately 15 kilometers from the commercial hub of Colombo, USJ stands as the largest university in Sri Lanka based on student population. We host around 13,500 students across 11 diverse faculties: Humanities and Social Sciences, Applied Sciences, Management Studies and Commerce, Medical Sciences, Graduate Studies, Engineering, Technology, Allied Health Sciences, Dental Science, Urban and Aquatic Bioresources, and Computing.

Our core ideals are captured in the university motto, “Vijja Uppattham Setta (විජ්ජා උපපත්තං සෙට්ඨා – Wisdom is the Greatest Treasure),” which guides our vision and mission. The university’s vision, “Prosper Lives through Education,” underscores our fundamental commitment to enhancing human well-being through learning. Our mission, “Develop Globally Competent Citizens through Our Education for a Sustainable Future, Drawing Inspiration from Cultural Heritage and Wisdom,” highlights our dedication to discovering and sharing knowledge for the benefit of Sri Lanka and the world, while valuing our rich heritage.

USJ offers a comprehensive range of academic programs designed to impart modern knowledge and skills relevant to both local and global job markets. Supporting our academic endeavors are 23 dedicated research centers investigating key national issues. Furthermore, the University Research Council, the Innovation, Invention, and Venture Creation Council (IIVCC), and the University Business Linkage (UBL) actively support research and innovation among academics and students, frequently facilitating the commercialization of new products and ideas.

Throughout its long history, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura has made significant contributions to the nation by producing numerous knowledgeable, skilled, and competent graduates who serve as professionals across various sectors vital to national development. Becoming a postgraduate student at this prestigious university is both an honor and an opportunity. We are truly delighted to welcome you to this journey of advanced learning, research, and discovery, one that will shape not only your future but also contribute meaningfully to the betterment of society.



Faculty of Graduate Studies

Established in 1996 under the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978 (Section 48A), the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) serves as the central body for leading and facilitating postgraduate teaching and research activities at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Our primary objective is to provide advanced learning opportunities that cultivate students' academic and professional capabilities to meet both national and international demands.

FGS aspires to be a center of excellence in advanced learning and research, recognized both within Sri Lanka and internationally. Our mission aligns with the university's goal: to produce globally competent citizens through education, drawing strength and inspiration from the nation's cultural heritage and wisdom.

FGS operates through nine specialized Boards of Study (BoS), ensuring comprehensive coverage across diverse academic disciplines: Social Sciences, Humanities, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Management Studies and Commerce, Medical Sciences, Engineering, Industrial Technology, and Multidisciplinary Studies. Through these BoS, FGS offers a wide spectrum of postgraduate qualifications, including Postgraduate Certificates, Postgraduate Diplomas, Master's degrees, Master of Philosophy (MPhil), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programs. All FGS programs are meticulously aligned with the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF), ensuring our academic standards meet national benchmarks and are comparable to international standards.

FGS is committed to providing a dynamic and supportive learning environment. Many programs are designed for working professionals, featuring hybrid learning modes that integrate traditional classroom teaching with flexible e-learning components. Teaching and supervision are conducted by highly qualified internal academic staff alongside external experts drawn from the private and public sectors, who contribute valuable practical experience. We foster numerous collaborations with reputable local and international universities and institutions, offering opportunities for joint research projects. Close ties with industry ensure our teaching and research remain practical and relevant to national development needs. The University Research Council (URC) provides financial assistance for research focusing on significant national issues, supporting both students and academics.

To enhance your postgraduate study experience, FGS offers the Graduate Skills Enhancement Program, which consists of several certification courses. This initiative is designed to strengthen essential research capabilities, language proficiency, and soft skills, ensuring you produce high-quality work and develop into well-rounded professionals.

FGS is proud of its contribution to national development, having produced a significant number of graduates who have excelled in both the public and private sectors, holding key positions and driving forward the development of the country. By choosing FGS at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, students will be embarking on a journey that not only enriches their academic knowledge but also prepares them to make impactful contributions to local and global challenges.

Message from the Vice Chancellor

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest wishes to the postgraduate students of the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura, the largest in Sri Lanka in terms of student population, stands as a leading center of excellence in higher education. With a rich academic heritage and as an institute that contributes massively to national development, the university offers a wide scope of academic disciplines across 11 faculties. Among them, the Faculty of Graduate Studies plays a major role in leading the university's postgraduate educational and research endeavors.

The academic programs offered by the FGS are meticulously structured to reflect international standards while remaining relevant to national needs. These programs are strengthened by academic integrity, producing graduates who are in leadership roles across academia, government, industry, and civil society. The strength of these programs lies not only in their academic depth, but also in their capacity to inspire innovation, critical thinking, and scholarly advancements.

FGS is led by an accomplished Dean and a distinguished academic staff with expertise across diverse fields. Their guidance and mentorship offer an enriching environment that supports advanced learning and meaningful research outcomes.

This handbook has been thoughtfully compiled to provide clear guidance on academic procedures, expectations, and opportunities available to postgraduate students. It serves as an essential resource to support successful engagement with postgraduate studies and the achievement of personal and professional goals.

As the Vice Chancellor, I trust the huge efforts taken by the university in nurturing scholars who contribute responsibly to national development and global knowledge. I extend my sincere wishes to all postgraduate students for a rewarding academic journey and a successful future.



Senior Professor Pathmalal M. Manage

Vice Chancellor

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Message from the Dean

As Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS), I am delighted to welcome all new students who have enrolled in our postgraduate programs. This handbook serves as a comprehensive guide to your postgraduate studies, providing essential information regarding the procedures, resources, and opportunities available within the FGS.



Established in 1996, FGS provides dedicated leadership and support for postgraduate education and research across the university. Our vision is to be the preeminent center for advanced learning, research, and scholarship, recognized both within Sri Lanka and internationally. To achieve this, the FGS operates through nine Boards of Study (BoS) covering the full spectrum of academic disciplines: Social Sciences, Humanities, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Management Studies and Commerce, Medical Sciences, Engineering, Industrial Technology, and Multidisciplinary Studies.

Students enrolled in any program through a selected BoS receive comprehensive support from the appropriate faculty or department for their studies, whether pursued through coursework or research. The University's vast intellectual resources, represented by its high-caliber academic staff, provide a strong foundation for diverse research endeavors. The FGS offers a wide range of programs, including postgraduate certificates and diplomas, master's, MPhil, and PhD, enabling students to advance their careers.

The uniqueness of our study programs stems from the strategic position of our university, which is striving toward greater heights in a modern technological landscape while upholding a solid religious, cultural, and traditional knowledge base. Through the coursework and research initiatives, the Faculty intends to produce knowledgeable and skilled individuals equipped with positive attitudes. Importantly, all FGS programs are aligned with the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF), ensuring our academic standards meet national benchmarks and are comparable to international standards.

Our program curricula are constantly reviewed and updated to align with current global and local trends and meet the needs of our diverse student body. The teaching and learning process is conducted by highly qualified academic staff, complemented by external experts from the private and public sectors who contribute valuable practical experience. I encourage you to take full advantage of the resources and opportunities offered by the FGS. We are dedicated to fostering your growth into exceptional professionals prepared to make meaningful contributions to Sri Lanka and beyond.

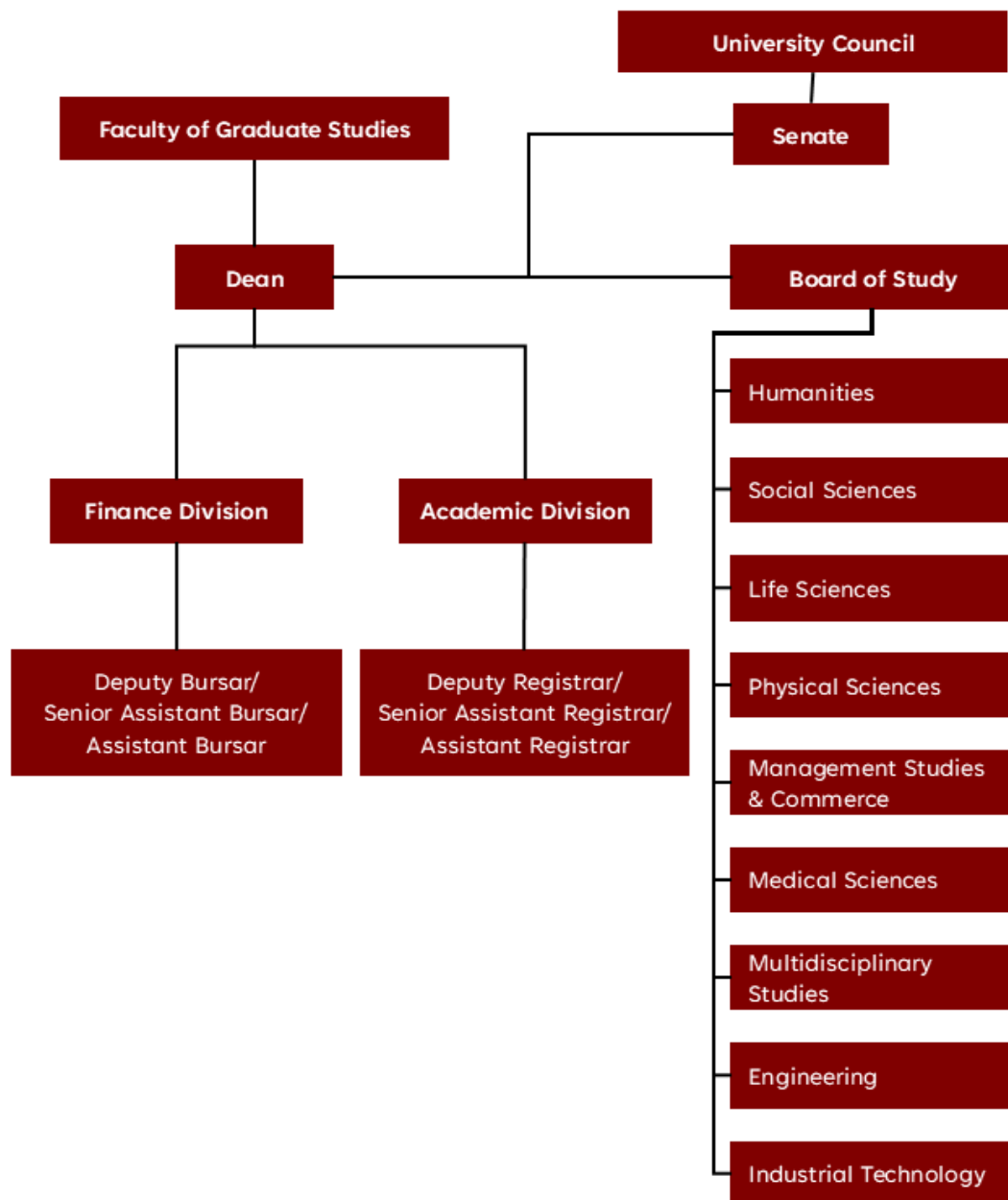
Professor P.P.R. Perera

Dean

Faculty of Graduate Studies

University of Sri Jayawardenepura

Organogram of the Faculty of Graduate Studies



Research and Publications

The Faculty of Graduate Studies actively promotes a vibrant research culture through several key initiatives:

International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches (iCMA)

The International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches (iCMA) is a prestigious annual research event organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. As the official coordinating body for postgraduate academic and research activities, the FGS hosts iCMA to foster the advancement of multidisciplinary research. This conference provides a unique platform for academics, researchers, and industry professionals to disseminate knowledge and share experiences, addressing pertinent national and global challenges.

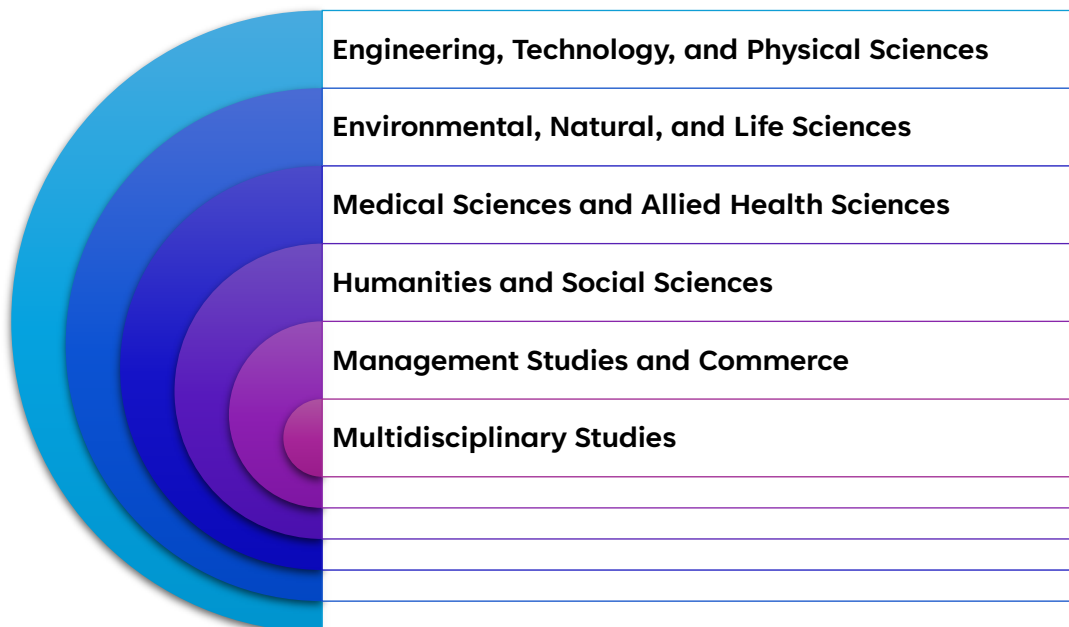
The iCMA is intrinsically linked to the FGS and its nine Boards of Study (BoS), which represent the diverse academic and research fields within the university. The conference serves as a vital forum for bridging these disciplines, encouraging the exchange of ideas and innovative approaches that contribute to national and global development.

For those interested in exploring the rich insights and findings from previous conferences, the past iCMA conference proceedings are available for access: <http://graduate.sjp.ac.lk/icma/past-conferences>.



International Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies (IJMS)

The International Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies (IJMS), published semi-annually by the FGS, offers a dedicated platform for scholars engaged in multidisciplinary research, covering a range of disciplines.



The journal encourages studies that integrate perspectives from at least two distinct disciplines, thereby fostering a holistic approach to knowledge creation and innovation. IJMS accepts high-quality research articles, original works, reviews, and conceptual papers that contribute significantly to the advancement of knowledge. The FGS editorial team is actively working toward indexing IJMS in the Scopus database to enhance its visibility and credibility on global platforms.

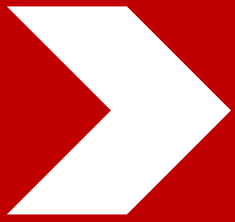
IJMS provides immediate open access to its content, promoting a wider global exchange of knowledge. The journal supports LOCKSS harvesting, enabling participating libraries to create distributed archiving systems for long-term preservation and restoration. Furthermore, IJMS ensures the visibility and credibility of its publications by registering articles with Crossref.

For further information and to access the journal, visit the IJMS journal page: <https://journals.sjp.ac.lk/index.php/ijms>.

Gold Medal Award for “Excellence in Research”

The Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, annually awards the Gold Medal for Excellence in Research to recognize outstanding postgraduate research accomplishments. Separate awards are conferred for MPhil and PhD programs within each of the nine Boards of Study, potentially totaling up to 18 awards each year based on student performance. This prestigious honor recognizes graduates who have demonstrated exceptional research contributions, originality, creativity, and scholarly impact. Research excellence is evaluated based on a comprehensive marking scheme that considers indexed publications, patents, conference papers, research awards, and other scholarly achievements. The selection process is conducted by a dedicated committee appointed by the Board of Graduate Studies, ensuring a transparent and merit-based evaluation. These awards not only celebrate academic distinction but also motivate postgraduate students to pursue high-impact research of national and global significance.





CHAPTER 01

Introduction

1. Introduction

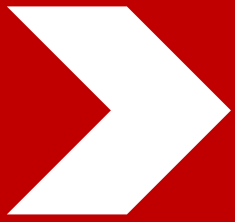
The Student Handbook of the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) is effective from **October 1st, 2025**. It outlines the basic guidelines and regulations adopted by the Faculty/University for the administration of postgraduate studies that postgraduate students need to know. The details of all postgraduate programs offered by the nine Boards of Study (BoS) in the Faculty are provided.

To enhance the quality of postgraduate education at the University, all postgraduate programs have been aligned with the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF). The fee structures for all postgraduate programs are available on the FGS website. Any amendments to the content of this handbook will also be published on the website and will be applicable from the date mentioned in such amendments on the **FGS website**.

Special Notes:

- Updated versions of this handbook with applicable dates and other guidelines are available on the **FGS website** and are applicable to all postgraduate students, where relevant.
- The guidelines provided here and on the website are for the information of postgraduate students **ONLY**. Other guidelines to be used by the academic staff, as applicable to the administration of courses offered by the FGS, are not listed in the Student Handbook.

In any administrative matter, the decision of the Faculty Board of the FGS and the University Senate will be final.



CHAPTER 02

General Guidelines for Postgraduate Studies

2.1. General Guidelines for Postgraduate Studies

2.1.1. Programs offered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies

The programs offered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) are broadly classified into Certificate Courses, Postgraduate Certificate Courses, Postgraduate Diplomas, One-Year Master's Degrees (Coursework), Two-Year Master's Degrees (Coursework and Research), and Research Degrees such as MPhil and PhD.

According to the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF), four main domains of learning, namely Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes, and Mindset and Paradigm, are characterized by the K-SAM model. All programs have been formulated to achieve these learning outcomes. The core areas and the categories of learning outcomes are shown below.

| Core Area | Categories of Learning Outcomes |
|---|--|
| Knowledge | Subject/Theoretical Knowledge |
| | Practical Knowledge and Application |
| Skills | Communication |
| | Teamwork and Leadership |
| | Creativity and Problem-Solving |
| | Managerial and Entrepreneurship |
| | Information Usage and Management |
| | Networking and Social Skills |
| | Adaptability and Flexibility |
| Attitudes, Values, Professionalism, and Vision for Life | Attitudes, Values, and Professionalism |
| | Vision for Life |
| Mindset and Paradigm | Updating Self/Lifelong Learning |

The following are the SLQF levels for the programs offered by the FGS and the eligibility to register (**Annexure 01: Admission Criteria and Volumes of Learning Required for Postgraduate Programs According to SLQF**):

| SLQF Level | Qualification Awarded | No. of Credits/Minimum Duration | Eligibility |
|------------|--|---|------------------|
| 7 | Postgraduate Certificate | 20 | SLQF 5 or 6 |
| 8 | Postgraduate Diploma | 25 | SLQF 5 or 6 |
| 9 | Master's Degree by Coursework (one year) | 30 | SLQF 5 or 6 |
| 10 | Master's Degree by Coursework and Research | 60 | SLQF 5 or 6 |
| 11 | Master of Philosophy (MPhil) | 2 years full-time/ 3 years part-time | SLQF 6 and above |
| 12 | Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) | 3 years full-time/ 5 years part-time | SLQF 6 and above |

In addition to the above-mentioned postgraduate programs, FGS offers other certificate courses, such as the **Certificate Course on Research Methodology and Scientific Writing** and the **Certificate Course on Quantitative Data Analysis**.

The SLQF level of each type of degree, diploma, or certificate course, the minimum admission requirements for enrollment, and the minimum requirements for completion are shown in **Chapter 3**. It is expected that, in the selection of students for postgraduate programs, the minimum admission requirement, as detailed in the SLQF, should be met. However, it should be noted that the desired admission requirements and selection procedures can differ among the programs of study, which would be equal to or above the minimum requirements.

2.1.2. Types of Postgraduate Programs Offered by the FGS

The types of degrees offered by the FGS and their duration are shown below.

| Postgraduate Program | SLQF Level | Type | Minimum Duration (Years) | Maximum Allowable Extension (Years) |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Postgraduate Certificate | 7 | Full-time | 01 | Up to 3 |
| Postgraduate Diploma | 8 | Full-time | 01 | Up to 3 |
| Master's Degree (30 credits) | 9 | Full-time | 01 | Up to 3 |
| Master's Degree (60 credits) | 10 | Full-time | 02 | Up to 5 |
| MPhil | 11 | Full-time | 02 | Up to 5 |
| | | Part-time | 03 | Up to 7 |
| PhD | 12 | Full-time | 03 | Up to 6 |
| | | Part-time | 05 | Up to 8 |

Note: An extension will be granted considering valid reason(s) as conveyed to the FGS, with the recommendation from the respective Board of Study (BoS) by the student(s). The decision of the Faculty Board of the FGS and the University Senate in this regard will be final.

2.1.3. Classification of Students

This classification is mostly applicable to research degree programs.

Full-time and Part-time Students

A student may register for a degree program either as a full-time or a part-time student.

- A **full-time student** shall be a person duly registered for an MPhil/PhD degree program who is engaged in research or related activities at the place of registration during the normal working hours of the week for the entire duration of the study.
- A **part-time student** shall be a person duly registered for an MPhil/PhD degree program who, in general, is not able to devote time during the weekdays to the research work at the place of registration but uses flexible times for the research work during the study period.

If a student wishes to change the type of registration, they may submit a letter of request to the Dean/FGS through the Supervisor(s), Head of the Department (where applicable), and Chairperson of the relevant BoS. However, the decision over the proposed change shall become effective subject to the recommendations of the BoS, FGS, and the approval of the University Senate.

Applicants who are employed and wish to pursue full-time study should submit a letter of confirmation from their employer indicating the nature of the leave granted.

2.1.4. Registration for a Postgraduate Program

A postgraduate student wishing to register for a program is advised to read the relevant sections in this handbook before registering. Details on the registration process as applicable to postgraduate programs are highlighted in **Section 2.2**.

2.1.5. Withdrawal from a Postgraduate Program

A postgraduate student wishing to withdraw from a program in which they are registered should submit a formal letter of request to the Dean/FGS through the Course Coordinator (for taught programs) or Supervisor (for research degrees), with the recommendation of the Chairperson of the respective BoS. If the student withdraws registration within two weeks of registration, 90% of the course fee will be refunded, and the balance will be retained. Refunds are not allowed beyond this period.

2.1.6. Amendments to Registration

A student who wishes to make amendments to their registration concerning personal information, contact details, etc., should submit a formal letter of request to the Deputy Registrar/FGS.

2.1.7. Postponement of Registration

A student who wishes to postpone registration for a particular program can do so by submitting a formal letter of request to the Dean/FGS through the Course Coordinator (for taught programs) or Supervisor(s) (for research degrees), with the recommendation of the Chairperson of the respective BoS. In the event of the postponement of registration, required payments should be made.

2.1.8. Cancellation of Registration

The registration of a student may be canceled by the FGS on the recommendation of the respective BoS due to the following reasons:

1. Exceeding the maximum duration allowed for the degree.
2. Non-payment of annual fees.
3. Non-submission of two consecutive progress reports within the stipulated time.
4. Non-adherence to the rules and regulations of the FGS.
5. Unsatisfactory academic progress.
6. Any other reasons as decided by the FGS and the University Senate.

2.1.9. Concurrent Registration

A student who is registered for a postgraduate program at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura is not permitted to register concurrently for another postgraduate program at the FGS.

2.1.10. Leave of Absence/Interruption of Studies

Any student whose studies are interrupted due to unavoidable circumstances should submit a letter of request to the Chairperson of the respective BoS through the Course Coordinator (for taught programs) or Supervisor(s) (for research degrees). If the interruption of the studies is due to medical or other compassionate reasons, documentary evidence, such as a medical certificate, should be attached to the written request. The student should pay the annual registration fee for the period of the absence. If the student fails to pay the annual registration fee, their registration will be canceled.

If a student needs to travel abroad for any reason during the study period, they should obtain written permission from the FGS and the University Senate by submitting a formal letter of request to the Chairperson of the respective BoS through the

Coordinator/Supervisor(s) before leaving the country. If the requested period of leave for personal reasons is approved, the time spent outside the country will not be counted toward the study period, provided they pay the registration fee and the maximum period of study for a given program is not exceeded. Similar consideration will be applied for maternity leave, with a maximum approved period of 84 working days. Other leave requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.1.11. Course Requirements for Research Degree Programs

Certificate Course on Research Methodology and Scientific Writing

Students who register for research degrees (MPhil and PhD) should complete a mandatory course on “**Research Methodology & Scientific Writing**” offered by the FGS. All MPhil and PhD students should submit a copy of the course certificate when submitting the temporary bound thesis for evaluation ([Annexure 02: Research Methodology & Scientific Writing – Course Outline](#)).

Graduate Skills Enhancement

In addition to the “Certificate Course on Research Methodology and Scientific Writing,” other skills enhancement courses offered by the FGS, such as the “Certificate Course on Quantitative Data Analysis,” are also expected to be taken. The certificate courses offered by the FGS at a particular time are advertised on the [FGS website](#).

2.1.12. Release of Final Results

The FGS will convene a meeting of the Results Board to consider the award of the degree to the student. Based on the approval of the Results Board, the FGS will release the final results, subject to confirmation by the University Senate.

Constitution of the Results Board:

1. The Vice Chancellor (Chairperson)
2. Dean/FGS
3. Deputy Registrar/FGS
4. Chairperson(s) of the relevant BoS
5. Relevant Head(s) of the Department(s)
6. Supervisor(s)
7. Coordinator(s)

2.1.13. Academic Transcript

A duly certified transcript of a student’s academic record will be issued upon receipt of an application with the prescribed fee, once the results have been approved by the University Senate ([Annexure 25: Application for an Academic Transcript](#)).

2.1.14. Detailed Certificate

A duly certified detailed certificate of a student's academic record will be issued upon receipt of an application with the prescribed fee, once the results have been approved by the University Senate. The detailed certificate will not be handed over to the applicant ([Annexure 26: Application for a Detailed Certificate](#)).

2.1.15. Publication of Thesis

The ownership of the thesis will be vested in the University. Once accepted, the full thesis will be published on the websites of the University library and FGS one year after the effective date of the degree. In cases where the authors need to apply for patents and require more time, a formal request can be made to the FGS to delay the publication for a stipulated period, and the FGS may grant these requests. The FGS has established a formal channel for publishing relevant research conducted under all the BoS.

2.1.16. Convocation

Graduands will receive their degrees at the annual convocation of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The name that the graduate provides on the application form at the time of registration will be considered the one written on the degree certificate. If the name differs from the birth certificate, the corrected name should be communicated via an affidavit to the FGS before the effective date of the degree.

2.2. Guidelines for Postgraduate Certificate/Postgraduate Diploma/Master's Degree Programs

2.2.1. Application for Postgraduate Taught Programs

The programs offered by the FGS at a particular time are advertised on the [FGS website](#) as well as in printed, electronic, and social media, where applicable. Applicants should complete an online application. The completed online application form should then be downloaded. The downloaded application form (hard copy), along with the required supporting documents and payment receipt for the application fee, should be submitted to the FGS at the University. Payment slips can be downloaded from the [FGS website](#), and the payment can be made through any branch of the People's Bank to the relevant account stated in the advertisement/website. Application fees can also be paid online at the time of application. Applications submitted without the application fee will not be processed.

Along with the duly completed application, the following supporting documents should be either uploaded (in case of online applications) or submitted with the application (in case of hard copy submissions). For online applications, these documents should be scanned and uploaded. Payment of the application fee can be made either with a credit card (Visa/Mastercard) or by paying at the bank. If the application is manually submitted to the FGS, payment should be made to any branch of the People's Bank to the relevant account, and the payment slip should be attached.

Supporting Documents for Programs by Coursework/Coursework and Research

1. Duly completed application.
2. Copies of relevant academic/professional qualifications, including certified detailed certificates.
3. Copy of the birth certificate.
4. Names, postal addresses, and email addresses of two referees, preferably one of whom is a teacher at the university/institution where the first degree/qualification was obtained (the reference letters should be sent directly to the Deputy Registrar/FGS by the referees to proceed with the application).
5. Evidence of the payment of the application processing fee (bank slip/printout of the receipt received via email).
6. Any other documents requested by the FGS, if applicable.

2.2.2. Processing of Applications

Taught Programs (PG Certificate/PG Diploma/One-Year Master's) and Taught Programs with Research Components (Two-Year Master's)

Screening of applications will initially be conducted by the FGS and then forwarded to the relevant Course Coordinator. The selection will be conducted through an entrance examination and/or interview, based on academic merit. The list of selected students will be submitted to the University Senate with the recommendation of the BoS and Faculty Board of FGS.

2.2.3. Registration Procedure

New Registrations

Once the recommendation from the BoS and FGS has been obtained for an application, the students will be informed by the Deputy Registrar/FGS to register for the relevant program of study. Upon registration, students are required to submit the receipt of payment of the fees. The fees for respective programs are listed on the [FGS website](#).

Continuation of Registration

For programs with coursework only or coursework with a research component, the student is required to complete all the requirements pertaining to the degree within the stipulated minimum period (refer to “**Types of Postgraduate Programs Offered**” in **Section 2.1.2**). If students are unable to complete all the requirements within this period, they should submit a justification for the extension through the Research Supervisor, Course Coordinator, and/or Head of the Department to the BoS, the FGS, and the Senate for approval. Once approval is received, students are required to pay the registration fee for the extended year ([Annexure 18: Application for Extension of Registration of Degree](#)).

2.2.4. Appointment of Supervisor(s)

When pursuing a research degree, the relevant department will assign the student a suitable supervisor(s) based on the content and focus of the research proposal written by the student and/or the availability of specialists in the student's chosen major discipline.

2.2.5. Submission of the Thesis

As a general rule, research work should be the student's own work. If the thesis contains material that is fully or partly copied work from any other source or publication without proper citation or credit to the original author(s), the FGS will consider it as plagiarized work, and the student will be formally reprimanded. This

will be according to the Plagiarism Policy and Regulations of the University and will be imposed by the Examination Offense Investigation Committee of the University. In cases where studies require ethics clearance, the ethics approval letter should be annexed to the thesis.

The following table shows the **maximum word limit** for the theses in any discipline. The word limits stipulated include footnotes but exclude the table of contents, tabulated data, diagrams, any appendices, and bibliography/references ([Annexure 19: Thesis Preparation Guidelines for MA/MSc/MPhil/PhD](#)).

| | Master's Thesis |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Maximum Word Limit | 50,000 |

An exception to the above will be considered and approved by the BoS on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the FGS. An electronic version of the thesis should also be submitted along with the printed copies.

2.2.6. Examinations and Evaluation Procedures

Taught Programs - Degrees with Coursework

The evaluation of each postgraduate course unit shall be based on within-course-unit/module and end-of-course-unit/module examinations and assignments. The weighting of marks or the evaluation of the research work will be based on the criteria given under each program.

The pass mark for each course unit is 50 or a B- grade unless otherwise specifically mentioned in the relevant program. The overall Grade Point Average (GPA) should be a minimum of 2.70 to be eligible for the degree, unless otherwise specifically mentioned in the relevant program.

- PGCert exit level : Minimum 20 credits with a minimum overall GPA of 2.00
- PGDip exit level : Minimum 25 credits with a minimum overall GPA of 2.50

Grade Points and Grade Point Average (GPA)

The GPA is a numerical representation of a student's overall academic achievement. It is the quotient obtained by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of credit hours in which a student receives a letter grade. The GPA will be computed using the grades earned for core courses and optional courses taken for credit.

The Grading System

| Letter Grade | Grade Points Per Credit Hour |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| A+ | 4.00 |
| A | 4.00 |
| A- | 3.70 |
| B+ | 3.30 |
| B | 3.00 |
| B- | 2.70 |
| C+ | 2.30 |
| C | 2.00 |
| C- | 1.70 |
| D+ | 1.30 |
| D | 1.00 |
| F | 0.00 |

Calculation of the Grade Point Average (GPA)

Grades obtained by each student at course unit examinations are evaluated according to the equation given below. Decimals beyond two places are truncated, not rounded, in computing the GPA.

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Grade Point Value}}{\text{Total Number of Credit Hours}}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\text{Credit Hours})_i \times (\text{Grade Point})_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N (\text{Credit Hours})_i}$$

Where i = course number and N = total number of courses considered. The maximum possible GPA is 4.00, while the minimum is 0.

Credit Units

The pass mark for a credit course is 50 or a B- grade unless otherwise specifically mentioned in the relevant program. In the SLQF system, one credit is considered 50 notional learning hours for a taught course or field studies/clinical work. In the case of industrial training, including time allocated for assessment, and in the case of research, including time allocated for literature surveys, one credit is considered equivalent to a minimum of 100 notional hours.

Repeating the Course Units

If a student fails a course or wishes to improve previous grades in a course, they are permitted to repeat the course at the next immediate available opportunity. The student should pay a repeat examination fee if they wish to repeat the course unit(s). In such cases, the student is required to submit the duly completed and signed application form for the registration of examination for repeat course unit(s) along with the receipt of payment to the Deputy Registrar/FGS. The application form for registration for the examination can be downloaded from the [FGS website](#).

- A student who repeats a course unit shall be given a maximum of 50 marks for the repeat course.
- A student who is unable to complete a subject/course unit due to a medical reason must submit a written request, together with a valid medical certificate, to the Course Coordinator. The student is required to complete the subject with the next immediate batch, with all privileges if it is the first attempt, upon the approval of the University Senate.
- A student shall be permitted to repeat a subject/course unit only twice. Unless otherwise decided, repeat students are expected to sit for repeat subject(s) at the next scheduled examination and should pass the course/subject within three consecutive batches. If the student obtains a lower grade on a repeat attempt than a grade received in earlier attempts, the better grade will be retained.
- A student should have a valid registration to sit for any examination.

Valid Reasons for Absence from an Examination

- Excuses will be granted only for serious ill health, the death of an immediate family member (parents, siblings, spouse, or children), or any other cause acceptable to the BoS and will be forwarded to the University Senate for approval via the BoS and the Faculty Board of FGS. A student who was absent due to medical reasons must submit a valid medical certificate issued by the Medical Officer in Charge of the government hospital in the student's residential area as early as possible. Those who obtained treatment from private practitioners, whether Western, Ayurvedic, or Homeopathic, should submit these medical certificates during the period of sickness to the University for approval.
- The medical certificate should be submitted to the Deputy Registrar/FGS within 14 days of the conclusion of the examination. If a student is unable to submit the medical certificate within 14 days, they will be considered a repeat student.

2.2.7. Master's Degree – Viva Voce Examination

The viva voce examination of Master's degree programs is chaired by either the Chairperson of the relevant BoS or the Course Coordinator. The Chair, along with the other panel members, assesses the student's research or thesis and conducts the oral examination. They ensure that the examination is conducted according to the regulations and provide guidance to the panel during the questioning and evaluation process.

2.2.8. Effective Date of the Degree

Taught Programs/Programs with Teaching and Research

The effective date of the taught programs is the next working day following the last day of the final examination. When project reports or theses need to be submitted as a partial requirement for the diploma or degree, the effective date is the deadline given for the submission of the project report or thesis. After the deadline, if the project report or thesis is accepted, the effective date is the date on which the project report or thesis is submitted.

- In the case of a project report/thesis with major corrections, the effective date shall be the date of submission of the revised report, subject to the acceptance of the panel of examiners.
- For a student who takes a repeat examination after submitting the project report/thesis, the effective date of the diploma/degree shall be the next working day following the last day of the final examination.

2.3. Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees

2.3.1. Application for Postgraduate Research Degree Programs

Applications are accepted from prospective students throughout the year, except for the programs conducted through the BoS in Management Studies and Commerce. In addition to the supporting documents stipulated below, applicants are required to submit a concept paper/research proposal written in the area they wish to pursue for their degree. The concept paper/research proposal should include the details, such as the tentative title, background and justification, research question(s) and objectives/hypothesis, literature review, methodology (including data collection), proposed statistical analysis of data and interpretations, references, and a Gantt chart. The format for the concept paper/research proposal is provided ([Annexure 06: Format of the Concept Paper/Research Proposal](#)). In addition, applicants are encouraged to include other relevant information as applicable, such as publications and/or articles written that are most current and relevant to the proposed program of study.

Along with the duly completed application, the following supporting documents should be either uploaded (for online applications) or submitted with the application (for hard copy submissions). In the case of online applications, these documents should be scanned and uploaded. Payment of the application fee can be made either with a credit card (Visa/Mastercard) or by paying at the bank. If the application is manually submitted to the FGS office, payment should be made to any branch of the People's Bank to the relevant account, and the payment slip should be attached.

Supporting Documents for Degrees by Research and Coursework and Only Research

1. Duly completed application.
2. Copies of relevant academic/professional qualifications, including certified detailed certificates.
3. Copy of the birth certificate.
4. Names, postal addresses, and email addresses of two referees, preferably one of whom is a teacher at the university/institution where the first degree/qualification was obtained (reference letters must be sent directly to the Deputy Registrar/FGS by the referees to proceed with the application).
5. Evidence of the payment of the application processing fee (bank slip/printout of the receipt received via email).
6. Availability of leave (a letter of approval certified by the employer must be provided by full-time students who are employed).
7. Proof of the availability of funds for the proposed research work.

2.3.2. Processing of Applications

For applications for research degrees, the BoS will nominate four evaluators (based on the research performance relevant to the concept paper/research proposal) who are experts in the relevant field. The concept paper/research proposal will be sent to two evaluators from the nominated evaluators. Evaluators should hold a higher postgraduate degree or an equivalent postgraduate qualification to the one the applicant has applied for, along with a minimum of three years of research experience in the field they intend to evaluate. It is encouraged to send the concept paper/research proposal to at least one external expert.

The period allowed for completing an evaluation is two months, and payment will be made by FGS only after obtaining the evaluation. The final decision will be taken based on the reports of both evaluators. If an evaluation report is delayed for more than two months or if the evaluations are contrasting, the proposal will be sent to a third evaluator. Once the evaluations are received, the BoS will either decide to proceed with the recommendation for registration or request the applicant to make a presentation to the BoS to finalize the decision on the registration. Upon registration for the research degree program, students should maintain a logbook with their Principal Supervisor/Co-supervisor(s) ([Annexure 11: Sample Page of the Supervisor/Student Logbook](#)).

For research involving human and/or animal subjects, approval from the Ethics Review Committees (ERC) of the FGS (ERC-HSS or ERC-AS) must be obtained. For medical-related research, approval from a Medical Ethics Review Committee or any other ERC under the Forum for Ethics Review Committees of Sri Lanka (FERCSL) must be obtained (For clinical trials, proof of registration in the clinical trials registry should be submitted to the BoS following approval from the ERC). The submission of the proposal for ethical clearance will be decided by the BoS. The registration date will be adjusted to the closest registration date after receiving the ethical clearance.

2.3.3. Appointment of Supervisor(s)

For research degrees, supervisor(s) should be appointed at the time of registration, and at least one of them must be an academic staff member from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. If there are multiple internal supervisors, one must be designated as the Principal Supervisor. One supervisor must be a specialist in the major discipline of the proposed research. The Principal Supervisor should hold a higher postgraduate degree or equivalent postgraduate qualification with a minimum of three years of research experience relevant to the area they intend to supervise (based on supervisory/post-doctoral experiences). Proper justification should be furnished by the principal supervisor to the Chair of the BoS for the appointment of

supervisors without postgraduate degrees. Such external supervisors must have a minimum of five years of experience in the relevant field or industry.

If the principal supervisor is unavailable for more than three consecutive months, the BoS shall take action to appoint an alternative internal supervisor suggested by the principal supervisor, to supervise the research work until they return. It is the responsibility of the relevant BoS to ensure a high-quality research output through high-quality supervision. The BoS reserves the right to ensure a suitable allocation of supervisors for students.

In case the principal supervisor resigns or retires, they should suggest another internal supervisor to take over, subject to BoS, FGS, and Senate approval. This process should be initiated four months before the resignation or retirement of the principal supervisor. In case the principal supervisor does not adhere to this, the BoS reserves the right to appoint a suitable principal supervisor for the student.

When a student upgrades their degree from MPhil to PhD, a new principal supervisor with an equivalent degree qualification should be appointed if the initial principal supervisor does not hold a PhD.

2.3.4. Registration Procedure

For research degrees, registration is conducted quarterly, effective from the first day of the subsequent quarter of the year, which may fall on **January 1st, April 1st, July 1st, or October 1st**. The date of registration will be the closest date to the subsequent quarter of the year.

The date of registration varies with the reviewer's decision on the proposal, as shown below:

- **Accept as it is/Minor Revisions** : The date of the submission of the proposal, adjusted to the upcoming closest date of registration of the year.
- **Major Revisions/Resubmissions**: The date of the resubmitted proposal, adjusted to the upcoming closest date of registration of the year.

However, in cases where ethical clearance is required, the registration date will be the closest date of the year after ethical clearance is received. Applicants are encouraged to obtain ethics clearance for the study, if applicable, before applying to the FGS. Minor/major revised proposals should be submitted to the relevant BoS approval through the supervisor to proceed with registration.

Continuation of the Registration

For research degrees, it is obligatory for each student to renew the registration every year until the completion of the degree program. The student should request the

renewal of the registration through the supervisor, Head of the Department (where appropriate), with the recommendation of the Chairperson of the respective BoS.

The decision for the continuation of registration will be taken by the University Senate on the recommendation of the BoS and Faculty Board of FGS.

Extensions requested beyond the maximum allowable period will be granted for a maximum of six months if the student submits proof through their supervisor that they are in the thesis writing stage.

For extensions requested, the following payments will apply:

- One year - annual fee
- Six months - 50% of the annual fee
- Three months or less - 25% of the annual fee

If an MPhil/PhD student wishes to change the type of registration, they may submit a letter of request to the Dean/FGS through the Supervisor(s), Head of the Department (where applicable), and Chairperson of the relevant BoS. However, the decision over the proposed change shall become effective subject to the recommendations of the relevant BoS, Faculty Board of FGS, and the approval of the University Senate.

2.3.5. Procedure for Progress Review

Students should submit progress reports every six months, except during the period of thesis writing. The format for the progress report is shown ([Annexure 14: Format of the Progress Report](#)).

The reports should be forwarded to the Chairperson of the relevant BoS through the supervisor(s), and the relevant Head of the Department/Institution (where appropriate). Non-submission of two consecutive progress reports within the stipulated time may lead to the cancellation of the student's registration.

The relevant BoS will send these progress reports, along with the original proposal, to two relevant experts for evaluation. The period allowed for evaluations is two months, with a financial incentive attached. The maximum allowable period for this task is two months. It is advisable to send the progress reports to the evaluators who evaluated the original research proposal/concept paper, if possible, for continuity. Continuation of registration will be recommended by the BoS only after receiving the evaluated progress reports, subject to them being evaluated as satisfactory by the evaluator(s). Upon receiving the recommendations of the evaluators, the respective BoS will forward the recommendation to the University Senate through the Faculty Board of FGS.

Please refer to **Section 3.5** for details on the progress review in the BoS in Management Studies and Commerce.

2.3.6. Upgrading Procedure (MPhil to PhD)

Upon receipt of the request from the student, through the supervisor and the Head of the Department (where appropriate), to the relevant BoS, the request to upgrade from MPhil to PhD will be considered. Upgrading will only be considered after a minimum period of one year of registration for MPhil, during which the student should have demonstrated adequate research competencies through progress reports, progress presentations, and recommendations by the supervisor(s) and Head of the Department (where appropriate). The application for upgrading the degree is shown ([Annexure 16: Application for Upgrading the Degree MPhil to PhD](#)).

Please refer to **Section 3.5** for details on the upgrading procedure in the Board of Study in Management Studies and Commerce.

For upgrading of MPhil to PhD, students should provide the following documents for the upgrading process:

1. Updated MPhil proposal with objectives.
2. New PhD proposal including new objectives with justification.
3. Any anticipated changes to the tentative title.
4. Principal Supervisor with a PhD (if the initial MPhil supervisor does not have a PhD).
5. Any additional supervisors suggested.
6. Scheduled program with a time frame.
7. Evidence of submission of progress reports.
8. Journal publications/communications.
9. Evidence of supervision using the Student Logbook provided at the time of registration.
10. Letter(s) of recommendation from the supervisor(s).
11. Availability of leave (a letter of approval certified by the employer should be provided by full-time students who are employed).
12. Proof of the availability of funds for the proposed research work.

Supervisors need to provide recommendations on the following:

1. The appropriateness of upgrading the research.
2. The student's potential to continue the ongoing study and to secure the proposed degree.
3. The availability of facilities for the proposed research work.

Once the relevant documents have been submitted by the student, the relevant BoS will appoint the following panel for upgrading:

1. Chairperson of the relevant BoS (Chairperson of the upgrading panel).

2. Expert from outside the University, nominated by the BoS, preferably one of the evaluators who reviewed the concept paper/research proposal submitted for the MPhil.
3. Two internal members of the relevant field.
4. All Supervisors.
5. Head of the relevant Department.

The upgrading interview by the above panel will be conducted, and the student will be required to make a 20-minute presentation. Future research plans and the availability of finances should be clearly explained during the presentation. A question-and-answer session will be held after the presentation.

The examiners will evaluate the student's potential for upgrading the proposal based on the written submissions, presentation, and follow-up discussion. The examiners will then provide a report to the Chairperson of the BoS, who will discuss this at the BoS and provide the recommendation to the University Senate through the Faculty Board of FGS. The date of registration for the upgraded degree will be the same as the degree they initially applied for.

2.3.7. Submission of the Thesis

As a general rule, research work should be the student's own work. If the thesis contains material copied, fully or partly, from any other work or publication without properly citing the source or crediting the original author(s), the FGS will consider it as plagiarized work, and the student will be formally reprimanded. This will be according to the Plagiarism Policy and Regulations of the University and will be imposed by the Examination Offense Investigation Committee of the University.

The student is required, with the supervisor's recommendation, to submit the "Notice of Intention to Submit a Thesis for a Postgraduate Degree by Research" no later than three months in advance of their completion date ([Annexure 20: Form of the Intention to Submit the Thesis](#)).

The format for the preparation of the thesis is detailed ([Annexure 19: Thesis Preparation Guidelines for MA/MSc/MPhil/PhD](#)). The final page of the thesis should include details of the practical implications and recommendations for the implementation of research findings ([Annexure 17: Format of the Final Page on the Practical Implications, and Recommendations for Implementation of the Research Findings](#)). Students should submit three copies of the temporary bound thesis, duly signed by the student and supervisors, to the FGS within the stipulated time ([Annexure 21: Application for Thesis Submission – Temporary Bound Copy](#) and [Annexure 22: Checklist for Submission of the Thesis for Evaluation](#)). Students are expected to provide a plagiarism inspection report, along with the thesis at the time

of submission. For studies that require ethical clearance, the ethical approval form should be annexed to the thesis.

The following table shows the maximum word limit for the theses in any discipline. The word limits include footnotes but exclude the table of contents, tabulated data, diagrams, any appendices, and bibliography/references.

| | MPhil Thesis | PhD Thesis |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Maximum Word Limit | 50,000 | 100,000 |

Any exceptions to the above will be considered and approved by the BoS on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the FGS. An electronic version of the thesis should also be submitted along with the printed copies.

If the student provides evidence, certified by the supervisor, that the student is in the process of writing the thesis and has already exceeded the maximum allowed time limit, then additional time up to a maximum of six months will be given for completion. The payment for three months and six months of the additional time will be 25% and 50% of the course fee for the year, respectively. A thesis will not be accepted without a valid registration in force.

2.3.8. Evaluation Procedure

Appointment of Examiners for Viva Voce Examinations

The supervisor(s) will propose the names of four examiners, along with their CVs and the examiners' consent to the respective BoS. The proposed examiners should be from four different institutions. The proposed examiners should possess qualifications equivalent to or higher than the degree the student is registered for. The examiner should have at least five years of research experience after obtaining similar/higher postgraduate qualifications to the degree the student is registered for. The nominated examiners should not be from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura (except for MPhil/PhD in BoS in Management and Commerce, where one of the three examiners would be from University of Sri Jayewardenepura), or where the student is employed, nor should they be previous supervisors for any of the student's degrees. One of the examiners can be an international expert nominated by the supervisors. The BoS will review the CVs of the experts and select two out of the four nominated examiners. The final decision on the selection of examiners rests with the BoS, which also reserves the right to nominate examiners outside the four proposed by the supervisors.

The names of the four examiners will be submitted to the University Senate via the Faculty Board of FGS for approval. Two of these will be the primary examiners, and the remaining two will be the standby examiners to be selected in case one of the

primary examiners declines to examine the thesis. For examiners outside the university system, their CVs should accompany this request. The payment to the examiner will be borne by the FGS according to the rates given in the relevant circular(s) or approved by the University Council.

The thesis will be sent to two examiners given in the priority order from the BoS and they will be given three months to complete their review/examinations of the thesis and send comments/observations to the Deputy Registrar of FGS. If any examiner is unable to attend to the task within the stipulated time, the FGS will communicate with the examiner to make alternative arrangements. In such cases, the thesis will be sent to the standby examiner(s).

To be eligible to face the viva voce examination, it is mandatory for;

- a) An MPhil candidate to provide proof of one peer-reviewed journal article (or proof of acceptance) OR proof of one granted patent while
- b) A PhD candidate to provide two peer-reviewed journal articles (or proof of acceptance) OR one peer-reviewed journal article (or proof of acceptance), along with proof of one granted patent."

Conduct of the Viva Voce Examination

The viva voce examination panel will consist of the Dean/FGS as the Chair, along with the two examiners. The Deputy Registrar/FGS will serve as the secretary of this panel. At the viva voce examination, the student is required to make a presentation on their thesis in no more than 20 minutes. If any examiner is unable to attend the examination in person, they may participate through other available means (e.g., Skype, Zoom, etc.). Supervisors, the Head of the Department, and the Chairperson of the BoS will participate in the viva voce examination as observers. Interested persons can be allowed to listen to the presentation at the discretion of the Chair of the panel; however, they will not be permitted to attend the viva voce examination itself. The results of the thesis evaluation and the performance at the viva voce examination will be considered by the examination panel when making the final decision.

The decision can be one of the following:

| Decision | Instructions |
|--|--|
| No Corrections | Can be accepted as it is. |
| Minor Corrections | To be submitted within 3 months. |
| Moderate Corrections | To be submitted after 3 months but before 6 months. |
| Major Corrections/Resubmission | To be submitted after 6 months but within 12 months. |
| Not recommended for the award of the PhD degree* | The thesis could be considered for the award of an MPhil degree based on the judgment of the Board of Examiners (to be submitted within 3 months; the effective date will be the resubmission date). |
| Reject/Fail | The thesis is not acceptable. |

The comments from the examiners and the Chair will be provided to the student for correction. The student is expected to submit the corrected thesis along with a separate report stating the examiner's comments and corrections made by the student ([Annexure 23: Format for Incorporation of Examiner's Comments to Thesis After Viva Voce Examination](#)). The corrected thesis should be submitted through the supervisor/s ([Annexure 24: Application for Thesis Submission – Final Hard Bound Copy](#)). The student may submit a draft to FGS, with the completed corrections along with a soft copy, within the stipulated period. The FGS will check the completeness of the corrections proposed by the examiners and the Chair before acceptance. If the corrections do not meet the comments provided, the thesis will be returned. Once all the corrections are properly addressed and confirmed, the student will be requested to submit two hard-bound copies and an electronic version at the time of final submission. The final hard-bound copy of the thesis, along with the practical implications and recommendations for implementation of the research findings, should be submitted to the FGS ([Annexure 19: Thesis Preparation Guidelines for MA/MSc/MPhil/PhD](#)).

An electronic version of the thesis (CD/DVD) should also be submitted along with the printed (hard-bound) copy. Soft copies of the journal publications, patent(s), and other publications should be on the same CD/DVD.

Theses that are submitted after the due date will be rejected.

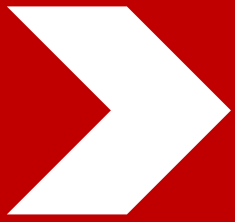
2.3.9. Effective Date of the Degree

For no corrections, minor corrections, and moderate corrections, the effective date of the degree will be the same as the date of initial submission. For major corrections/resubmissions, the relevant date will be the date the thesis was resubmitted.

Please refer to the [FGS website](#) for policies, thesis templates, and any additional changes to the handbook. Students are responsible for reviewing both the handbook and the website for current information regarding postgraduate programs.

Please refer to **Section 3.1.2** for processing applications in BoS in Humanities.

The evaluation procedure for other postgraduate degrees by research are described in **Chapter 3**.



CHAPTER 03

Postgraduate Programs

Board of Study in Humanities

3.1. Programs offered by the Board of Study in Humanities

3.1.1. Master's Programs

3.1.1.1. Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL)

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

This two-year master's degree program is designed for individuals seeking a professional qualification in teaching English as a second or foreign language. It caters to language teachers aiming to enhance their expertise and those interested in applied linguistics research.

By bridging language theory and practice, the program explores key areas in second language acquisition, including language structure, psycholinguistics, and teaching methodologies. It provides insights into the complexities of language teaching and learning, with opportunities to engage in recent research and specialized fields, such as ESL/EFL materials development, curriculum design, and language assessment.

A distinctive feature of the program is its focus on language teaching modules, which examine linguistic, psychological, and social aspects of instruction. This approach prepares graduates to navigate the challenges of language teaching in an increasingly multilingual world.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MA in TESL program, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate mastery of ESL theoretical foundations and their practical application in classroom teaching.
- Incorporate diverse theoretical and practical approaches that influence language teaching.
- Critically evaluate research and apply findings to ESL/EFL materials development, curriculum design, testing, and evaluation.
- Conduct research to advance ESL/EFL teaching and learning, integrating new technologies where relevant.
- Uphold ethical standards in research and scholarly activities while fostering creativity and originality.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

With its strong focus on language teaching, the MA in TESL program equips graduates with excellent employment prospects in both public and private educational institutions. Opportunities are available in government, private, and international schools, as well as in teacher training colleges and colleges of education. Graduates can also pursue roles within organizations such as the Ministry of Education and the National Institute of Education, serving as teachers, teaching assistants, project officers, and in other related capacities. This diverse range of career pathways enables graduates to apply their expertise effectively and make meaningful contributions to the field of language education.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MA in TESL program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A four-year Bachelor's degree in English or TESL (SLQF 6).
- b) A three-year Bachelor's degree with English as a subject (SLQF 5).
- c) A Bachelor's degree in English medium (SLQF 5 or 6).
- d) Any other degree acceptable to the University Senate (SLQF 5 or 6).

Applicants applying under any of the above admission qualifications will be required to take a selection test, administered by the Department of English and Linguistics. Final selection will be at the discretion of the department, based on the results of the selection test and the aforementioned eligible qualifications, and subject to recommendation and approval by the BoS.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|---|-----------|--------|
| Year 1 | | | |
| TESL 100103 | Introduction to Linguistics and Teaching English as a Second Language | 03 | C |
| TESL 100203 | Structure of English I: Phonetics, Phonology, and Morphology | 03 | C |
| TESL 100303 | Structure of English II: Syntax & Semantics | 03 | C |
| TESL 100404 | Theoretical Foundations of Second Language Teaching and Learning | 04 | C |
| TESL 100503 | Approaches and Methods in Language Teaching | 03 | C |
| TESL 100603 | Curriculum Design and Material Development | 03 | C |
| TESL 100703 | Testing, Evaluation, and Assessment | 03 | C |
| TESL 100803 | Sociolinguistics and Discourse Analysis in Language Teaching | 03 | C |
| Year 2 | | | |
| TESL 100910 | Research Methods in Applied Linguistics | 10 | C |
| TESL 101005 | Academic Writing in Graduate Studies | 05 | C |
| TESL 101120 | Thesis | 20 | C |
| Total Credits | | 60 | |

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through both formative and summative assessments, as follows:

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 40%
Formative/continuous assessments (in-class tests, group/individual projects, take-home written assignments, presentations, portfolios, etc.): 40 marks
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60%
End-of-semester examination: 60 marks
- c) Students must obtain a minimum of 50% in both continuous assessments and end-of-semester examinations separately to pass the course unit. The same evaluation procedure applies to the thesis.
- d) The thesis will be evaluated, and students who score 50% or higher will be required to participate in a viva voce examination to discuss and defend their research.

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|------------------------|--|
| PGDip in TESL (SLQF 8) | Successful completion of all coursework for the MA in TESL by obtaining a minimum pass mark of 50% (B– grade) in each first-year course module, totaling 25 credits. |

This one-year Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching English as a Second Language (PGDip in TESL) serves as the exit qualification for students enrolled in the MA in TESL who choose to complete only the coursework (Year 1) without proceeding to the second-year research component. Students cannot enroll directly in the PGDip in TESL as a standalone qualification or use it as a pathway to the MA in TESL. Registration is only available for the MA in TESL program.

Repeating Course Units

Students are allowed to repeat a course unit in the end-of-semester examination. However, unless they have a valid medical reason supported by documentary evidence, the maximum mark they can obtain upon repeating a course unit is 50%.

For more detailed information on repeating course units, please read **Section 2.2.6**, titled “**Examinations and Evaluation Procedures**,” which includes the subsection “**Repeating the Course Units**” in this handbook. This section provides further

clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Teaching English as a Second Language (Exit Point)

Students who withdraw from the second year but have earned the required first-year credits qualify for the PGDip in TESL (SLQF 8).

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|---|---|
| 2.70 from all taught courses offered in the first year. | Obtain a minimum pass mark of 50% (B-grade) in each course module offered in the first year, totaling 25 credits. |

MA in Teaching English as a Second Language

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|--|--|
| 2.70 from all taught and non-taught courses. | Obtain a minimum pass mark of 50% (B-grade) in each course module offered in the first and second years, including the Thesis (TESL 101120). |

The thesis will be evaluated, and students who score 50% or higher will be required to participate in a viva voce examination to discuss and defend their research.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee at the time of registration, with the remaining balance due within six months from the date of registration.

Students who wish to exit the program at the PGDip in TESL should have completed all payments before they make such a request.

3.1.2. MPhil and PhD Programs

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11) and PhD (SLQF 11)

Introduction to Program

The research degree programs are offered in a variety of subject areas, including Sinhala, Mass Communication, Cultural Studies, Sanskrit, Buddhist Civilization, Buddhist Philosophy, Pali, English, Hindi, Philosophy, Psychology, Dance, Music, English Literature, Linguistics and Teaching English as a Second Language, and Drama & Theatre. The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2, Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

Processing of Applications in the Board of Study in Humanities

The FGS, through its BoS in Humanities, offers full-time or part-time postgraduate degrees (MA, MPhil, PhD) in a range of subjects related to the Humanities. In this regard, the BoS in Humanities offers two main options for postgraduate study: Independent Research Programs and Taught Programs.

The main steps related to the Independent Research Programs are as follows:

1. A student should submit an application to pursue a postgraduate degree, including a summary of their research topic.
2. The BoS in Humanities will appoint supervisors for research based on the summary of the research topic.
3. The student is required to develop the research proposal in accordance with the appointed supervisors' instructions and obtain the supervisors' recommendation.
4. The student is required to submit the research proposal to the FGS, within two months, with the supervisors' recommendation.
5. The BoS in Humanities, at its earliest convenience, will send the research proposal to external proposal evaluators, to be reviewed within one month.
6. The student must present their proposal (as an oral presentation) to an Evaluation Panel on a date specified by the BoS in Humanities. The Evaluation Panel, which is chaired by the Chairperson of the BoS in Humanities, includes the proposal evaluators, the supervisors, the Head of the respective Department to which the proposal is related, and two lecturers involved in the subject of the proposal. The Deputy Registrar of the FGS will attend the presentation evaluation as an observer.

7. The proposal evaluators are required to assign marks to both the written proposal (initially submitted) and the oral presentation.
8. The student should obtain a minimum total value of 50% to be eligible for registration as a candidate for the postgraduate program.
9. After six months from the date of registration, and before the end of the first year of registration, the student must complete the literature review of their research thesis and submit the written copy for evaluation to the FGS, with the supervisors' recommendation. The evaluation process for the literature review is similar to that of the research proposal.
10. The student, with the guidance of the supervisors, is required to engage in the research and write the thesis.
11. The student is required, with the supervisor's recommendation, to submit the **"Notice of Intention to Submit a Thesis for a Postgraduate Degree by Research"** no later than three months in advance of their completion date.
12. Upon receipt of this notice, the FGS will make arrangements for an oral presentation of the thesis.
13. At the oral presentation, prior to the submission of the thesis for evaluation, the student is required to present the thesis (oral presentation) in the presence of a panel consisting of the Chairperson of the BoS in Humanities, supervisors, the Head of the Department of the subject related to the thesis, and the lecturers of that subject. Others may attend the presentation as observers. The intention of the panel is not to evaluate the thesis but to provide further suggestions for its quality development.

For more information, please read **Section 2.3, "Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees,"** in this handbook.

Presentation of Thesis

The Faculty of Graduate Studies of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura permits theses related to BoS in Humanities to be submitted in three different formats, depending on the nature of the research undertaken, as given below under Thesis Presentation Types. The student and supervisory team should discuss at an early stage which thesis format would be most appropriate for their studies and should obtain the BoS's recommendation and the Faculty's approval before the commencement of the second academic year of registration.

Regardless of the format, all PhD and MPhil students must be able to convince the Faculty that the thesis:

- is 100% research-based;
- is an original work undertaken under the direction of a supervisor(s) that forms an addition to knowledge;

- provides evidence of systematic study and of the ability to relate the results of such study to the general body of knowledge in the subject;
- is worthy of publication either in full or in a condensed form;
- is different from any material that has previously been submitted by the student for any degree or qualification at this or any other university or institution; and
- should be such that it is demonstrably a coherent body of work, i.e., includes a summary, an introduction, a description of the aims of the research, an analytical discussion of the related findings to date, the main results and conclusions, and sets the work in its academic context.

Thesis Presentation Types

- Standard Theses (Monograph Theses)
- Journal Format Theses (Article-based Theses)
- Creative Theses (Practice-based Theses)

A. Standard Theses (Monograph Theses)

Standard Theses (*Monograph Theses*) are presented as monographs that comprise several chapters as detailed below under three main segments. The student is the sole author of a monograph.

Format of the Standard Theses (Monograph Theses)

Preliminary Pages

- Title Page
- Copyright Page (if applicable)
- Abstract
- Dedication, Acknowledgements, and Preface (each optional)
- Table of Contents, with page numbers
- List of Tables, List of Figures, or List of Illustrations, with titles and page numbers (if applicable)
- List of Abbreviations (if applicable)
- List of Symbols (if applicable)

Main Pages

- Chapters, including**:

Introduction

Main body, with consistent chapters as headings and subheadings as appropriate

Conclusion

****Each thesis should include all the key components required for a thesis: research context/background, statement of the problem, literature review, methodology, conceptual/theoretical background, results, discussion, and analysis, as guided by the team of supervisors and recommended by the BoS in Humanities of the FGS.**

Final/Closing Pages

- Appendices (if applicable)
- Endnotes (if applicable)
- References
- Bibliography
- Index (if applicable)

Description of Preliminary and Final Pages

Title Page

- The full title of the thesis and any subtitle, as approved by the FGS, separated by a colon;
- The total number of volumes and the number of the particular volume (if applicable);
- Student's full name (as registered at the FGS);
- The qualification for which the thesis is submitted (e.g., Doctor of Philosophy);
- The month and year of submission.

Abstract

- The abstract should be between 250 and 300 words.

Dedication (if any)

Acknowledgements

- Acknowledge all those who have supported the research and the thesis.
- In the event of any contribution, collaboration, or direction from others, it is important that the extent of the student's own contribution, and that made by others, is made clear both under Acknowledgements and at relevant points within the thesis.

Table of Contents

- List in sequence all relevant chapters, sections, subsections, appendices, references, bibliography, and any other supporting material, with the relevant page numbers.

- If a thesis comprises more than one volume, the Title Page, Abstract, and Table of Contents of the whole thesis must appear in each volume.

Lists of Tables, Figures, etc. (if applicable)

- Items should appear in the order in which they occur in the text.

List of Abbreviations (if applicable)

List of Symbols (if applicable)

Chapters**

- Introduction
- Main body, with consistent chapters with appropriate headings and/or subheadings, depending on the nature of the study
- Conclusion

**The thesis should include all the key components required for a thesis: for instance, research context/background, statement of the problem, literature review, methodology, conceptual/theoretical background, results, discussion, and analysis, as guided by the team of supervisors and recommended by the BoS in Humanities of the FGS.

Appendices

- Supporting material of considerable length (lists, commentaries, questionnaires, etc.) that would interrupt the main text should be included as appendices.
- Label appendices as A, B, etc., and treat them as additional chapters after the main text.
- Style must be consistent with the main text of the thesis.

Endnotes (if applicable)

References

- Harvard, MLA, APA, or alternative styles as directed by the Department. Consistency is required.

Bibliography (if applicable)

- The bibliography should be arranged logically, i.e., alphabetically by author within broad topic categories.

Index (if applicable)

- There is no requirement to provide an index, but this is at the discretion of the student, guided by the supervisor(s).

Sources (adapted where necessary) are from:

- <https://www.ntnu.edu/studies/phspraak/thesis>
- <https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/cissc/phd-humanities/current-students-advisors/humanities-theses.html>
- <http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=7420>
- <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/assets/documents/GuidelinesfortheSubmissionandFormatofThesis-January2018.pdf>
- https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/hcs_etd/

B. Journal Format Theses (Article-based Theses)

- a) A Journal Format Thesis (*Article-based Thesis*) is a collection of shorter scientific or academic papers that together construct a larger whole. It is a thesis composed of several articles on one distinct topic and a summary section.
 - The Journal Format Thesis should conform to the same standards expected of a regular/standard thesis, and students should follow them elsewhere in this handbook.
 - Any student wishing to submit their thesis in journal format should discuss their intention with their supervisor(s). Depending on how the research develops and the analysis of data, there is flexibility regarding when students must make the decision about the type of submission, but it should be before the second academic year of registration. The student should then declare their intended thesis format for Faculty approval through the supervisor(s) and the relevant BoS.
 - Both in workload and in academic significance, a thesis of this kind must be equivalent to a monograph.

A thesis of this type consists of four or five articles (depending on the length of the papers) and a summary section. Each article must contain new information, while contributing to the study as a whole; each should reflect the quantity, quality, and originality of research and analysis expected of a student submitting a regular/standard thesis. Students should also obtain Faculty approval in line with Faculty guidance after consulting their supervisor(s).

- A minimum of three of these articles must be published within the stipulated period of the student's registration for the degree, in a format suitable for publication or accepted for publication in peer-reviewed, indexed journals approved by the BoS in Humanities of the FGS.

- Articles published in English, Sinhala, or Tamil are considered for the thesis, subject to their scholarly quality in both content and presentation, as approved by the BoS in Humanities. In the case of articles published in Sinhala or Tamil, an abstract must be presented in English for each article.
 - Any article submitted within the Journal Format Thesis must be substantially different from any work previously submitted by the student for any degree at this or any other institution.
- b) As a whole, the thesis should remain an original contribution — original research undertaken after the date the student initially registered with the University — to the field of research. The student should use the introductory section of their thesis to explain and justify in full the nature and extent of their own contribution to the publications presented.
 - c) The work must constitute a body of publications forming a coherent and continuous thesis, rather than a series of disconnected papers. As such, all publications should be adapted and integrated within the structure of the thesis. Any sections of the thesis that are published or in publishable format must be clearly identified.
 - d) It is recommended that separate versions of the papers be inserted and that the pagination sequence should flow throughout the thesis rather than inserting preprints.
 - e) In addition, the thesis should include copies or offprints of journal articles that already have page numbers. The pages of the publications themselves should not be included in the pagination sequence of the submission.
 - f) A thesis of this kind may be longer than a standard MPhil/PhD thesis on the same topic, as overlapping components are expected in each article. The maximum length of a journal format PhD thesis should not normally exceed **90,000 words** of main text (including footnotes and endnotes). The maximum length of a journal format MPhil/Professional Doctorate thesis should not normally exceed **60,000 words** of main text (including footnotes and endnotes).
 - g) Similar to regular/standard doctoral/MPhil theses, Journal Format Theses must meet the requirements of the degree as prescribed in the relevant regulations and policies. The fact that a thesis contains material that has been published or accepted for publication does not guarantee that the examiner will recommend the award for which the student is being examined.
 - h) The Journal Format Thesis should include, inter alia, the following:
 - Justification for submitting the thesis in a journal format.
 - An account of how the thesis format has been constructed.

- Context of the research, defining the rationale of the investigation and the strategy employed during the research as demonstrated in the thesis.
- Review of previous research by summarizing and synthesizing previous research in the field of investigation.
- Methodology, detailing methods employed and providing a critical analysis of those methods and the information they generated.
- Presentation of results and their analysis in a format suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed journal
- Summary/conclusion, drawing together the outcomes of the work into a coherent synthesis and indicating directions for future research

Format of the Journal Format Thesis

Preliminary Pages

- Title Page
- Copyright Page (if applicable)
- Abstract
- Dedication, Acknowledgements, and Preface (each optional)
- Table of Contents, with page numbers
- List of Tables, List of Figures, or List of Illustrations, with titles and page numbers (if applicable)
- List of Abbreviations (if applicable)
- List of Symbols (if applicable)

Main Pages

- Chapters, including**:

Introduction

Main body, with consistent chapters and appropriate subheadings. The main body should include the four or five articles mentioned above, structured and adapted as outlined in Section 2.7.

Conclusion

**The thesis should include all the key components required for a thesis of this kind, as detailed above.

Closing Pages

- Appendices (if applicable)
- Endnotes (if applicable)

- References
- Bibliography
- Index (if applicable)

(Refer to Section A for detailed descriptions where relevant.)


C. Practice-based Theses (Creative Theses)

- The practice-based MPhil/PhD degree allows candidates to request permission to submit material for assessment in a medium other than that described in the Standard Thesis or Journal Format Thesis guidelines.
- The practice-based MPhil/PhD is distinguished from other MPhil/doctoral degrees in that a major element of the submission is an original creative work or words, created by the student for the purpose of the award. Apart from the inclusion of such material, the practice-based thesis must conform to the same standards expected of a standard/regular PhD thesis, and students must follow the guidance detailed in this section.

Accordingly, practice-based theses (Creative Theses) should include the following two main components (described in c and d):

- The creative material accompanying a critical component of the creative material
 - The creative material refers to a practical or creative component, for example, a portfolio of original compositions, portfolio of creative work, a recital or performance, a translation, a novel or a collection of short stories or work of creative nonfiction, a play or a group of plays, or a sequence of poems (book length, approximately 100 pages), or a portfolio of works of various genres. the accompanying critical component can take the form of an exegesis** or other work of scholarly research, or be a combination of both:
 - A scholarly exegesis (i.e., a critical explanation or interpretation) that comments directly on the creative work (for example, from the perspective of a particular theory, or with a focus on style, composition, genre, or the influence of literary and non-literary contexts).
 - An independent but complementary work of scholarly research on a topic relevant to the creative work.

**The exegesis is a written assessment that accompanies a student's creative work. It normally provides a rationale for the techniques and strategies adopted in the creative works and situates them within the theoretical and/or historical-cultural context. One or more clearly identified research questions investigated through the creative works should be included in the exegesis.

- 
- d) A shortened monograph-style thesis that includes all the components required for regular theses, together with a critical analysis of the creative component described (c). In this section, the student should use the introduction of the thesis to explain and justify in full the nature, methodology, and extent of their contribution to the research presented.
- e) The creative work must be no less than **40,000 words**. The critical component, along with the introduction, must also be no less than **40,000 words**. The combined word total for the PhD degree must normally be between **80,000 and 100,000 words**. For the MPhil degree, the word limit must be no less than **60,000 words** (30,000 + 30,000 for the two components) and must not exceed **80,000 words**.
- f) The creative/practical component of the Practice-based Thesis (Creative Theses) should be undertaken by 100% research and should be professionally presented.
- g) As with a standard MPhil/PhD thesis, the submission must make a significant contribution to original knowledge and understanding of the field, and the student must demonstrate critical knowledge of the research methods appropriate to the discipline.
- h) Any student wishing to submit a practice-based MPhil/PhD who is not already registered in a practice-based program must first prepare a written request. This request must:
- provide an outline of the proposed research structure;
 - include academic justification for the change in thesis presentation;
 - contain evidence of permission from the supervisor(s); and
 - be submitted to the Faculty for consideration by the BoS in Humanities.
- i) This request must be submitted before the end of the first year of registration. It should specify why the practice-based format is more appropriate for the research project, demonstrate how the student will take advantage of the creative/practical component, and include the following information:
- PhD title;
 - Student's start date and expected end date;
 - Main Supervisor and Co-Supervisor(s) (if any);
 - Proposed balance of written and practical components to be submitted;
 - Further details about any practical submission (what form it will take, how it will meet the University's practice-based PhD requirements outlined in the handbook);
 - Proposed arrangements for assessment, including examiners, criteria to be applied, and the venue of the oral examination;

- Any specific needs for supporting the student due to the nature of the research (e.g., skills training requirements, supervisory requirements);
 - Detailed information on how the practical component will be supervised.
- j) Any work submitted for the practice-based MPhil/PhD must be substantially different from any work which may have previously been submitted by the student for any degree at this or any other institution.
- k) The student will be expected through their submission as a whole to establish a methodology and a thesis that will demonstrate the link between their theoretical and practical investigations and conclusions.
- l) As with a standard MPhil/PhD thesis, examiners must be satisfied that the practice-based submission meets the requirements of the doctoral degree as prescribed in the relevant regulations and policies.
- m) In order to allow the examiners to properly consider the submission as a whole, the practical component will be submitted to the examiners at the same time that the written thesis is submitted. As with a regular/standard PhD, an oral examination of the whole submission will be required.
- n) If necessary, examiners may require correction, revision, and resubmission of either the practical element, the written element, or both, in accordance with University regulations.

Format of the Practice-based/Creative Thesis

Preliminary Pages

- Title Page
- Copyright Page (if applicable)
- Abstract
- Dedication, Acknowledgements, and Preface (each optional)
- Table of Contents, with page numbers
- List of Tables, List of Figures, or List of Illustrations, with titles and page numbers (if applicable)
- List of Abbreviations (if applicable)
- List of Symbols (if applicable)

Main Pages

- Chapters, including**:
 Introduction
 Main body, with consistent chapters and appropriate subheadings

Conclusion

- Creative/practice-based component along with its critical component

**The thesis should include all the key components required for a thesis: research context/background, statement of the problem, literature review, methodology, conceptual/theoretical background, results, discussion, and analysis, as guided by the team of supervisors and recommended by the BoS in Humanities of the FGS.

Closing Pages

- Appendices (if applicable)
- Endnotes (if applicable)
- References
- Bibliography
- Index (if applicable)

**Board of Study
in
Social Sciences**

3.2. Programs offered by the Board of Study in Social Sciences

3.2.1. Postgraduate Diploma Programs

3.2.1.1. Postgraduate Diploma in Criminology and Criminal Justice

Program Type and SLQF Level

Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF 8)

Introduction to the Program

The Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura is dedicated to enhancing the quality of its graduates by offering various educational opportunities, including the Postgraduate Diploma in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the PGDip in Criminology and Criminal Justice program, graduates will be able to:

- Upgrade their theoretical knowledge of criminology and criminal justice.
- Facilitate and promote crime control and prevention strategies.
- Identify crime patterns and spatial distribution of crimes.
- Reduce the fear of crime prevailing in a given community.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

The PGDip in Criminology and Criminal Justice offers diverse career opportunities in law enforcement, corrections, probation, excise, armed forces, and judicial services. This qualification is highly valued in these sectors, aligning with promotion schemes and enhancing career progression. In addition, it benefits individuals seeking employment in security, legal, and investigative roles. The growing demand for professionals with criminological expertise makes this program highly relevant. Furthermore, it serves as an academic foundation for those aspiring to pursue higher studies, providing a pathway to MA, MPhil, and PhD programs in criminology, criminal justice, and related disciplines, fostering advanced research and specialization.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the PGDip in Criminology and Criminal Justice program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree with 30 credits in subject areas, including criminology and criminal justice.
- b) A Bachelor's degree in fields such as police, prisons, excise, armed forces, judicial service, and other related fields.
- c) Qualification as an Attorney-at-Law with more than five years of professional experience.
- d) Completion of NVQ 7 as determined by the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Interviews will be conducted, if required, for student selection.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: Sinhala

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------------|--|-----------|--------|
| Year 1 - Semester 1 | | | |
| DCC 101 | Theories and Concepts of Criminology and Criminal | 03 | C |
| DCC 102 | Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice | 03 | C |
| DCC 103 | Crime Prevention and Crime Control | 02 | C |
| DCC 104 | Criminal Law and Human Rights | 03 | C |
| DCC 105 | Research Methodology and Independent Research Report | 03 | C |
| Year 1 - Semester 2 | | | |
| DCC 106 | Buddhist Jurisprudence | 02 | C |
| DCC 107 | Forensic Science and Forensic Medicine | 02 | C |
| DCC 108 | Independent Research Report | 02 | C |
| DCC 109 | Geographic Information System and Crime in Sri Lanka | 03 | C |
| DCC 110 | Human Resource Management for Justice Administration | 02 | C |
| Total Credits | | 25 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through theory examinations and continuous assessments during and at the end of the semester. Continuous assessments account for a maximum of 20% of the total marks, with written or other examinations comprising the remaining 80%, except for DCC 109: Geographic Information System and Crime in Sri Lanka. Continuous lab-based assessments in the DCC 109 course will be limited to a maximum of 60% of the total marks. The pass mark is 50%, and students must pass all the course units.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 20%
The maximum mark is 20% for continuous assessments (assignments [individual/group], presentations)
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 80%
Final Examination: 80 % (written exam) (60% for DCC 109: Geographic Information System and Crime in Sri Lanka).
- c) Other Assessments
Students are required to submit an independent research report of approximately 10,000 words (DCC 105: Research Methodology and Independent Research Report).

Repeating Course Units

If a student is unable to attend the examination or fails the course unit, they may repeat the course unit. However, unless there are medical reasons, the highest mark they can achieve is 50%. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **Chapter 2, Section 2.2.6**, titled “**Examinations and Evaluation Procedures,**” which includes the subsection “**Repeating the Course Units**” in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Criminology and Criminal Justice

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|--|---|
| 2.70 (B- grade) from all taught courses. | Successfully pass all course units with a total of at least 25 credits' worth of courses. |

Students will be awarded a merit pass if their overall average is 70% or higher.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee should be paid at the time of registration, and the remaining 40% of the course fee should be paid before the end of the first semester.

3.2.1.2. Postgraduate Diploma in Business Statistics

Program Type and SLQF Level

Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF 8)

Introduction to the Program

The Postgraduate Diploma in Business Statistics is a specialized program designed to equip students with essential statistical and analytical skills for data-driven decision-making in business. As organizations increasingly depend on data analytics, the demand for professionals with expertise in Business Statistics continues to grow. This program aims to bridge the knowledge gap by enabling professionals to transform numerical data into meaningful insights for effective decision-making. The curriculum combines theoretical and practical learning, covering key areas such as fundamentals of statistics, data analytics and visualization, predictive modeling, econometrics, business forecasting, statistical software training, and applied business research. Through this program, students gain hands-on experience in applying statistical tools to real-world business problems using specialized software, preparing them well for careers in business analytics, market research, and operations management. By mastering statistical techniques and analytical tools, students develop a competitive edge in today's data-centric world, allowing them to make strategic contributions to their organizations and advance in their careers.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the PGDip in Business Statistics program, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate strong knowledge and skills in business statistics.
- Contribute to society and the labor market as creative, innovative, and entrepreneurial professionals in business statistics.
- Apply advanced statistical concepts and methodologies in emerging fields.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Students of the PGDip in Business Statistics are well-equipped for various analytical and decision-making roles across industries. Some key career paths include:

- Business analyst: interpreting business data to support strategic decision-making.
- Data analyst: analyzing large datasets to identify trends, patterns, and insights.
- Market research analyst: conducting research to understand consumer behavior and market trends.
- Operations analyst: optimizing business processes through data-driven decision-making.

The PGDip in Business Statistics opens doors to dynamic career opportunities in various industries where data-driven decision-making is crucial. With a strong foundation in statistical analysis, graduates can pursue rewarding careers, contribute to business success, and explore advanced academic opportunities.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the PGDip in Business Statistics program, applicants should hold the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree from a recognized university, including 30 credits in the relevant subject area, to be considered for registration.
AND
Sufficient proficiency in both spoken and written English.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|---|-----------|--------|
| Semester 1 | | | |
| DBS 111 | Mathematics for Business Statistics | 02 | C |
| DBS 112 | Descriptive Statistics | 02 | C |
| DBS 113 | Probability and Probability Distributions | 02 | C |
| DBS 114 | Operation Research | 02 | C |
| DBS 115 | Survey Sampling Methods | 02 | C |
| DBS 116 | Design of Experiments | 02 | C |
| DBS 117 | Data Analysis - I | 01 | C |
| Semester 2 | | | |
| DBS 121 | Non-Parametric Methods | 02 | C |
| DBS 122 | Regression and Time Series Analysis | 03 | C |
| DBS 123 | Statistical Inference | 02 | C |
| DBS 124 | Statistical Quality Control | 02 | C |
| DBS 125 | Data Analysis - II | 02 | C |
| DBS 126 | Independent Research Study/Project** | 02 | C |
| Total Credits | | 26 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course

Evaluation Criteria

For each course unit, there are two types of assessments. The assessments conducted between the first lecture and the last lecture are called “Continuous Assessments.” The assessment conducted after all the lectures of a particular course is called an “End-of-Course Assessment.”

a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 20%-40%

Continuous assessments may include individual take-home assignments, group assignments, case analyses, mid-term examinations, quizzes, practicals, field engagements, oral presentations, etc.

Students can undertake any continuous assessments only once unless there is a medical reason.

Continuous assessments will contribute a maximum of 40% of the total marks.

b) End-of-Course Assessment

A maximum of two overall assessments will be conducted for each course unit, as needed. These are referred to as the “First Overall Assessment” and the “Repeat Overall Assessment.” All students should sit for the first overall assessment. Those who achieve a grade less than “B-” in any course unit should sit for the second overall assessment, provided they fully comply with the relevant conditions outlined in this handbook.

c) Final Examination (% weighting): 80%-60%

After the completion of lectures, there will be a 2- to 3-hour final overall assessment in the form of a written examination for each course unit. The final written examination will contribute a maximum of 80% of the total marks.

d) Method of Assessment

Methods of assessment can differ from one course unit to another. For each course unit, a course description outlining the topics, course objectives, learning outcomes, method of evaluation, and a tentative schedule for assessments will be provided by the lecturer in charge at the beginning of the course.

Repeating Course Units

If a student fails a course or wishes to improve their previous grade, they are permitted to repeat the course at the next available opportunity. However, a student repeating a course unit will be awarded a maximum of a B- grade for the repeated attempt, except in cases where the first attempt was missed due to a valid medical reason. A student unable to complete a course unit due to medical reasons must submit a written request, along with a valid medical certificate, to the Course Coordinator and, upon approval from the BoS, complete the course with the next available batch while retaining all privileges. A student is allowed to repeat a course unit a maximum of two times after the first attempt, for a total of three attempts.

Repeat students must take the course alongside the next available batch and are required to pass the course unit within three consecutive batches. If a student obtains a lower grade in a repeat attempt compared to a previous attempt, the highest grade achieved will be retained

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Business Statistics

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|--|---|
| 2.70 (B- grade) from all taught courses. | Successfully pass all the courses with a total of 26 credits' worth of courses, including Independent Study, and possess a minimum GPA of 2.70. |

Students who are unable to complete an “in-course assessment or overall assessment” in any course due to a medical reason must submit a written request, along with a medical certificate, within 14 days after the examination to the Course Coordinator and complete the relevant course with the next immediate batch. Students are expected to engage continuously in their studies. Extra time (study leave) will not be granted for examination preparation. Requests for the postponement of examinations or study leave will not be considered.

Students will be awarded a merit pass if their overall GPA is greater than or equal to 3.70.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 75% of the course fee should be paid at the time of registration, and the remaining 25% of the course fee should be paid within two months of registration.

3.2.1.3. Postgraduate Diploma in Social Statistics

Program Type and SLQF Level

Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF 8)

Introduction to the Program

The Postgraduate Diploma in Social Statistics is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills required to analyze and interpret social data for research and policy-making. This program focuses on statistical techniques and methodologies used in sociology, demography, political science, psychology, education, health sciences, and public policy. With the increasing reliance on data-driven insights in social sciences, professionals trained in social statistics are in high demand across various sectors. This program offers a balanced blend of theoretical knowledge and practical application, covering key subjects such as fundamentals of statistics, data analytics and visualization, survey methods and data collection, demography, statistical software training, and applied social research. Students gain hands-on experience in utilizing statistical tools and software to address real-world social challenges, preparing them well for careers in social research, policy development, public health, and education analytics. By acquiring expertise in statistical techniques and data interpretation, students gain a competitive advantage in today's data-centric landscape, enabling them to contribute effectively to organizations and advance in their professional careers.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the PGDip in Social Statistics program, graduates will be able to:

- Provide a strong foundation in statistical methods and their application in social research.
- Develop skills in data collection, analysis, and interpretation for evidence-based decision-making.
- Enhance students' ability to evaluate and address social issues using quantitative methods.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Students of the program can pursue careers in:

- Social research and policy analysis: working with government agencies, NGOs, and international organizations.
- Market and consumer research: analyzing social trends and consumer behavior.
- Public health and demographics: using statistical insights for healthcare and population studies.
- Education and institutional research: evaluating education systems and policy outcomes.
- Survey and data analysis: collecting and interpreting data for various social applications.
- Academia and research: pursuing further studies or engaging in research institutions.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the PGDip in Social Statistics program, applicants should hold the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree from a recognized university, including 30 credits in the relevant subject area.
AND
Sufficient proficiency in both spoken and written English.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|--------|
| Year 1 - Semester 1 | | | |
| DSS 111 | Mathematics for Social Statistics | 02 | C |
| DSS 112 | Descriptive Statistics | 02 | C |
| DSS 113 | Probability and Probability Distributions | 02 | C |
| DSS 114 | Operation Research | 02 | C |
| DSS 115 | Survey Sampling Methods | 02 | C |
| DSS 116 | Design of Experiments | 02 | C |
| DSS 117 | Data Analysis - I | 01 | C |
| Year 1 - Semester 2 | | | |
| DSS 121 | Non-Parametric Methods | 02 | C |
| DSS 122 | Regression and Time Series Analysis | 03 | C |
| DSS 123 | Statistical Inference | 02 | C |
| DSS 124 | Demographic Techniques | 02 | C |
| DSS 125 | Data Analysis - II | 02 | C |
| DSS 126 | Independent Research Study/ Project** | 02 | C |
| Total Credits | | 26 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course

Evaluation Criteria

For each course unit, there are two types of assessments. The assessments conducted between the first lecture and the last lecture are called “Continuous Assessments.” The assessment conducted after all the lectures of a particular course is called an “End-of-Course Assessment.”

a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 20%-40%

Continuous assessments may include individual take-home assignments, group assignments, case analyses, mid-term examinations, quizzes, practicals, field engagements, oral presentations, etc.

Students can undertake any continuous assessments only once unless there is a medical reason.

Continuous assessments will contribute a maximum of 40% of the total marks.

b) End-of-Course Assessment

A maximum of two overall assessments will be conducted for each course unit, as needed. These are referred to as the “First Overall Assessment” and the “Repeat Overall Assessment.” All students should sit for the first overall assessment. Those who achieve a grade less than “B-” in any course unit should sit for the second overall assessment, provided they fully comply with the relevant conditions outlined in this handbook.

c) Final Examination (% weighting): 80%-60%

After the completion of lectures, there will be a 2- to 3-hour final overall assessment in the form of a written examination for each course unit. The final written examination will contribute a maximum of 80% of the total marks.

d) Method of Assessment

Methods of assessment can differ from one course unit to another. For each course unit, a course description outlining the topics, course objectives, learning outcomes, method of evaluation, and a tentative schedule for assessments will be provided by the lecturer in charge at the beginning of the course.

Repeating Course Units

If a student fails a course or wishes to improve their previous grade, they are permitted to repeat the course at the next available opportunity. However, a student repeating a course unit will be awarded a maximum of a B- grade for the repeated attempt, except in cases where the first attempt was missed due to a valid medical reason. A student unable to complete a course unit due to medical reasons must submit a written request, along with a valid medical certificate, to the Course Coordinator and, upon approval from the BoS, complete the course with the next available batch while retaining all privileges. A student is allowed to repeat a course unit a maximum of two times after the first attempt, for a total of three attempts.

Repeat students must take the course alongside the next available batch and are required to pass the course unit within three consecutive batches. If a student obtains a lower grade in a repeat attempt compared to a previous attempt, the highest grade achieved will be retained.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Social Statistics

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|--|---|
| 2.70 (B- grade) from all taught courses. | Successfully pass all the courses with a total of 26 credits' worth of courses, including Independent Study, and possess a minimum GPA of 2.70. |

Students who are unable to complete an “in-course assessment or overall assessment” in any course due to a medical reason must submit a written request, along with a medical certificate, within 14 days after the examination to the Course Coordinator and complete the relevant course with the next immediate batch. Students are expected to engage continuously in their studies. Extra time (study leave) will not be granted for examination preparation. Requests for the postponement of examinations or study leave will not be considered.

Students will be awarded a merit pass if their overall GPA is greater than or equal to 3.70.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 75% of the course fee should be paid at the time of registration, and the remaining 25% of the course fee should be paid within two months of registration.

3.2.2. Master's Programs

3.2.2.1. Master of Criminal Justice and Corrections

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's (SLQF 9)

Introduction to the Program

The Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura is the only academic institution in Sri Lanka's university system offering undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs in Criminology and Criminal Justice. This Master of Criminal Justice and Corrections program provides advanced knowledge and skills for professionals in these fields.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the Master of Criminal Justice and Corrections program, graduates will be able to:

- Enhance their theoretical knowledge of Criminology and Criminal Justice, with special reference to the correction of offenders. Through prescribed coursework and research activities, candidates will gain well-structured professional experience with relevant institutions and services.
- Develop the professional skills required to perform key functions in correction and rehabilitation services, as well as to implement criminal justice measures relevant to affected parties.
- Foster positive attitudes, professional ethics, universal values and norms, and awareness of cultural, social, and environmental factors essential for effective, humane functioning and communication within correctional services.
- Acquire the professional expertise necessary to create new technical knowledge, policies, and programs that contribute to the development of an advanced correctional system in collaboration with peers.
- Build a strong academic foundation to help transform the correctional workforce into a professionally qualified body.
- Become professionals committed to ensuring the protection of offenders and the promotion of social justice while maintaining peace and order in society.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

The Master of Criminal Justice and Corrections program offers significant professional advancement for individuals employed in the police, prison, probation, excise, armed forces, and judicial services, as it is recognized within the promotional frameworks of these sectors. Furthermore, the comprehensive knowledge and skills acquired through the program will be highly beneficial to those aspiring to enter or progress within careers related to criminal justice, including roles in law enforcement, correctional administration, and judicial service support.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the Master of Criminal Justice and Corrections program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Special or Honors degree (SLQF 6) in Criminology and Criminal Justice, or an LLB degree recognized by the University Grants Commission.
- b) A Special or General degree in Social Sciences, Humanities, Management and Commerce, Science, Technology, Engineering, Architecture, or Medical and Health Sciences, accepted by the University Grants Commission.

AND

A minimum of 3 years of work experience directly or indirectly related to the functions of the criminal justice system.

OR

- a) A PGDip in the field of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Sociology, Psychology, or Counselling (SLQF 8), with a minimum of 25 credits recognized by the University Senate.

AND

A minimum of 5 years of work experience directly or indirectly related to the functions of the criminal justice system.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: Sinhala and English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|--|-----------|--------|
| Semester 1 | | | |
| MACJC 101 | Advanced Criminological Theories | 03 | C |
| MACJC 102 | Legal History and Justice System | 03 | C |
| MACJC 103 | Historical Perspectives on Corrections | 03 | C |
| MACJC 104 | Psychological and Psychiatric Aspects of Corrections | 03 | C |
| MACJC 105 | Cybercrime Prevention and Control | 02 | O |
| MACJC 106 | Criminological Research Methods and Data Analysis | 03 | C |
| MACJC 107 | Human Resource Administration for Corrections | 02 | O |
| Semester 2 | | | |
| MACJC 201 | Modern Theories and Practices of Corrections | 03 | C |
| MACJC 202 | Offender-Based Corrections | 03 | C |
| MACJC 203 | Methods of Social Work for Intervention | 02 | O |
| MACJC 204 | Victimology and Counseling | 03 | C |
| MACJC 205 | Mediation and Conflict Resolution | 02 | O |
| MACJC 206 | Independent Research Project | 06 | C |
| Total Credits | | 30 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course, O - Optional Course

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit is evaluated through a combination of continuous assessments and end-of-semester theory examinations. The maximum mark that can be obtained is 40% for continuous assessments, which may include written assignments and other evaluative components. The pass mark is 50%, and students must pass all course units to be eligible for program completion.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 40%
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60%

Repeating Course Units

If a student is unable to sit for the final examination of any course unit due to illness or any unavoidable circumstance, or if they fail the examination, the marks obtained during the continuous assessments will be carried forward for only one additional sitting. In such cases, the student will be permitted to combine the previously earned continuous assessment marks with the marks obtained in the final examination of the respective course unit. Students who repeat a course unit will be awarded a maximum of 50% of the total marks and a maximum GPA of 2.70 for the repeated course, except in cases of medical reasons. Students who are unable to complete an in-course assessment or overall assessment in any course due to medical reasons must submit a written request, along with a valid medical certificate, to the course coordinator within 14 days of the examination. Upon the approval of the BoS in Social Sciences of the FGS, the student may complete the relevant course with the next immediate batch, retaining all associated privileges.

Awarding the Degree

Master of Criminal Justice and Corrections

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Successfully pass all the courses and possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 30 credits. |

Students will be awarded a merit pass if their overall average is 70% or higher.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: First installment at the time of registration, and the second installment within four months of registration.

3.2.2.2. Master of Economics

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's (SLQF 9)

Introduction to the Program

The Master of Economics program equips students with comprehensive knowledge of contemporary economic theories, concepts, and their practical applications. Through this program, students will develop essential skills for conducting sophisticated economic analysis and engaging with cutting-edge research. The curriculum is designed to accommodate students from diverse academic backgrounds, including those without prior specialization in economics. The advanced and technically demanding nature of the program also provides a solid foundation for PhD programs and other research-focused roles.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the Master of Economics program, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate a thorough and substantial level of expertise and comprehension as an economist.
- Develop arguments and apply concepts and procedures to solve real-world problems.
- Undertake independent research for professional growth.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Graduates may pursue careers in government authorities and public institutions, large corporations, the financial sector, private research centers, the health sector, and a wide array of international institutions, including the OECD, EU, World Bank, development agencies, economic consultancy firms, financial organizations, international corporations, and more.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the Master of Economics program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree of 90 credits or more.
- b) Previous learning equivalent to 30 credits and more than two years of work experience.
- c) Completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the academic authority of the higher education institution, may be considered.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: Either Sinhala or English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|---|-----------|--------|
| Semester 1 | | | |
| MEC 9113 | Microeconomic Analysis | 03 | C |
| MEC 9123 | Macroeconomic Analysis | 03 | C |
| MEC 9132 | Quantitative Techniques in Economics | 02 | C |
| MEC 9143 | Public Economics | 03 | C |
| MEC 9153 MEC 9163 | <u>One of the Following</u> Development Economics Project Management | 03 | O |
| Semester 2 | | | |
| MEC 9213 | Econometrics | 03 | C |
| MEC 9223 | Monetary Economics | 03 | C |
| MEC 9233 | International Economics | 03 | C |
| MEC 9242 MEC 9252 | <u>One of the Following</u> Applied Economic Analysis Economic Policy Analysis | 02 | O |
| MEC 9005 | Independent Study (Capstone Project) | 05 | C |
| Total Credits | | 30 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course, O - Optional Course

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit is evaluated and graded through continuous assessments and theory examinations during and at the end of the semester. It is necessary to attend more than 80% of the lectures for each subject to be eligible to sit for the examination.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 20-40%

Continuous assessment will include individual and group assignments, term papers, midterm exams, case and critical event evaluations, quizzes, and practical and oral presentations. The grades of the continuous assessment are determined through peer review. Marks for continuous assessments, along with written or other tests, will be limited to a maximum of 40% of the total marks.

b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60-80%

c) Other Assessments

A viva voce examination will be conducted to evaluate the capstone project. The passing grade is 50% for every course unit, and it is mandatory to complete and pass every course unit, including the Capstone Project.

Repeating Course Units

If a student is unable to attend the examination or fails the course unit, they may repeat the course unit. However, unless there are medical reasons, the highest mark they can achieve is 50%. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **Section 2.2.6**, titled “**Examinations and Evaluation Procedures**,” which includes the subsection “**Repeating the Course Units**” in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

Master of Economics

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|--|--|
| 2.70 (B- grade) from all taught courses. | Successfully pass all the courses and possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of 30 credits. |

Students will be awarded a merit pass if their overall average is 70% or higher.

Payment Plan

Foreign students are required to pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: Local students are allowed to pay the full course fee in two installments as specified by the Department.

3.2.2.3. Master of Sociology

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's (SLQF 9)

Introduction to the Program

The Master of Sociology program is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of sociological theories, concepts, and methodologies, enabling them to analyze and interpret complex social realities critically. The program emphasizes the development of a strong foundation in both classical and contemporary sociological thought, with a particular focus on the study of social institutions, relationships, structures, and policies. Through rigorous coursework, students gain expertise in applying sociological perspectives to real-world issues such as inequality, globalization, urbanization, social change, and policy development.

In addition to theoretical knowledge, the program strongly emphasizes the development of advanced research and data analysis skills. Students are trained in qualitative and quantitative research methods, equipping them with the tools to conduct independent and collaborative research in various social settings. This methodological training allows graduates to contribute meaningfully to applied social research, policy evaluation, and community-based initiatives.

Upon completion of the program, graduates are well-prepared to pursue careers in academic research, government, non-governmental organizations, and private sector roles that require critical thinking and analytical expertise. Furthermore, the program serves as an excellent foundation for those seeking to continue their academic journey in sociology or related disciplines.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the Master of Sociology program, graduates will be able to:

- Provide in-depth knowledge of classical and contemporary sociological theories.
- Equip students with the ability to critically apply sociological theories to real-world social issues, policies, and institutional practices.
- Enhance research skills in designing, conducting, analyzing, and interpreting data using appropriate techniques.
- Foster the ability to engage in effective multidisciplinary collaboration with peers and external experts to address complex social challenges.

- Produce competent professionals capable of formulating policies related to social planning and development.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Graduates are well-positioned to pursue diverse and impactful careers across a broad spectrum of professional domains. Potential roles include social researchers, policy analysts, community health program coordinators, consultants, social policy planners, and development project managers. They may also serve as social environmental specialists, counselors, mobilizers, and governance professionals. Opportunities extend to academia, human resources, marketing, investigative services, civil administration, education, law enforcement, tourism, and entrepreneurship. In addition, graduates are equipped to contribute meaningfully to both national and international organizations, leveraging their sociological expertise to address complex social issues in multidisciplinary and cross-cultural contexts.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the Master of Sociology program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A BA Special degree in Sociology (SLQF 6) from a recognized university.
- b) General degree (SLQF 5) from a recognized university with Sociology as a main subject.
- c) Any Bachelor's/Honors degree from a recognized university with a minimum of three years of relevant work experience or research experience.

Eligible students will be selected through an interview conducted by the Department of Sociology, based on their qualifications, experience, interview performance, and the availability of resources. The final decision regarding recruitment is authorized by the university.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: Sinhala

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|---|-----------|--------|
| Semester 1 | | | |
| MSO 1101 | Principles of Sociology | 03 | C |
| MSO 1102 | Applied Sociology | 03 | C |
| MSO 1103 | Sociological Research Methods I | 03 | C |
| MSO 1104 | Rural and Urban Sociology | 03 | C |
| MSO 1105 | Crime and Society | 03 | C |
| Semester 2 | | | |
| MSO 1201 | Development Sociology and Community Participation | 03 | C |
| MSO 1202 | Social Psychology and Counseling | 03 | C |
| MSO 1203 | Advanced Sociological Theories | 03 | C |
| MSO 1204 | Sociology of Education and Educational Psychology | 03 | C |
| MSO 1205 | Sociological Research Methods II and Independent Research Study | 05 | C |
| Total Credits | | 32 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course

Evaluation Criteria

Students' performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through theory examinations and continuous assessments conducted during and at the end of the semester. To be awarded the degree, students must successfully pass all course units, including the Independent Research Study. It is essential to attend more than 80% of the lectures for each subject to become eligible to sit for the examination.

a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 20-40%

This includes individual assignments, group projects, case analyses, mid-term examinations, quizzes, practicals, fieldwork, presentations, and similar activities. Peer evaluation may be incorporated as part of the continuous

assessment process. The respective lecturer will determine the maximum marks allocated for continuous assessment, which typically range from 20% to 40% of the total course marks.

- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60-80%
- c) Other Assessments:

The individual research study will be allocated 100 marks. The pass mark for all course units and the research study is 50%.

Repeating Course Units

The maximum extendable period for registration is three years. If a student fails or is unable to sit for the examination, they may repeat the examination. Such candidates are permitted a maximum of two additional attempts within the three-year registration period.

However, unless there are valid medical reasons, the highest mark a student can obtain when repeating a course unit is 50%. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please refer to **Section 2.2.6**, titled “**Examinations and Evaluation Procedures**,” specifically the subsection “**Repeating the Course Units**,” in this handbook. This section provides comprehensive guidelines and clarifications on the procedures and regulations applicable in such cases.

Every student should be aware of their continuous assessment marks from previous assignments. If they have earned at least 20% for the continuous assessment, they should inform the department before sitting for the repeat examination. If their marks are below 20%, they must repeat the continuous assessment in addition to the final examination.

Awarding the Degree

Master of Sociology

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|--|---|
| 2.70 (B- grade) from all taught courses. | Students should pass all the courses and possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of 32 credits' worth of courses, including Independent Study and completion of continuous assessments. |

Students are required to complete the continuous assessments. If a student sits the exam without submitting the continuous assessment, their final grade is deemed a failure. The total grade value should not be less than “B-”, and the continuous assessment mark should be at least 20% of the total marks allocated for the continuous assessment. Moreover, a student who wishes to sit for the examination as a repeat student is not required to complete the continuous assessment again, provided it was successfully completed during a previous attempt. A student is allowed to carry one “C+” grade per semester, with a maximum of two “C+” passes permitted across both semesters.

Students will be awarded a merit pass if their overall average is 70% or higher (GPA is greater than or equal to 3.70).

Gold Medal

The Gold Medal for the best student of the degree program is awarded based on the following criteria:

- The Gold Medal is awarded to the student who has successfully completed the degree with the highest GPA at the first attempt of the examination.
- Obtained “A” passes for a minimum of 50% of the total number of course units of the degree program.

AND

- Obtained a minimum of “B” passes for all other course units of the degree program.
- Completed a minimum of 60% attendance in all course units.

Payment Plan

The student may pay the full amount either in a single payment or in two installments: the first installment at the time of registration and the second before the first semester examination. Examination admission will not be granted unless the total payment is settled prior to the first-semester examination.

3.2.3. MPhil and PhD Programs

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11) and PhD (SLQF 11)

Introduction to Program

The above research degrees are offered in a variety of subject areas, including Anthropology, Criminology, Political Science, Sociology, Economics, Geography, Archaeology, History, as well as interdisciplinary areas. Students will initially enroll for the degree of MPhil, with the opportunity to progress to a PhD. The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2, Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

Board of Study in Life Sciences

3.3. Programs offered by the Board of Study in Life Sciences

3.3.1. Postgraduate Diploma Programs

3.3.1.1. Postgraduate Diploma in Industrial Organic Chemistry

Program Type and SLQF Level

Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF 8)

Introduction to the Program

Organic chemistry is a dynamic and creative discipline of science involving the synthesis of carbon-based molecules and exploring their properties. It forms the foundation of various disciplines, such as medicine, biotechnology, and biochemistry. Moreover, organic chemistry plays a vital role in the chemical industries, contributing significantly to the economy and the overall development of the country. It serves as the central science behind key industries, including pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, food production and processing, rubber manufacturing, plastics, fuels, cosmetics, detergents, coatings, textile chemicals, and high-technology materials. There is a growing demand for trained organic chemists, but state academic institutes focus more on fundamentals than industrial applications. To bridge this gap effectively, it is crucial to design postgraduate programs that are oriented toward industrial applications and address the practical needs of the field.

The PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry program offers a combination of theoretical and practical knowledge, comprising coursework (25 credits), practical classes (4 credits), and industrial engagement. It serves as a direct entry program and an exit option for the MSc in Industrial Organic Chemistry and the Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry degree programs. This program offers opportunities for individuals with diverse academic and professional backgrounds to pursue postgraduate studies in organic chemistry.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry program, graduates will be able to:

- Propose, direct, and implement development processes in their respective fields through comprehensive theoretical knowledge and practical skills gained from postgraduate-level scientific training.
- Work independently as well as part of a team or as a leader in diverse multidisciplinary settings to accomplish common goals.
- Apply knowledge effectively in problem-solving exercises.
- Communicate effectively in both written and oral forms.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

The program provides opportunities to obtain postgraduate-level qualifications for prospective students, teachers, and current industrial and research institute personnel with advanced knowledge and hands-on experience in industrially oriented organic chemistry.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- A BSc Special or Honors degree (SLQF 6) in Chemistry.
- A BSc General degree (SLQF 5) with Chemistry as a subject.
- A BSc Special or Honors degree (SLQF 6) with Chemistry as a subject.
- A BSc degree (SLQF 5 or 6) in Chemical Engineering/Food Science or Agriculture/Pharmacy and Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) with Chemistry as a subject/relevant subject area.
- A BSc Honors in Fisheries and Marine Sciences or Marine and Freshwater Sciences (SLQF 6) with Chemistry as a subject/relevant subject area.
- An equivalent qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission.
- An equivalent qualification accepted by the University Senate.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|---|-----------|--------|
| IOC80102 | Advanced Organic Chemistry | 02 | C |
| IOC80203 | Separation and Identification Techniques of Organic Compounds | 03 | C |
| IOC80302 | Basics and Principles of Industrial Organic Chemistry and Chemical Engineering | 02 | C |
| IOC80402 | Modern Medicinal Chemistry | 02 | C |
| IOC80503 | Applications of Microbiology, Protein and Food Chemistry for Industry* | 03 | O |
| IOC80603 | Organic Chemistry Applications in Agriculture, Petroleum, and Textile Industries* | 03 | O |
| IOC80703 | Chemistry of Natural Products and Industrial Applications | 03 | C |
| IOC80802 | Industrial Chemical and Waste Management, Laboratory Safety, and Security | 02 | C |
| IOC80902 | Organic Chemistry in Nanotechnology and Polymer Science Interface | 02 | C |
| IOC81001 | Quality Assurance and Management | 01 | C |
| IOC81102 | Research Methodology, Scientific Communications, Seminars, and Industrial Visits | 02 | C |
| IOC81204 | Laboratory Practical ^{1,2} | 04 | C |
| Total Credits | | 29 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course, O - Optional Course

*Optional Course: Students are required to obtain 3 credits from IOC80503 and IOC80603 (It is required to obtain 26 out of 29 credits to be eligible for the PGDip).

¹Laboratory Practical course (IOC81204) will be carried out throughout the first year. The final grade for this course will be awarded at the end of the first year.

²Non-taught component

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit will be evaluated through various assessments, including theory examinations, practical examinations, continuous assessments, assessment reports, and oral examinations. The assessment structure is modified, as required, to facilitate the achievement of the intended learning outcomes for each course unit. When there are multiple assessment methods for a course unit, the marks obtained by the student are combined in a predetermined manner to obtain the final grade. All the theory courses will be evaluated based on end-modular (course) examinations. To become eligible to sit for the examination, it is necessary to maintain an attendance rate of 80% or higher for both theory and practical sessions. It is compulsory to finish all the practical classes within the first year of registration.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 0-40% (assignments, quizzes, reports, lab reports, presentations)
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60-100% (written examinations)

Repeating Course Units

A student who is unable to sit for the theory course unit examination, or fails a theory course unit, or wishes to improve previous grades in a course is permitted to repeat the course at the next opportunity. A student is allowed to repeat a course unit a maximum of two times after the first attempt, for a total of three attempts. Non-taught components cannot be repeated under any circumstances. If a student obtains a lower grade at a repeat attempt, the higher grade obtained in previous attempts will be used to calculate the GPA. A student repeating a course unit will be awarded a maximum of a B- grade for the repeated attempt, except in cases where the first attempt was missed due to a valid medical reason.

Repeat examinations will be conducted at the same time as the next immediate PGDip batch. If a student wishes to repeat a course unit that is not offered to the next immediate PGDip batch, the student should sit for a paper which is similar in content and credit value to the course unit that the student intended to repeat. In this case, the student must inform the Course Coordinator before taking the exam, and if necessary, prior approval must be obtained.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Students should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 26 credits' worth of courses and maintain a minimum grade of C for course units except for the Laboratory Practical course. In addition, students should obtain a minimum grade of B in the Laboratory Practical course. |

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee at registration and the balance within three months of the first year.

3.3.2. Master's Programs

3.3.2.1. Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework] (SLQF 9)

Introduction to the Program

The Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry is designed to provide students with the necessary fundamental knowledge and the essentials of novel trends in industrial organic chemistry. The program aims to provide students with the necessary expertise to solve industrial problems in organic chemistry and use critical thinking toward industrially applied organic chemistry. Moreover, this program will provide connections with local industries through industrial visits, guest lectures by industrial experts, and industrially oriented case studies. By incorporating these industry-focused elements, the program ensures that students gain firsthand exposure to the real-world applications of applied organic chemistry.

The Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry program provides both theoretical and practical knowledge in organic chemistry to prospective students and industrial personnel who wish to enhance their skills in organic chemistry. This course consists of theory coursework (25 credits), practical classes (4 credits), industrial visits, guest lectures, and case studies. Students enrolled in this program must carry out a case study related to organic chemistry/industrial organic chemistry (6 credits) under the supervision of a faculty member. This is a direct-entry program. Furthermore, this program is offered as an exit option for the MSc in Industrial Organic Chemistry program.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry program, graduates will be able to:

- Propose, direct, and implement development processes in their respective fields through comprehensive theoretical knowledge and practical skills gained from postgraduate-level scientific training.
- Analyze problems related to the chemical industry and provide innovative, value-added solutions that meet realistic socioeconomic and environmental constraints.
- Work independently, as well as part of a team or as a leader, in diverse multidisciplinary settings to accomplish common goals.
- Apply knowledge effectively in problem-solving exercises.
- Communicate effectively in both written and oral forms.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

This Master's program provides opportunities to obtain a postgraduate-level qualification for prospective students, teachers, current industrial personnel, and research institute personnel with advanced knowledge and hands-on experience in industrially oriented organic chemistry. In addition, this program provides qualifications for higher positions in private and public sector industries such as chemical, pharmaceutical, food, textile, polymer, etc. This program serves as an entry qualification for MSc and PhD degree programs.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A BSc Special or Honors degree (SLQF 6) in Chemistry.
- b) A BSc General degree (SLQF 5) with Chemistry as a subject.
- c) A BSc Special or Honors degree (SLQF 6) with Chemistry as a subject.
- d) A BSc degree (SLQF 5 or 6) in Chemical Engineering/Food Science or Agriculture/Pharmacy and Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) with Chemistry as a subject/relevant subject area.
- e) A BSc Honors in Fisheries and Marine Sciences or Marine and Freshwater Sciences (SLQF 6) with Chemistry as a subject/relevant subject area.
- f) An equivalent qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission
- g) An equivalent qualification accepted by the University Senate.
- h) A Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF 8) in Industrial Organic Chemistry.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|---|-----------|--------|
| IOC90102 | Advanced Organic Chemistry | 02 | C |
| IOC90203 | Separation and Identification Techniques of Organic Compounds | 03 | C |
| IOC90302 | Basics and Principles of Industrial Organic Chemistry and Chemical Engineering | 02 | C |
| IOC90402 | Modern Medicinal Chemistry | 02 | C |
| IOC90503 | Applications of Microbiology, Protein and Food Chemistry for Industry* | 03 | O |
| IOC90603 | Organic Chemistry Applications in Agriculture, Petroleum, and Textile Industries* | 03 | O |
| IOC90703 | Chemistry of Natural Products and Industrial Applications | 03 | C |
| IOC90802 | Industrial Chemical and Waste Management, Laboratory Safety, and Security | 02 | C |
| IOC90902 | Organic Chemistry in Nanotechnology and Polymer Science Interface | 02 | C |
| IOC91001 | Quality Assurance and Management | 01 | C |
| IOC91102 | Research Methodology, Scientific Communications, Seminars and Industrial Visits | 02 | C |
| IOC91204 | Laboratory Practical ^{1,3} | 04 | C |
| IOC91306 | Independent Case Study ^{2,3} | 06 | C |
| Total Credits | | 35 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course, O - Optional Course

*Optional Course - Students are required to obtain 3 credits from IOC90503 and IOC90603 (It is required to obtain 32 out of 35 credits to be eligible for the Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry degree)

¹Laboratory practical course (IOC91204) will be carried out throughout the first year. The final grade for this course will be awarded at the end of the first year.

²IOC91306 course is offered throughout the first year.

³Non-taught component.

Evaluation Criteria

The student's performance in each course unit is assessed and graded by theory examinations/practical examinations/continuous assessments/assessment reports/oral examinations, etc. The assessment structure is modified, when required, to facilitate achieving the intended learning outcomes of each course unit. When multiple assessment methods are used for a course unit, marks obtained by the student are combined in a predetermined manner to obtain the final grade. All theory courses will be evaluated based on end-modular (course) examinations. It is necessary to maintain 80% or higher attendance for theory and practical sessions to become eligible to sit for the examinations. It is compulsory to finish all the practical classes within the first year of registration.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 0-40% (assignments, quizzes, reports, lab reports, presentations)
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60-100% (written examinations)
- c) Independent Case Study

The independent case study report will be evaluated by two faculty members/experts in the relevant area separately, and the viva voce examination will be graded by the same members in the presence of the Course Coordinator and the Supervisor(s).

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|--|--|
| PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry (SLQF 8) | Students should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 26 credits' worth of courses and maintain a minimum grade of C for course units except for Laboratory Practical courses. Furthermore, students should obtain a minimum grade of B for the Laboratory Practical course. |

If a student is unable to complete the independent case study within the given time period, they can exit the program (if they wish to do so), obtaining a PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry.

Repeating Course Units

A student who is unable to sit for the theory course unit examination, or fails a theory course unit, or wishes to improve previous grades in a course, is permitted to repeat the course at the next opportunity. A student is allowed to repeat a course unit a maximum of two times after the first attempt, for a total of three attempts. Non-taught components cannot be repeated under any circumstances. If a student obtains a lower grade at a repeat attempt, the higher grade obtained in previous attempts will be used to calculate the GPA. A student repeating a course unit will be awarded a maximum of a B- grade for the repeated attempt, except in cases where the first attempt was missed due to a valid medical reason.

Repeat examinations will be conducted at the same time as the next immediate Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry batch. If a student wishes to repeat a course unit that is not offered to the next immediate Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry batch, the student must sit for a paper which is similar in content and credit value to the course unit that the student intended to repeat. In this case, the student must inform the Course Coordinator before taking the exam, and if necessary, prior approval must be obtained.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Students should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 26 credits' worth of courses and maintain a minimum grade of C for course units except for Laboratory Practical courses. Furthermore, students should obtain a minimum grade of B for the Laboratory Practical course. |

Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students should pass all the courses and should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 32 credits' worth of courses and maintain a minimum of a C+ grade for course units, except for the Laboratory Practical course and the Independent Case Study. Furthermore, students should obtain a minimum grade of B for the Laboratory Practical course and the Independent Case Study. |

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee at registration and the balance within three months of the first year.

3.3.2.3. Master of Science in Industrial Organic Chemistry

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

The MSc in Industrial Organic Chemistry program is designed to provide both theoretical and practical knowledge in organic chemistry to prospective students and industrial personnel who wish to enhance their skills in organic chemistry. This program consists of theory coursework (25 credits), practical classes (4 credits), industrial visits, guest lectures, case studies, and research projects. Students enrolled in this program must carry out a case study (6 credits) and a one-year research project (30 credits) related to Organic Chemistry/Industrial Organic Chemistry under the supervision of a faculty member.

This program provides the necessary expertise to solve industrial problems in organic chemistry and use critical thinking toward industrially applied organic chemistry. Moreover, the MSc degree provides stronger connections with local industries through industrial visits, guest lectures by industrial experts, and industrially oriented case studies and research projects. By incorporating these industry-focused elements, the program ensures that students gain firsthand exposure to the real-world applications of applied organic chemistry. Furthermore, this program offers opportunities for individuals with diverse academic and professional backgrounds to pursue postgraduate studies in organic chemistry.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Industrial Organic Chemistry program, graduates will be able to:

- Propose, direct, and implement development processes in their respective fields through comprehensive theoretical knowledge and practical skills gained from postgraduate-level scientific training.
- Analyze problems related to the chemical industry and provide innovative value-added solutions while meeting realistic socioeconomic and environmental constraints.
- Work independently as well as part of a team or as a leader in diverse multidisciplinary settings to accomplish common goals.
- Apply knowledge effectively in problem-solving exercises.
- Communicate effectively in both written and oral forms.
- Develop a research topic that includes evaluation and discussion of an extensive literature review; discussion, planning, and conducting research

trials/data gathering exercises; analysis of the data; and the writing of a comprehensive report/thesis.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

This program provides opportunities to obtain postgraduate-level qualifications for prospective students, teachers, current industrial personnel, and institute personnel with advanced knowledge and hands-on experience in industrially oriented organic chemistry. In addition, this program provides qualifications for higher positions in private and public sector industries such as chemical, pharmaceutical, food, textile, polymer, etc. Furthermore, this program serves as an entry qualification for a PhD degree program.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Industrial Organic Chemistry program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A BSc Special or Honors degree (SLQF 6) in Chemistry.
- b) A BSc General degree (SLQF 5) with Chemistry as a subject.
- c) A BSc Special or Honors Degree (SLQF 6) with Chemistry as a subject.
- d) A BSc degree (SLQF 5 or 6) in Chemical Engineering/Food Science or Agriculture/Pharmacy and Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) with Chemistry as a subject/relevant subject area.
- e) A BSc Honors in Fisheries and Marine Sciences or Marine and Freshwater Sciences (SLQF 6) with Chemistry as a subject/relevant subject area.
- f) An equivalent qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission.
- g) An equivalent qualification accepted by the University Senate, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
- h) A Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry (SLQF 9).

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|--|-----------|--------|
| IOC100102 | Advanced Organic Chemistry | 02 | C |
| IOC100203 | Separation and Identification Techniques of Organic Compounds | 03 | C |
| IOC100302 | Basics and Principles of Industrial Organic Chemistry and Chemical Engineering | 02 | C |
| IOC100402 | Modern Medicinal Chemistry | 02 | C |
| IOC100503 | Applications of Microbiology, Protein and Food Chemistry for Industry* | 03 | O |
| IOC100603 | Organic Chemistry Applications in Agriculture, Petroleum and Textile Industries* | 03 | O |
| IOC100703 | Chemistry of Natural Products and Industrial Applications | 03 | C |
| IOC100802 | Industrial Chemical and Waste Management, Laboratory Safety, and Security | 02 | C |
| IOC100902 | Organic Chemistry in Nanotechnology and Polymer Science Interface | 02 | C |
| IOC101001 | Quality Assurance and Management | 01 | C |
| IOC101102 | Research Methodology, Scientific Communications, Seminars, and Industrial Visits | 02 | C |
| IOC101204 | Laboratory Practical ^{1,3} | 04 | C |
| IOC101306 | Independent Case Study ^{2,3} | 06 | C |
| IOC101430 | Research Project ³ | 30 | C |
| Total Credits | | 65 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course, O - Optional Course

*Optional Course: Students are required to obtain 3 credits from IOC100503 and IOC100603 (It is required to obtain 62 out of 65 credits to be eligible for the MSc in Industrial Organic Chemistry).

¹Laboratory Practical course (IOC101204) will be carried out throughout the first year. The final grade for this course will be awarded at the end of the first year.

²IOC101306 course is offered throughout the first year.

³Non-taught component.

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit is assessed and graded by theory examinations/practical examinations/continuous assessments/assessment reports/oral examinations, etc. The assessment structure may be modified, when required, to facilitate achieving the intended learning outcomes of each course unit. When multiple assessment methods are used for a course unit, marks obtained by the student are combined in a predetermined manner to obtain the final grade. All theory courses will be evaluated based on end-modular (course) examinations. It is necessary to maintain 80% or higher attendance for theory and practical sessions to become eligible to sit for the examination. It is compulsory to finish all the practical classes within the first year of registration.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 0-40% (assignments, quizzes, reports, lab reports, presentations)
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60-100% (written examinations)
- c) Independent Case Study

The independent case study report will be evaluated by two faculty members/experts in the relevant area separately, and the viva will be graded by the same members in the presence of the Course Coordinator and the Supervisor(s).

- d) Thesis

The final research project thesis will be evaluated by two faculty members/experts in the relevant area separately, and the viva voce examination will be graded by the same members in the presence of the Course Coordinator and the Supervisor(s).

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|--|--|
| PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry (SLQF 8) | Students should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 26 credits' worth of courses and maintain a minimum grade of C for course units except for Laboratory Practical courses. Furthermore, students should obtain a minimum grade of B for the Laboratory Practical course. |

If a student is unable to complete the research project and independent case study within the given period or is unable to obtain a GPA of 3.00 in the first-year courses (for 32 credits, including theory courses and laboratory practical), they can exit the program (if they wish to do so) obtaining a PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry.

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|---|---|
| Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry (SLQF 9) | Students should pass all the courses and should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 32 credits' worth of courses and maintain a minimum of a C+ grade for course units, except for the Laboratory Practical course and Independent Case Study. Furthermore, students should obtain a minimum grade of B for the Laboratory Practical course and the Independent Case Study. |

If a student fails to complete the research project within the given period or is unable to obtain a GPA of 3.00 in the first-year courses (for 32 credits, including theory courses, laboratory practical, and independent case study), they can exit the program (if they wish to do so) obtaining a Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry.

Repeating Course Units

A student who is unable to sit for the theory course unit examination, or fails a theory course unit, or wishes to improve previous grades in a course is permitted to repeat the course at the next opportunity. A student is allowed to repeat a course unit a maximum of two times after the first attempt, for a total of three attempts. Non-taught components cannot be repeated under any circumstances. If a student obtains a lower grade at a repeat attempt, the higher grade obtained in previous attempts will be used to calculate the GPA. A student repeating a course unit will be awarded a maximum of a B grade for the repeated attempt, except in cases where the first attempt was missed due to a valid medical reason.

Repeat examinations will be conducted at the same time as the next immediate Master of Science in Industrial Organic Chemistry batch. If a student wishes to repeat a course unit that is not offered to the next immediate MSc batch, the student must sit for a paper which is similar in content and credit value to the original course unit. In this case, the student must inform the Course Coordinator before taking the exam, and if necessary, prior approval must be obtained.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Industrial Organic Chemistry (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Students should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 26 credits worth of courses and maintain a minimum grade of C for course units, except for the Laboratory Practical course. In addition, students should obtain a minimum grade of B in the Laboratory Practical course. |

Master of Industrial Organic Chemistry (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students should pass all the courses and should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 32 credits' worth of courses and maintain a minimum of a C+ grade for course units, except for the Laboratory Practical course and the Independent Case Study. Furthermore, students should obtain a minimum grade of B for the Laboratory Practical course and the Independent Case Study. |

MSc in Industrial Organic Chemistry

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 3.00 | <p>Students should possess a minimum GPA of 3.00 for a total of at least 62 credits' worth of courses and maintain a minimum grade of C+ for course units, except for Laboratory Practical courses. Students should obtain a minimum grade of B for the Laboratory Practical course, Independent Case Study, and Research Project.</p> <p>Students should maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 for the taught and non-taught courses of the first academic year to be eligible to undertake a Research Project in the second year.</p> |

Students will be awarded an MSc degree with Merit upon achieving a GPA of 3.70 or above for the taught and non-taught courses, along with an A grade for the Research Project.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee at registration and the balance within three months of the first year.

3.3.2.3. Master of Science in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework + Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

The MSc in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management program is designed to meet the increasing need for highly skilled multidisciplinary professionals, including biologists or biologically literate mathematicians, and statisticians who work in sectors related to aquatic resources management. The need for such multidisciplinary professionals is to integrate methods and information from other disciplines with their expertise to address the management challenges of present-day aquatic resources. The prospective candidates for this program include managers, researchers, scientists, and academics working in the fields of fisheries, marine biology, and aquatic resources and their management in government, non-government, and private sector institutions. This program is also suitable for graduates seeking entry into such disciplines.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management program, graduates will be able to:

- Procure core scientific, technical, and interdisciplinary skills for key areas of sustainable aquatic resources management.
- Acquire transferable communication and interpersonal skills from practice in the design, execution, and reporting of individual and team activities.
- Gain an awareness of current and emerging environmental issues through interactions with scientists and organizations active in aquatic resources management and research.
- Conduct extension work for the development and management of aquatic resources.
- Contribute to policy development, design, and decision-making using the information gained.
- Communicate effectively in both written and oral forms.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

This MSc in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management program aims to produce expertise that will open diverse career paths in government agencies, such as the Ministry of Fisheries, NGOs, and private sectors such as aquaculture and seafood industries. Graduates can work as fisheries managers, aquatic resource consultants, or researchers, addressing sustainable resource management and conservation. Industry demand is high due to Sri Lanka's reliance on fisheries and aquatic resources for food security and livelihoods. Academic pathways include pursuing a PhD for roles in academia or advanced research. Opportunities also exist in international organizations focusing on aquatic conservation, climate change adaptation, the blue economy, and sustainable development, making it a versatile and impactful field.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A BSc in Biological Sciences (Zoology, Botany, Forestry, Environmental Science, Microbiology, Marine Science, Fisheries Science, Agriculture).
- b) A BVSc (Veterinary Science), BSc in Chemistry, Food Science, Physical Sciences, Geology, Geography, or Oceanography.
- c) Any other degree with at least 3 years of experience in the field of fisheries or aquatic resources.
- d) Any other special qualifications considered appropriate by the University Senate, equivalent to a degree recognized by the University Grants Commission, with at least 5 years of experience in the fields of fisheries and aquatic resources.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|--|---|---------|--------|
| Year 1 - Module 01: Introductory Subjects in Aquatic Resources | | | |
| FAR 1102 | Marine Science (Oceanography) | 02 | C(D/M) |
| FAR 1112 | Freshwater Science (Limnology) | 02 | C(D/M) |
| FAR 1121 | Aquatic Toxicology & Water Quality Management | 01 | C(D/M) |
| Year 1 - Module 02: Introductory Subjects in Fish and Fisheries | | | |
| FAR 1201 | Fish Biology (Taxonomy & Ichthyology) | 01 | C(D/M) |
| FAR 1211 | Fish Physiology and Nutrition | 01 | C(D/M) |
| Year 1 - Module 03: Modeling and Data Analysis | | | |
| FAR 1301 | Biostatistics & Data Analysis | 01 | C(D/M) |
| Year 1 - Module 04: Aquaculture | | | |
| FAR 1401 | Principles in Aquaculture | 01 | C(D/M) |
| FAR 1411 | Aqua-feed Technology | 01 | E(D/M) |
| FAR 1421 | Fish Health Management | 01 | C(D/M) |
| Year 1 - Module 05: Post-Harvest Technology | | | |
| FAR 1501 | Post-Harvest Technology | 01 | C(D/M) |
| FAR 1511 | Quality Assurance of Fishery Products | 01 | C(D/M) |

Year 1 - Module 06: Aquatic Resources Planning & Management

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----|--------|
| FAR 1601 | Resource Economics | 01 | E(D/M) |
| FAR 1611 | Coast Conservation & Management | 01 | E(D/M) |
| FAR 1622 | Inland Fisheries Management | 02 | C(D/M) |
| FAR 1632 | Capture Fisheries Management | 02 | C(D/M) |
| Total Credits (Taught Courses) | | | |

Year 1 - Non-Taught Component

| | | | |
|----------|---|----|------|
| FAR 1705 | Laboratory and Field Work - PGDip | 05 | C(D) |
| FAR 1710 | Laboratory and Field Work - MSc | 10 | C(M) |
| FAR 1802 | Seminars - PGDip | 02 | C(D) |
| FAR 1805 | Seminars - MSc | 05 | C(M) |
| FAR 1905 | Minor Research Project/Case Study - PGDip | 05 | C(D) |

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|--|--|---------|--------|
| Year 2 - Module 01: Introductory Subjects in Aquatic Resources | | | |
| FAR 2131 | Aquatic Conservation Biology | 01 | E |
| FAR 2142 | Coral Reef Ecology & Management | 01 | E |
| FAR 2151 | Marine Environmental Management | 01 | E |
| FAR 2161 | Integrated Watershed Management | 01 | E |
| Year 2 - Module 02: Introductory Subjects in Fish and Fisheries | | | |
| FAR 2221 | Fish Biotechnology | 01 | E |
| FAR 2231 | Fish Toxicology | 01 | E |
| Year 2 - Module 03: Modelling and Data Analysis | | | |
| FAR 2312 | GIS Applications in Aquatic Resources Management | 02 | E |
| FAR 2321 | Fish Stock Assessment | 01 | E |
| FAR 2331 | Modeling in Aquatic Resources Management | 01 | E |
| Year 2 - Module 04: Aquaculture | | | |
| FAR 2431 | Fin Fish Culture | 01 | C |
| FAR 2441 | Ornamental Fish, Plants, and Sea-weed Culture | 02 | E |
| FAR 2451 | Aquaculture Engineering | 01 | E |
| FAR 2461 | Shrimp, Prawn, and Mollusk Culture | 01 | E |

| | | | |
|--|--|-----------|---|
| FAR 2471 | Aquaculture Pond and Hatchery Management | 01 | E |
| Year 2 - Module 06: Aquatic Resources Planning | | | |
| FAR 2641 | Fisheries Legislations | 01 | E |
| FAR 2651 | Fishing Techniques & Gear Technology | 01 | E |
| FAR 2661 | Fisheries Socioeconomics | 01 | E |
| Total Credits (Taught Courses) | | | |
| Year 2 - Non-Taught Component | | | |
| FAR 2915 | Research Project - MSc | 15 | C |
| Total Non-Taught Credits PGDip | | 12 | |
| Total Non-Taught Credits MSc | | 30 | |
| Total Credits for PGDip (18 Taught + 12 Non-Taught Courses) | | 30 | |
| Total Credits for MSc (30 Taught + 30 Non-Taught Courses) | | 60 | |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course, E - Elective Course, D - PGDip Course, M - Master's Course

Note: The duration for the MSc program is two years, while the PGDip is one year.

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance is assessed and graded through end-of-term theory examinations, practical examinations, continuous assessments, oral examinations, assignments, or any combination, depending on the subject. The laboratory component will be incorporated into the respective course. Field reports will be assessed separately, and seminars will be assessed based on the presentation and content. The research project will be evaluated as 80% for the thesis and 20% for the viva examination. Students will not be allowed to repeat any of the non-taught

courses. The percentage of marks allocated for continuous assessment varies with the nature of the course unit. The pass mark for theory papers and continuous assessments, including practicals, is a B- grade.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 0%-40%
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60%-100%
- c) Thesis (% weighting): thesis evaluation 80%; viva voce 20%
- d) Seminar (% weighting): presentation evaluation 60% report evaluation 40%
- e) laboratory and fieldwork: attendance 10%; reports 0-20%; field/lab work & end examination 80%-100%

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|--|--|
| PGDip in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management (SLQF 8) | <p>Completion of 30 credits (18 from taught courses + 12 from non-taught)</p> <p>Should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 (B- grade) from all taught and non-taught courses, including the Case Study.</p> |

Repeating Course Units

A student who is unable to sit for the theory course unit examination, fails a theory course unit or wishes to improve previous grades in a course is permitted to repeat the course at the next opportunity. Only three attempts, including the original attempt, will be granted to repeat an examination. If a student obtains a lower grade in a repeat attempt, the highest grade obtained in previous attempts will be used to calculate the GPA.

For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **Section 2.2.6**, titled **“Examinations and Evaluation Procedures,”** which includes the subsection **“Repeating the Course Units”** in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | 30 credits from all taught and non-taught courses, including a B- grade for the Case Study. |

PGDip with Merit will be awarded if the student secures a GPA of 3.70 or above.

MSc in Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | 60 credits from all taught and non-taught courses, including a Research Project |

MSc with Merit will be awarded if the student secures a GPA of 3.70 or above from taught and non-taught courses and obtains a GP of 4.00 (A grade) for the Research Project.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee at the time of registration and the balance within six months of registration.

3.3.2.4. Master of Science in Food Science and Technology

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework + Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

The MSc in Food Science and Technology degree program draws on the spectrum of biological and physical sciences and applies them to one of the essentials of life—food. This MSc program prepares food scientists and food technologists for the local, regional, and international job markets. Food science, not only in the academic but also in the real-world sense, relies on mathematics, physics, biology, chemistry, biochemistry, microbiology, engineering, processing, nutrition, biotechnology, marketing, and management. This is a full-time program consisting of coursework, laboratory work, field practicals, industrial visits, and a research project. However, a Postgraduate Diploma option is included as an exit point in the event a student fails to continue for two years.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Food Science and Technology program, graduates will be able to:

- Gain broader knowledge and conceptual understanding of areas of Food Science and Technology.
- Understand the behavior of food sector institutions dealing with food manufacture and related services.
- Apply technical and intellectual skills to gather data/information and critically analyze the needs of the local and international food sectors.
- Conduct research to search for new knowledge.
- Develop self-confidence for independence and self-motivation for lifelong learning in the field of food science.
- Qualify to commence professional practice in the food industry and related academic, research, and development institutions.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

The MSc in Food Science and Technology program opens the pathways to many opportunities, as the field of food science and technology is fast-growing both locally and internationally, including in research, manufacturing, quality assurance, quality control, and certification in multinational and international organizations. Openings for graduates can also be found in the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Program (WFP), and other United Nations organizations.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Food Science and Technology program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A BSc Degree with Chemistry as a subject.
- b) BVSc, BAMS, MBBS.
- c) A BSc degree in Chemical Engineering, Agriculture, Paramedical Sciences, Nursing, Allied Sciences, or Bachelor of Biosystems Technology.
- d) An equivalent qualification from a recognized higher education institution approved by the University Senate and the University Grants Commission.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|--|--|---------|--------|
| Food Chemistry and Biochemistry | | | |
| MSFST 100101 | Advanced Food Chemistry I | 01 | C |
| MSFST 100201 | Advanced Food Chemistry II | 01 | C |
| MSFST 100302 | Chemistry of Food Components | 02 | C |
| Biology | | | |
| MSFST 100402* | Food Microbiology | 02 | C |
| MSFST 100502 | Analytical Microbiology | 02 | C |
| Food Engineering | | | |
| MSFST 100601 | Physics of Food Components | 01 | C |
| MSFST 100701 | Food Engineering | 01 | C |
| MSFST 100801 | Food Engineering Operations | 01 | C |
| Food Spoilage and Preservation | | | |
| MSFST 100901 | Food Spoilage | 01 | C |
| MSFST 101001 | Principles of Food Preservation | 01 | C |
| Food Product Technology | | | |
| MSFST 101103 | Food Product Technology I (Dairy/ Fats & Oil/Post Harvest Technology) | 03 | C |
| MSFST 101203 | Food Product Technology II (Fish/Meat/Animal Feed Technology) | 03 | C |
| MSFST 101303 | Food Product Technology III (Alcoholic/Carbonated/Non- Carbonated Beverage Technology) | 03 | C |
| MSFST 101403 | Food Product Technology IV (Fruits & Vegetables/Grain/Bakery Technology) | 03 | C |

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------|---|
| MSFST 101501 | Food Packaging | 01 | C |
| Food Quality Assurance | | | |
| MSFST 101602 | Food Analysis | 02 | C |
| MSFST 101702 | Food Quality Assurance | 02 | C |
| MSFST 101801 | Cleaner Production in Food Industry | 01 | C |
| MSFST 101902 | Nutrition and Dietetics | 02 | C |
| Management and Marketing | | | |
| MSFST 102002 | Food Industrial Economics | 02 | C |
| MSFST 102102 | Food Marketing | 02 | C |
| Orientation to Current Trends and Research | | | |
| MSFST 102201 | Emerging Food Technologies | 01 | C |
| MSFST 102300 | Research Designing and Communication | NC | C |
| Practical Component | | | |
| MSFST 102403 | Chemistry | 03 | A |
| MSFST 102503 | Biology | 03 | A |
| MSFST 102603 | Food Product Technology (including Field Visits) | 03 | A |
| MSFST 102716 | Research Project with the Submission of Thesis | 16 | A |
| Total Credits | | 63 | |

Abbreviations: C - Core Course, O – Optional Course, A – Compulsory Course

Note: It is required to obtain 60 out of 63 credits to be eligible for the MSc degree program.

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through theory examinations and continuous assessments conducted during and at the end of the semester. Marks for course units will be calculated based on written examinations, continuous assessments, assignments, or any combination thereof, depending on the subject. Laboratory components will also be incorporated into the respective courses.

Fieldwork reports will be assessed separately, and seminars will be evaluated based on their content and presentations. The evaluation of the research project will be weighted as 60% for the thesis and 40% for the viva voce examination. Continuous assessments will include seminars, field excursion reports, etc. The pass mark for theory examinations and continuous assessments is 50% (B- grade). The percentage of continuous assessments and final examinations varies depending on the course unit.

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|---|---|
| PGDip in Food Science and Technology (SLQF 8) | Students should pass course units worth 25 credits and obtain a pass mark of 50% or B- and maintain an overall GPA of 2.70. |

Repeating Course Units

Students who are unable to sit for the theory course unit examination, fail a theory course unit, or wish to improve previous grades in a course are permitted to repeat the course at the next opportunity. Only three attempts, including the original attempt, will be granted to repeat an examination. If a student obtains a lower grade at a repeat attempt, the highest grade obtained in previous attempts will be used to calculate the GPA. The mark obtained as a repeat student will be taken as the final mark for the assessment. Students will not be allowed to repeat any of the non-taught course units. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **Section 2.2.6, titled “Examinations and Evaluation Procedures,”** which includes the subsection **“Repeating the Course Units”** in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Food Science and Technology (Exit Points)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students should pass course units worth 25 credits and obtain a pass mark of 50% or B- and maintain an overall GPA of 2.70. |

PGDip with Merit will be awarded if the student secures a GPA of 3.70 or above.

MSc in Food Science and Technology

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students should pass course units worth 60 credits from all taught and non-taught courses, including a Research Project |

MSc with Merit will be awarded if the student secures a GPA of 3.70 or above from taught and non-taught courses and obtains a GP of 4.00 (A grade) for the Research Project.

Payment Plan

The student needs to pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

3.3.2.5. Master of Science in Forestry and Environmental Management

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework + Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

The MSc in Forestry and Environmental Management degree program aims to provide students with appropriate specialized academic understanding and research exposure, enabling them to develop into effective professional foresters and environmental management specialists. The program focuses on the development of scientific, technical, and management skills needed for students to perform effectively as forestry professionals and environmental specialists. The course has been designed on a modular basis.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Forestry and Environmental Management program, graduates will be able to:

- Gain an understanding and knowledge of key areas fundamental to forestry, including forest management and economics, silviculture, ecology, wood science, geospatial technologies, soil sciences, forest engineering/operations, environmental science, and natural resource management.
- Acquire skills and technical expertise to manage forests for a full range of uses.
- Operate effectively in a team by working cooperatively with others and, where necessary, demonstrate the ability to lead teams.
- Understand the role of professional foresters/environmentalists in the natural resource management sector.
- Understand the responsibility of professional foresters/environmentalists to conduct themselves in an ethical manner.
- Undertake independent research through the identification of an original topic, planning and conducting research, analyzing results, and presenting findings through oral and written communication.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Graduates will have opportunities to work in United Nations agencies such as UNEP, UNESCAP, and UNFCCC, as well as in other environment-related secretariats and agencies. In addition, they may find openings as senior environmental managers in multinational and international enterprises, as well as in local institutions such as environmental cells or units in State Ministries, the Central Environmental Authority, the Urban Development Authority, and other related organizations.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Forestry and Environmental Management program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A BSc degree (SLQF 5 or 6) in Biological or Physical Science, Forestry and Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Agriculture, Civil or Chemical Engineering.
- b) A four-year degree (SLQF 6) in Management, Social Science, and Economics with at least 5 years of experience in the field of natural resources and environmental management.
- c) Any other special qualification equivalent to a degree recognized by the University Grants Commission or considered appropriate by the University Senate, with at least 7 years of experience in the field of natural resources and environmental management.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|---|---|---------|--------|
| Module 01: Foundation Courses | | | |
| FEM 101 01 | Earth Science (Geology, Soil, and Climatology) | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 102 01 | Research Methodology | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 103 01 | Basics in Management | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 104 01 | Environmental Chemistry | 01 | M, D |
| Module 02: Forestry and Biodiversity | | | |
| FEM 105 01 | Tropical Forest Ecology | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 106 01 | Silviculture and Tree Improvement | 02 | M, D |
| FEM 107 01 | Forest Mensuration and Inventory | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 210 01 | Tree Diversity and Systematics | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 211 02 | Biodiversity Conservation and Wildlife Management | 02 | M, D |
| FEM 212 01 | Forest Management | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 213 02 | Wood Science and Forest Studies | 02 | M, D |
| FEM 214 01 | Ecotourism and Eco Business Management | 01 | M |
| FEM 323 01 | Social Forestry and Agro-forestry | 01 | M |
| FEM 324 01 | Urban Forestry and Landscape Management | 01 | M |

| | | | |
|------------|---|----|---|
| FEM 325 01 | Forest Disease Management and Pest Management | 01 | M |
|------------|---|----|---|

Module 03: Natural Resource Management

| | | | |
|------------|--|----|------|
| FEM 108 01 | Environmental and Resource Economics | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 215 01 | Watershed and Water Resource Management | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 216 02 | Surveying, Remote Sensing, and GIS | 02 | M, D |
| FEM 217 01 | Project Formulation, Appraisal, and Management | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 218 01 | Corporate Environmental Management | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 219 01 | Policy, Law, and Administration | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 220 01 | Environmental Impact Assessment | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 326 01 | Urban and Rural Sociology | 01 | M |
| FEM 327 01 | Land Use Planning and Management | 01 | M |
| FEM 328 00 | Global and National Environmental Trends | NC | M |

Module 04: Environmental Management

| | | | |
|------------|--|----|------|
| FEM 109 02 | Wastewater Treatment and Air Pollution Control | 02 | M, D |
| FEM 221 01 | Solid Waste Management | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 222 01 | Cleaner Production and Green Technologies | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 329 01 | Disaster Management | 01 | M |
| FEM 330 01 | Strategic Environmental Assessment | 01 | M |

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------|------|
| FEM 331 01 | Environmental Modeling | 01 | M |
| Total Credits (Core Courses) [26 for PGDip and 35 for MSc] | | 35 | |
| Assignments and Research Project | | | |
| FEM 251 06 | Seminar Presentations | 06 | M |
| FEM 251 02 | Seminar Presentations | 02 | D |
| FEM 252 02 | Case Studies in Environmental and Forest Management | 02 | M |
| FEM 252 01 | Case Studies in Environmental and Forest Management | 01 | D |
| FEM 253 01 | Management Plan | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 254 01 | Field and Seminar Diary | 01 | M, D |
| FEM 455 15 | Research Project | 15 | M |
| FEM 255 05 | Research Project | 05 | D |
| Total Credits (Assignments and Research Project) [8 for PGDip and 25 for MSc] | | 25 | |
| Total Credits (MSc) | | 60 | |

Abbreviations: D – PGDip Course, M – MSc Course

Evaluation Criteria

Students' performance is assessed and graded through the end-of-term theory examinations, practical examinations, continuous assessments, and oral examinations. The percentage of marks allocated for continuous assessment varies with the nature of the course unit. The pass mark for theory examinations and continuous assessments, including practicals, is 50% (B- grade). The percentage of continuous assessments and final examinations varies depending on the course unit.

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|---|---|
| PGDip in Forestry and Environmental Management (SLQF 8) | Students should pass course units worth 25 credits and obtain a pass mark of 50% or B- and maintain an overall GPA of 2.70. |

Repeating Course Units

Students who are unable to sit for the theory course unit examination, fail a theory course unit, or wish to improve previous grades in a course are permitted to repeat the course at the next opportunity. Only three attempts, including the original attempt, will be granted to repeat an examination. If a student obtains a lower grade at a repeat attempt, the highest grade obtained in previous attempts will be used to calculate the GPA. The mark obtained as a repeat student will be taken as the final mark for the assessment. Students will not be allowed to repeat any of the non-taught course units. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **section 2.2.6**, titled **“Examinations and Evaluation Procedures,”** which includes the subsection **“Repeating the Course Units”** in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Forestry and Environmental Management (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students should pass course units worth 25 credits and obtain a pass mark of 50% or B- and maintain an overall GPA of 2.70. |

PGDip with Merit will be awarded if the student secures a GPA of 3.70 or above from the taught courses.

MSc in Forestry and Environmental Management

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Students should pass course units worth 60 credits, obtain a pass mark of 50% or B-, and maintain an overall GPA of 2.70. In addition, a GPA of 3.00 is required for the Research Project. |

MSc with Merit will be awarded if the student secures a GPA of 3.70 or above from taught courses and obtains a GP of 4.00 (A grade) for the Research Project.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee at the time of registration and the balance within six months of registration.

3.3.3. MPhil and PhD Programs

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11) and PhD (SLQF 12)

Introduction to Program

MPhil and PhD degree programs are offered in the following fields: Zoology, Botany, Forestry and Environmental Sciences, Chemistry, and Food Science and Technology. The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2 Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

**Board of Study
in
Physical Sciences**

3.4. Programs offered by the Board of Study in Physical Sciences

3.4.1. Postgraduate Certificate Programs

3.4.1.1. Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Statistics

Program Type and SLQF Level

Postgraduate Certificate (SLQF 7)

Introduction to the Program

Statistical thinking and methods are becoming increasingly prevalent across an exceptionally wide range of areas. This Postgraduate Certificate program has been specially designed for those who wish to gain a basic knowledge of statistics, which may be of interest to professionals from various backgrounds seeking to acquire some fundamental understanding of statistical methods. For example, upon successful completion, professionals from fields such as medicine, engineering, management, social sciences, biological sciences, marketing, and pharmaceuticals will be able to design surveys and experiments and analyze the data collected through them. Furthermore, this postgraduate program will benefit those following programs such as MBA and MD, as these require a basic knowledge of statistics to succeed.

Upon successful completion of this program, students are eligible to apply for our MSc in Applied Statistics program (SLQF 10), provided they fulfill at least one of the following:

- A Bachelor's degree in any field of study with 10 credits in statistics and/or a related field from a recognized university.
- At least one year of work experience in a related field.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Statistics program, graduates will be able to:

- Gain essential theoretical knowledge in statistics.
- Take advantage of opportunities for graduates who have not studied statistics to learn statistics.
- Apply knowledge of the applications of statistics and training in data analysis required by graduate employees in various fields.
- Pursue opportunities for graduate employees to gain higher education qualifications required for their promotions and career development.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

This program supports career advancement in the census and statistics field and provides opportunities to enter the banking sector, including the central bank. As the country's monitoring, reviewing, and evaluation processes advance, graduates in this field will have numerous opportunities.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Statistics program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree in any field of study from a university or an equivalent institution recognized by the University Grants Commission/University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

An adequate level of mathematical knowledge is recommended.

An interview will be held to select candidates if required.

Course Duration: One Year

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------|---|-----------|--------|
| Semester 1 | | | |
| STA 500 0.0 | Basic Mathematics with Software and Introduction to Statistical Software* | NC | C* |
| STA 501 1.0 | Descriptive Statistics | 01 | C |
| STA 502 2.0 | Probability and Distribution Theory | 02 | C |
| STA 503 1.0 | Sampling Techniques | 01 | C |
| STA 504 2.0 | Statistical Inference | 02 | C |
| STA 532 2.0 | Spreadsheet Modeling | 02 | C |
| STA 506 2.0 | Linear Regression Analysis | 02 | C |
| Semester 2 | | | |
| STA 507 1.0 | Nonparametric Statistics | 01 | C |
| STA 508 1.0 | Industrial Statistics | 01 | C |
| STA 509 2.0 | Introduction to Design and Analysis of Experiments | 02 | C |
| STA 510 2.0 | Categorical Data Analysis | 02 | C |
| STA 511 2.0 | Applied Multivariate Analysis | 02 | C |
| STA 512 2.0 | Data Analysis | 02 | C |
| Total Credits | | 20 | |

Abbreviations: NC – Non-Credit Course

C* - Compulsory Course to obtain GP \geq 2.00

Postgraduate Certificate: The total number of lecture hours is 300 hours. The total number of credits is 20.

*STA 500 0.0 is a compulsory foundation course that will be conducted during the first two weeks after the commencement of the program. All students are required to follow this course and obtain a minimum 'C' grade.

Evaluation Criteria

The method of assessment can differ from course to course. For each course unit, a course description, including the topics, course objectives, learning outcomes, method of evaluation, and a tentative schedule for assessments, will be provided by the lecturer in charge at the beginning of the course unit. Assessments can take the form of written examinations, practical examinations, take-home assignments, oral presentations, etc.

There are two types of assessments. The assessments held between the first lecture and the last lecture are called "mid-course-unit assessments" (MCUA). The overall assessment held after the last lecture of a course unit is called the "end-course-unit assessment" (ECUA).

Students' performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through theory examinations and continuous assessments, both during and at the end of the semester. The continuous assessment mark is limited to a maximum of 40% of the total marks when combined with written or other examinations.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 40%
Assignments, Mid-term tests, Presentations
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60%
Written and computer practical exams

Repeating Course Unit

Students who wish to improve their GP for any course unit up to 3.00 may sit for the assessments of that course unit within three consecutive batches. The maximum GP obtainable by such a student is 3.00. To sit for a repeat attempt, the candidate should pay the 'Repeat Assessment Fee.' None of the assessments will be held more than once within a program.

If a student is absent for an assessment, they may sit for that assessment with the immediately following batch. Whether the student can sit with full privileges or not will be decided by the University Senate, depending on the reason for the absence. If a student is not eligible for full privileges, they are considered as a 'repeat candidate.' Excuses for examinations will be accepted only if they are approved by the University. The maximum number of times that a student can face any assessment is three.

Awarding the Degree

PG Certificate in Applied Statistics

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|--|---|
| 2.70 and GP \geq 2.00 for course STA 500 0.0 | Students should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 20 credits (for all Semester 1 and 2 Courses) and a minimum GP of 2.00 (C grade) for STA 500 0.0 |

A student who obtains a GPA of greater than 3.50 for all semester 1 and 2 core courses in the program will be awarded a merit pass.

Payment Plan

Students can follow the following payment plans:

Method 1: Make the full course fee + other fees at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments.

First installment: 60% of the course fee + other fees at the time of registration

Second installment: The remaining balance within three months from the date of registration.

3.4.2. Master's Programs

3.4.2.1. Master of Science in Industrial Mathematics

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

Industrial Mathematics involves developing mathematical models, finding solutions, and interpreting the results of problems that arise in industry. The main objectives of this program are to provide graduates with adequate knowledge in Mathematics, Statistics, Operations Research, and Scientific Computing, and to provide opportunities for research in the applications of Mathematics to real-world industrial problems. This MSc in Industrial Mathematics is essential to bridge the gap that exists between scientists in industry and mathematicians.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Industrial Mathematics program, graduates will be able to:

- Develop knowledge of modeling and data analysis and critically evaluate relevant industrial mathematics and statistics from a variety of sources.
- Develop independent research skills through the completion of supervised and mentored project work.
- Develop analytical, modeling, and computational skills needed to advance in a range of industrial areas.
- Develop knowledge in numerical methods, modeling, and discrete mathematics, and select from elective coordinated modules in relevant fields in industry.
- Acquire a solid foundation in academic and business skills that prepare students to work in multidisciplinary teams and take leadership roles in the corporate world.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Graduates of the MSc in Industrial Mathematics program will have opportunities in various sectors, including:

- Teaching Positions: Graduates can pursue careers as educators, sharing their knowledge and expertise in mathematics, specifically in the fields of computing, banking, and business. They can contribute to shaping the next generation of professionals in these industries.

- **Industrial Roles:** Graduates are well-equipped to work as industrial mathematicians in diverse fields. They can apply their mathematical skills to solve complex problems and optimize processes in various industries, such as manufacturing, logistics, and technology.
- **Lecturing Positions:** With their specialized knowledge in industrial mathematics, graduates can secure positions as lecturers at universities and academic institutions. They can contribute to research and education, inspiring and mentoring students in the field.
- **Research Institutes:** Graduates have opportunities to work in research institutes, both in academia and industry. They can contribute to cutting-edge research projects, develop innovative mathematical models, and make significant contributions to advancements in technology and science.
- **Institutes Promoting New Technologies:** Graduates can explore roles in institutes focused on promoting new technologies and innovations. Their expertise in industrial mathematics can support the development and implementation of advanced algorithms, optimization techniques, and predictive modeling in various sectors, including finance, healthcare, and energy.

The MSc in Industrial Mathematics equips graduates with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in these career paths, making them valuable assets in academia and industry.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Industrial Mathematics program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree with Mathematics as a component, preferably BSc (Honors) in Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, or Physics.
- b) A BSc (Physical Science) degree.
- c) A BSc (Engineering) degree.

Proficiency in the English language is mandatory as the course is conducted in English.

Candidates will be selected based on a written examination and/or an interview.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|-------------------|--|---------|--------|
| Semester 1 | | | |
| IM511 2.0 | Foundation for Industrial Mathematics | 02 | C |
| IM512 3.0 | Numerical Analysis | 03 | C |
| IM513 3.0 | Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations | 03 | C |
| IM514 2.0 | Computational Mathematics | 02 | C |
| IM515 3.0 | Foundation for Industrial Statistics | 03 | C |
| IM516 2.0 | Optimization | 02 | C |
| Semester 2 | | | |
| IM521 3.0 | Operational Research | 03 | C |
| IM523 3.0 | Mathematical Modeling I | 03 | C |
| IM524 3.0 | Graph Theoretic Applications | 03 | C |
| IM525 3.0 | Applied Regression Analysis | 03 | C |
| IM526 3.0 | Design of Industrial Experiments | 03 | C |
| Semester 3 | | | |
| IM531 2.0 | Numerical Methods for Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations | 02 | C |
| IM532 3.0 | Applied Time Series Analysis, Stochastic Processes and Statistical Quality Control | 03 | C |
| IM533 2.0 | Mathematical Modeling II | 02 | C |
| IM534 2.0 | Special Topics in Industrial Mathematics | 02 | C |
| IM535 2.0 | Special Topics in Industrial Statistics | 02 | C |
| Semester 4 | | | |

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| IM541 3.0 | Seminar* | 03 | C |
| IM542 1.0 | Technical Writing Skills | 01 | C |
| IM551 20.0 | MSc Thesis | 20 | C |
| Total Credits | | 65 | |

Abbreviations: C – Core Course

*Compulsory to obtain a minimum of B grade.

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through theory examinations and continuous assessments during and at the end of the semester. The continuous assessment mark is limited to a maximum of 50% of the total marks when it is combined with written or other final examinations. The pass mark is 50% for all course units. Students should obtain a B grade (55% or above) for the Seminar and the Research Project/Thesis. The percentage of continuous assessments and final examinations varies depending on the course unit.

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|--|---|
| PGDip in Industrial Mathematics (SLQF 8) | Students should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70, with at least 25 credits earned at a grade of C+ or above. |

Repeating Course Units

Students who are unable to sit for or who fail the course unit can repeat the examination. Except for medical reasons, the maximum mark that can be obtained is 50% (B grade). Only two attempts will be allowed to repeat an examination. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **Section 2.2.6**, titled **“Examinations and Evaluation Procedures,”** which includes the subsection **“Repeating the Course Units”** in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Industrial Mathematics (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70, with at least 25 credits earned at a grade of C+ or above. |

In calculating the GPA, only the courses for which the candidate has secured a grade of C or above will be taken into consideration. Students who have obtained an overall average exceeding 70% ($\text{GPA} \geq 4.00$), in addition to meeting the requirements mentioned above, shall be awarded a Merit Pass.

MSc in Industrial Mathematics

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Students should possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of 45 credits (excluding MSc Thesis) by the end of semester 4 of the program, with B grade for the Seminar and the MSc Thesis. |

In calculating the GPA, only the courses for which the student has secured a grade of C or above will be taken into consideration. Students who have obtained an overall average exceeding 70% ($\text{GPA} \geq 4.00$), in addition to the above-mentioned requirements, shall be awarded a Merit Pass.

Scholarships: There is a scholarship available for this program, the Weerakoon-Watugala Scholarship, which will be awarded to the best merit holder. The Weerakoon-Watugala Gold Medal will be presented to the student with the highest GPA obtained in coursework.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee at the time of registration and the remaining balance within 6 months from the commencement of the program.

3.4.2.2. Master of Science in Industrial Analytical Chemistry

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

Chemical analysis plays a vital role in all aspects of life. There is an increasing demand for qualified analytical chemists worldwide. The MSc in Industrial Analytical Chemistry program introduces analytical chemistry skills required in various industrial disciplines, including chemical, pharmaceutical, bioanalytical, forensic, food, and environmental monitoring applications.

The practice of analytical chemistry has become an integral and essential component in many diverse fields, including the food and beverage industry, pharmaceutical industry, healthcare and medical technology, environmental control, electrochemical technology, agriculture, and others. Many of the underlying principles of analytical chemistry are routinely applied in various areas, such as quality control, research and development work, manufacturing processes, industry, universities, and other research laboratories.

The objective of the MSc in Industrial Analytical Chemistry program is to impart the analytical chemistry skills involved in various industrial disciplines to both young graduates and working professionals.

The program comprises a broad range of modules covering major analytical techniques, complemented by studies in transferable and professional skills, with the option to study aspects of medicinal and pharmaceutical chemistry if desired.

Study areas include research methods, separation techniques, mass spectrometry and associated techniques, spectroscopy and structural analysis, sensors, pharmacokinetics and drug metabolism, drug targets, drug design and drug synthesis, and innovations in analytical science.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Industrial Analytical Chemistry program, graduates will be able to:

- Critically analyze the nature of a given problem in chemical analysis and recommend various analytical methodologies and techniques in both classical and instrumental approaches to solve the problem.
- Obtain accurate and precise measurements of the system.
- Operate, maintain, and understand the working principles of analytical instruments.

- Calculate the results of the analysis, along with the associated errors, and interpret the results to arrive at appropriate scientific conclusions.
- Investigate the latest developments in analytical chemistry.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Graduates of the MSc in Industrial Analytical Chemistry program will have opportunities in various sectors, including:

- **Analytical Laboratories:** Opportunities for senior positions in laboratories involving chemical analysis.
- **Research & Development:** Opportunities in academic and industrial research in both public and private sectors, particularly in the research fields related to chemical analysis.
- **Higher Education:** Qualification for postgraduate education in both foreign and local universities and institutes to pursue an MPhil or PhD program.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Industrial Analytical Chemistry program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) An SLQF 6 qualification (Honors degree) or above in chemistry from a university or an institution recognized by the University Grants Commission.
- b) An SLQF 6 qualification (Honors degree) or above in a chemistry-related subject, including 30 credits in chemistry, from a university or an institution recognized by the University Grants Commission.
- c) An SLQF 5 qualification (Bachelor's degree), including 30 credits in chemistry from a university or an institution recognized by the University Grants Commission.
- d) Any other equivalent qualification accepted by the Senate of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Proficiency in the English language is mandatory as the course is conducted in English.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------|--------|
| Part I - Taught Components | | | |
| IAC100103 | Analytical Principles and Instrumentation I | 03 | C |
| IAC100203 | Analytical Principles and Instrumentation II | 03 | C |
| IAC100303 | Analytical Principles and Instrumentation III | 03 | C |
| IAC100403 | Analytical Techniques in Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Applications I | 03 | C |
| IAC100502 | Analytical Techniques in Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Applications II | 02 | C |
| IAC100602 | Forensic Analytical Chemistry and Applications | 02 | C |
| IAC100702 | Analytical Techniques in Agriculture and Food Science | 02 | C |
| IAC100803 | Material Characterization and Analysis I | 03 | C |
| IAC100902 | Material Characterization and Analysis II | 02 | C |
| IAC101002 | Environmental Analysis I | 02 | C |
| IAC101102 | Environmental Analysis II | 02 | C |
| IAC101202 | Quality Management and Chemical Laboratory Accreditation | 02 | C |
| Part I - Non-Taught Component | | | |
| IAC101304 | Laboratory Practical | 04 | A |
| Total Credits in Part I | | 33 | |
| Part II | | | |
| IAC101402 | Seminars | 02 | C |
| IAC101520 | Research Project Based on an Industrial Problem | 20 | A |
| IAC101607 | Case Study | 07 | C |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------|---|
| IAC101701 | Academic Skills- Scientific Writing and Academic Presentation | 01 | C |
| Total Credits in Part II | | 30 | |
| Total for the MSc Degree | | 63 | |

Abbreviations: C – Core Course, A – Compulsory Course

Evaluation Criteria

Students should maintain a minimum grade of B for Laboratory Practical and a minimum grade of C+ for each of the taught components offered in Part I of the program. The minimum overall GPA requirement to qualify for Part II of the MSc program is 3.00. To be eligible to sit for the examination, it is necessary to maintain an attendance rate of 80% or higher for both theory and practical sessions.

Students' performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through theory examinations and practical/continuous assessments. All theory courses are evaluated based on end-modular examinations. Assessment of Laboratory Practicals is conducted through continuous assessment. The final research project report will be evaluated by two faculty members or experts in the relevant area separately, and the viva voce examination will be graded by the same members in the presence of the Course Coordinator and the Supervisor(s).

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 40%
Refer to the assessment criteria for individual course units. The maximum marks allocated to continuous assessment are 40%, except for Laboratory Practicals. Laboratory Practicals are assessed only through continuous assessments.
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60%
Refer to the assessment criteria for individual course units. The minimum marks allocated to the Final Examination is 60%.
- c) IAC101402 Seminar: 30% for the Pre-project and 70% for the Final Project
- d) IAC101607 Case Study: 50% by Project Supervisor and 50% by Examiners
- e) IAC101520 Research Project Based on an Industrial Problem: 30% by Research Project Supervisor + 30% from Thesis + 40% from Viva Voce Examination
- f) IAC101701 Academic Skills - Scientific Writing and Academic Presentation: 100% from Scientific Writing Workshops

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|---|---|
| PGDip in Industrial Analytical Chemistry (SLQF 8) | Successful completion of 33 credits offered in Part I |

PGDip in Industrial Analytical Chemistry is the only exit point of the MSc in Industrial Analytical Chemistry program. Students registered for the MSc program can request to be awarded the PGDip after fulfilling the requirements before the program's end date. All qualified students will be awarded the PGDip after the duration of the MSc program.

Repeating Course Units

Students who are unable to sit for or who fail the course unit can repeat the examination. Except for medical reasons, the maximum marks that can be obtained is 55% (B grade). Only two attempts will be allowed to repeat an examination. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **Section 2.2.6**, titled **"Examinations and Evaluation Procedures,"** which includes the subsection **"Repeating the Course Units"** in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Industrial Analytical Chemistry (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students should possess a minimum overall GPA of 2.70 for 25 credits offered in Part I, including Laboratory Practical. Furthermore, students must maintain a minimum grade of B for the Laboratory Practical and a minimum grade of C for other course units considered within 25 credits (Total Number of Credits Offered in Part I: 33). |

Students who fulfill the requirements for a PGDip will be awarded at the end of the program as an exit point to the MSc program. If a student wishes to obtain a PGDip before the end date of the MSc program, they shall submit a written request to the course coordinator after fulfilling the requirements for the PGDip.

MSc in Industrial Analytical Chemistry

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 3.00 | Students should possess a minimum grade of C+ for all course units except the Laboratory Practical, Case Study, and Research Project. The minimum requirement for Laboratory Practical, Case Study, and Research Project is 55% (B grade). The overall GPA requirement of 3.00 must be met to be awarded the MSc. (Total Number of Credits Offered in Part I and Part II: 63) |

A merit pass will be awarded to students who exceed an average of 70%.

Note: In addition to the guidelines given in the student handbook, students must also adhere to the student guidelines issued by the Department of Chemistry.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 60% of the course fee at the time of registration and the remaining balance within 6 months from the commencement of the program.

3.4.2.3. Master of Science in Polymer Science and Technology

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

The invention of new products and applications has made polymer science and technology an important cross-cutting discipline in related fields. The lack of adequate professionals for the optimization of the use of polymer products for national development is a major issue to be addressed for the development of the country. Moreover, the insufficient number of professionals in polymer science has prevented the country from moving rapidly toward the effective use of new technologies in polymer applications. The MSc in Polymer Science and Technology has been developed and offered to fill the long-felt need in this area.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Polymer Science and Technology program, graduates will be able to:

- Understand the concepts of polymer chemistry, polymer physics, polymer engineering, and polymer technology.
- Learn ways to tune polymers to achieve relevant properties of the expected final product.
- Gain an in-depth understanding of novel developments/research areas in Polymer Science and Technology.
- Learn the fundamentals of interdisciplinary areas that strengthen the skills of polymer scientists and technologists.
- Obtain hands-on experience in the areas of polymer science and technology.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

This is a fast-growing field, with new inventions emerging almost every day. Opportunities will arise in private-sector manufacturing industries, including multinational and international companies.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Polymer Science and Technology program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree, including 30 credits in the subject area of polymer chemistry, polymer science, materials science, chemistry, or chemical engineering, or as determined by the University Senate.
- b) A qualification of SLQF 6 or above in the area of polymer chemistry, polymer science, materials science, chemistry, or chemical engineering, or as determined by the University Senate.
- c) Completion of NVQ 7 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 (0-4.00 scale), as determined by the University Senate.
- d) Completion of NVQ 6 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 (0-4.00 scale) and two years of continuous working experience (or equivalent to a cumulative of two years) in the rubber or plastics sector, as determined by the University Senate, may be considered for admission.

Students will not be directly admitted to the PGDip in Polymer Science and Technology; instead, it will be offered as an exit point.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------|--------|
| Year 1 Modules (Module 1 to 5) | | | |
| Module 1: Polymer Science | | | |
| MPST 501 2.0 | Introduction to Polymers | 02 | C |
| MPST 502 1.0 | Degradation and Stabilization of Polymers | 01 | C |
| MPST 513 1.0 | Identification and Analysis of Polymers | 01 | C |
| MPST 512 1.0 | Industrially Important Polymers | 01 | C |
| MPST 532 1.0 | Rubber-Based Industries in Sri Lanka | 01 | C |
| Module 2: Polymer Technology | | | |
| MPST 508 2.0 | Rubber Technology | 02 | C |
| MPST 509 1.0 | Latex Technology | 01 | C |
| MPST 510 2.0 | Plastic Technology | 02 | C |
| MPST 511 1.0 | Paints, Colloids, and Surface Coatings | 01 | C |
| Module 3: Polymer Physics | | | |
| MPST 503 1.0 | Polymer Physics | 01 | C |
| MPST 504 2.0 | Polymer Rheology | 02 | C |
| MPST 505 2.0 | Polymer Kinetics and Thermodynamics | 02 | C |
| MPST 506 1.0 | Properties and Characterization of Polymers | 01 | C |
| Module 4: Polymer Engineering | | | |
| MPST 531 4.0 | CAD Designing | 04 | C |
| MPST 515 1.0 | Process Engineering | 01 | C |

| | | | |
|--|--|-----------|---|
| MPST 526 1.0 | Advanced Materials and Technology | 01 | C |
| Module 5: Modern Advances in Polymer Science and Technology | | | |
| MPST 507 2.0 | Polymer Composites and Blends | 02 | C |
| MPST 518 1.0 | Environment and Polymer Industry | 01 | C |
| MPST 517 1.0 | Cleaner Production and Sustainability Management | 01 | C |
| MPST 527 1.0 | Modeling and Simulations | 01 | C |
| MPST 514 1.0 | Quality Assurance and ISO Systems | 01 | C |
| Year 2 Modules (Modules 6 and 7) | | | |
| Module 6: Management | | | |
| MPST 519 1.0 | Intellectual Properties | 01 | C |
| MPST 520 1.0 | Statistics | 01 | C |
| MPST 521 1.0 | Industrial and Operational Management | 01 | C |
| MPST 522 1.0 | Financial Management and Accounting | 01 | C |
| MPST 523 1.0 | Marketing | 01 | C |
| Module 7 | | | |
| MPST 528 2.0 | Practical | 02 | C |
| MPST 529 2.0 | Seminar | 02 | C |
| MPST 530 30.0 | Research Project | 30 | C |
| Total Credits | | 69 | |

Evaluation Criteria

Students' performance in each course unit is evaluated and graded through a combination of theory examinations, practical assessments, and continuous assessments. Continuous assessments may encompass various activities such as quizzes, assignments, seminars, field visits, and oral presentations. The continuous assessment is limited to a maximum of 40% of the total marks, while the final examination is limited to a minimum of 60% of the total marks.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 0-40%
Assignments, lab reports, presentations, and field visit reports, depending on the course unit.
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60-100%
Written Examination, depending on the course unit.
- c) Other Assessments (% weighting): 0-100%
Independent study, thesis, presentations, and practicals.

Eligibility for the research component at the beginning of the second academic year is granted to students who have successfully completed the taught courses in Modules 1 to 6, with a minimum GPA of 3.00 for all the course units. These students are required to choose a lecturer affiliated with the Department of Polymer Science as their primary research supervisor. However, they have the option to select an additional co-supervisor from either academia or industry, provided the co-supervisor holds at least an MSc degree in a relevant field or possesses extensive research/industrial experience directly related to the student's research project.

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|--|--|
| PGDip in Polymer Science and Technology (SLQF 8) | Students should possess a minimum overall GPA of 2.70 and a minimum grade of C or above for all the course units taken, with 25 credits achieving C+ or above, and 20 credits achieving B- or above. |

Repeating Course Units

Students who are unable to sit for the examination or who fail the course unit can repeat the examination. Except for medical reasons, the maximum mark that can be obtained is B- grade. Only two attempts will be allowed to repeat an examination. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **Chapter 2, Section 2.2.6**, titled “**Examinations and Evaluation Procedures**,” which includes the subsection “**Repeating the Course Units**” in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

PGDip in Polymer Science and Technology (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Students should obtain a minimum grade of C or above for the course units taken, with at least 20 credits achieving B- or above and at least 25 credits achieving C+ or above, and an overall GPA of 2.70 (Note: The GPA calculation includes all course units taken). |

MSc in Polymer Science and Technology

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 3.00 | Students should obtain a minimum grade of C or above for all the taught course units (Module 1 to Module 6), with at least 30 credits achieving B- or above, and a minimum overall GPA of 3.00 for the taught courses. In addition, students should obtain a minimum grade of B or above for all the course units in Module 7. Furthermore, students should possess an overall GPA of 3.00 to be awarded the degree (Note: The GPA calculation includes all course units taken). |

Payment Plan

Students can follow the following payment plans:

Method 1: Pay the full course fee and other fees at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments.

First installment: 60% of the course fee and other fees at the time of registration.

Second installment: The remaining balance within three months from the date of registration.

Note: In addition to the guidelines provided in the Student Handbook, students should also adhere to the Student Guidelines issued by the Department of Polymer Science.

3.4.2.4. Master of Science in Computer Science

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

Computing has become an indispensable skill in today's world, both locally and globally. It is a rapidly expanding field that intersects with numerous other disciplines, giving rise to a variety of complex and intellectually engaging challenges. To tackle these challenges, students need to have a firm grasp of the fundamental concepts of Computer Science, as well as in-depth knowledge of specific areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Big Data Analytics, Robotics, Cloud Computing, DevOps, High-Performance Computing, Computer Security, Software Engineering, Net-centric Computing, Visual Computing, Immersive Technologies, Multimedia Technologies, UI/UX, Mobile Computing, Web Computing, etc. that are needed. The Master of Science in Computer Science program is designed to meet these demands by equipping students with the essential knowledge and skills required to develop innovative solutions to emerging and complex real-world problems.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Computer Science program, graduates will be able to:

- Obtain a good grasp of the core concepts of Computer Science, which any professional in the field is expected to know.
- Foster logical and analytical thought, independent study, self-motivation, and communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Gain practical experience in computing, using modern hardware and software, to motivate and deepen understanding of the material taught in formal lectures.
- Acquire sound knowledge in both theory and practice in Computer Science, including current emerging technologies and experimental learning.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

This program is tailored for individuals who are either seeking to begin a career in computing or are currently employed in the field and wish to enhance their professional expertise. It is also well-suited for those pursuing postgraduate qualifications in Computer Science, particularly individuals intending to undertake advanced studies in computing or related disciplines at local or international universities. In addition, the MSc in Computer Science program provides valuable

academic and practical foundations for educators teaching computing-related subjects at universities, other higher education institutions, or schools.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Computer Science program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications, along with a good working proficiency in English:

- a) A Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, Data Science, Information Technology, Information and Communication Technology, Information Systems, Physical Sciences, or Engineering from a recognized university.
- b) Any other degree that includes at least 27 credits in Computing from a recognized university.
- c) Any other equivalent qualification in Computing acceptable by the FGS and the University Senate.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

The MSc in Computer Science program is structured across four semesters. Semester 1 comprises core course units totaling 15 credits. Semester 2 includes both core and optional course units, while Semester 3 covers the remaining optional course units. The semester in which an optional course unit is offered will depend on the availability of departmental physical and human resources, as well as the interdependence among course units. In addition, the core course unit Independent Study in the second semester is applicable only to those pursuing the Master of Computer Science degree program. In Semesters 3 and 4, candidates who qualify to undertake the thesis component may engage in individual research and submit a thesis. This is primarily a two-year MSc program comprising both coursework and research components (SLQF 10). All students are initially enrolled as MSc students and are permitted to follow the course units offered across all semesters.

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------------|---|---------|--------|
| Year 1 - Semester 1 | | | |
| CSC 501 0.0 | Mathematics for Computing | NC | F |
| CSC 502 0.0 | Statistics for Computing | NC | F |
| CSC 506 1.0 | Computer Programming Laboratory | 01 | C |
| CSC 512 2.0 | Data Structures and Algorithms | 02 | C |
| CSC 518 2.0 | Operating Systems | 02 | C |
| CSC 540 2.0 | Software Engineering | 02 | C |
| CSC 541 2.0 | Computer System Architecture | 02 | C |
| CSC 542 2.0 | Database Systems and Administration | 02 | C |
| CSC 543 2.0 | Data Communication and Networking | 02 | C |
| CSC 545 2.0 | Mobile, Web Computing, and UI/UX Engineering | 02 | C |
| Year 2 - Semester 2 | | | |
| CSC 505 3.0 | Computer Programming | 03 | C |
| CSC 529 2.0 | Computer and Network Security | 02 | O |
| CSC 532 2.0 | Human-Robot Interaction | 02 | O |
| CSC 550 5.0 | Independent Study* | 05 | C |
| CSC 551 2.0 | Computer Graphics and Image Processing | 02 | O |
| CSC 552 2.0 | Software Quality Assurance and Project Management | 02 | O |
| CSC 553 2.0 | Theory of Programming Languages | 02 | O |
| CSC 554 2.0 | Net-centric Computing and System Administration | 02 | C |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|----|---|
| CSC 614 2.0 | Research Methodologies and Scientific Writing** | 02 | C |
| CSC 602 2.0 | Artificial Intelligence | 02 | O |
| CSC 610 2.0 | Machine Learning | 02 | O |
| Year 2 - Semester 1 | | | |
| CSC 603 2.0 | Nature-Inspired Algorithms | 02 | O |
| CSC 611 2.0 | Embedded Systems and IoT | 02 | O |
| CSC 612 2.0 | Natural Language Processing | 02 | O |
| CSC 619 2.0 | Computational Biology | 02 | O |
| CSC 620 2.0 | Miscellaneous Topics in Computing Science | 02 | O |
| CSC 623 2.0 | Cloud Computing and Virtualization | 02 | O |
| CSC 624 2.0 | Robotics and Automation | 02 | O |
| CSC 625 2.0 | Service Oriented Computing | 02 | O |
| CSC 626 2.0 | Geographic Information Systems, Remote Sensing, Spatial and Temporal Data Analysis | 02 | O |
| CSC 627 2.0 | Immersive Technologies and Game Development | 02 | O |
| CSC 628 2.0 | Deep Learning and Modern Trends in Machine Learning | 02 | O |
| CSC 629 2.0 | Cyber Security, Ethical Hacking and Digital Forensics | 02 | O |
| CSC 630 2.0 | Data Science, Business Intelligence and Big Data Analytics | 02 | O |
| CSC 631 2.0 | High Performance and Distributed Computing | 02 | O |
| CSC 632 2.0 | Planning, Simulation and Optimization | 02 | O |
| Year 2 - Semester 3 & 4 | | | |
| CSC 651 16.0 | MSc Thesis | 16 | C |

Abbreviations: C - Core Course; O - Optional Course; F - Foundation Core; NC - Non-Credit

*Core course for students who are following the Master of Computer Science. Students who are following the MSc in Computer Science are not allowed to take this course.

**Core course for students who are following the MSc in Computer Science. Students who are following the Master of Computer Science are also allowed to take this course.

Evaluation Criteria

Students will be assessed throughout the program using both formative and summative assessment methods, such as written examinations, quizzes, assignments, viva voce examinations, practicals, and tutorials, as appropriate. The percentage of continuous assessments and final examinations varies depending on the course unit.

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 30%
- b) Final Examination (% weighting): 60%
- c) Other Assessments (% weighting): 10%

Independent Study: At the end of Semester 2, students who obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 are eligible to undertake the Independent Study and submit a thesis if they wish to exit with a Master of Computer Science degree program. If students do not have the required minimum GPA to undertake the independent study, the department may allow them to continue the independent study under the condition of fulfilling the required qualifications (GPA, excluding the Independent Study) before graduation. However, it is each student's responsibility to provide a suitable topic for Independent Study before the beginning of Semester 2. Students should discuss with academics from any university or qualified personnel in the industry to choose a research topic. The Independent Study will be evaluated based on a written thesis and an oral presentation (viva voce examination). The examination panel will consist of the supervisor(s) of the independent study and a minimum of two other examiners, as recommended by the BoS in Physical Sciences and approved by the University Senate. Students undertaking the Independent Study must complete course units totaling 10 credits from the second and/or third semesters.

MSc Thesis (Research Project): At the end of Semester 2, candidates who obtain a GPA not less than 2.70 are eligible to undertake a research project and submit an MSc thesis based on the research project. If students do not

have the required minimum GPA to undertake the research project, the department may allow them to continue the research under the condition of fulfilling the required qualifications (GPA excluding the research project) before graduation. However, it is each student's responsibility to provide a suitable research topic before the beginning of the third semester. Students should discuss with academics at any university or qualified personnel in the industry to choose a research topic. The research project will be evaluated based on a written MSc thesis and an oral presentation (viva voce examination). The examination panel will consist of the supervisor(s) of the research project and a minimum of two other examiners, as recommended by the BoS in Physical Sciences and approved by the University Senate. Students undertaking the MSc thesis are required to complete course units totaling 29 credits from the second and third semesters.

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|---|---|
| PG Certificate in Computer Science (SLQF 7) | Students who wish to exit with a PG Certificate should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.00 for 20 credits (including 15 credits from Semester 1 and 5 credits from Semesters 2 and 3, excluding the Independent Study) |

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|------------------------------------|---|
| PGDip in Computer Science (SLQF 8) | Students who wish to exit with a PGDip should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.50 for 25 credits (including 15 credits from the first semester and 10 credits from the second and third semesters, excluding the Independent Study). |

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Master of Computer Science (SLQF 9) | Students who wish to exit with a Master should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 25 credits (including 15 credits from the first semester and 10 credits from the second and/or third semesters, excluding the Independent Study). Further, students should obtain a minimum grade of C for Independent Study and all foundation course units (CSC 501 0.0 and CSC 502 0.0). |

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| MSc in Computer Science (SLQF 10) | Students who wish to graduate with an MSc should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 44 credits (including 15 credits from the first semester and 29 credits from the second and third semesters) by the end of the third semester of the program. Further, students should obtain a C or higher grade for the CSC 651 16.0 MSc Thesis and all foundation course units (CSC 501 0.0 and CSC 502 0.0). |

Repeating Course Units

Students are permitted to repeat a course unit up to two times, allowing for a total of three attempts, including the initial attempt and any attempts due to medical reasons. No separate repeat examinations will be conducted under any circumstances; students must retake the course unit during its next scheduled offering. The maximum grade attainable for a repeated course unit is restricted to a B grade. If students achieve a lower grade in a repeat attempt compared to a previous attempt, the higher grade will be considered for the calculation of the GPA. In instances where the original course unit is no longer available in the current MSc program, students are required to take an alternative course unit offered in the corresponding semester. The maximum grade for such an alternative course unit is also capped at a B grade. Students repeating a course unit are obligated to pay a

repeat examination fee, the amount of which is determined by the BoS in Physical Sciences of the FGS.

Awarding the Degree

PG Certificate in Computer Science (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.00 | Students who wish to exit with a PG Certificate should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.00 for 20 credits (including 15 credits from Semester 1 and 5 credits from Semesters 2 and 3, excluding the Independent Study) |

PGDip in Computer Science (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.50 | Students who wish to exit with a PGDip should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.50 for 25 credits (including 15 credits from the first semester and 10 credits from the second and third semesters, excluding Independent Study). |

Master of Computer Science (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students who wish to exit with a Master should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 25 credits (including 15 credits from the first semester and 10 credits from the second and/or third semesters, excluding the Independent Study). Further, students should obtain a minimum grade of C for Independent Study and all foundation course units (CSC 501 0.0 and CSC 502 0.0). |

Students who obtain a GPA of not less than 3.60 for 25 credits (including 15 credits from the first semester and 10 credits from the second and third semesters, excluding the Independent Study) and obtain an A- or higher grade for the Independent Study will be awarded a Master of Computer Science with a merit pass.

MSc in Computer Science

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Students who wish to graduate with an MSc should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 44 credits (including 15 credits from the first semester and 29 credits from the second and third semesters) by the end of the third semester of the program. Further, students should obtain a C or higher grade for the CSC 651 16.0 MSc Thesis and all foundation course units (CSC 501 0.0 and CSC 502 0.0). |

Students who obtain a GPA of not less than 3.60 for 44 credits (including 15 credits from the Semester 1 and 29 credits from the Semesters 2 and 3, excluding the Research Project) by the end of the Semester 3 and obtain an A- or higher grade for the thesis will be awarded an MSc in Computer Science with a merit pass.

Payment Plan

Students can follow the following payment plans:

Method 1: Pay the full course fee and other fees at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments.

First instalment: 60% of the course fee and other fees at the time of registration.

Second instalment: 45% of the course fee before the end of the first semester.

Method 3: Pay in three installments.

First instalment: 50% of the course fee and other fees at the time of registration.

Second instalment: 30% of the course fee before the end of the first semester.

Third instalment: 30% of the course fee before the end of the second semester.

Method 4: Pay in 12 installments.

First instalment: 30% of the course fee and other fees at the time of registration.

Second to twelfth installments: 8% of the course fee before the end of each month in the first year.

3.4.2.5. Master of Science in Data Science and AI

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

Data Science (DS) focuses on extracting meaningful insights from large and complex datasets. Combining techniques from machine learning, data mining, databases, and visualization, DS supports informed decision-making across diverse sectors. Its applications span business intelligence, anomaly detection, logistics, gaming, cloud computing, and more. With the global demand for skilled analysts rising—especially in Asia—data science professionals are increasingly essential in processing, analyzing, and deriving knowledge from big data.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a broader discipline that aims to automate or simulate human intelligence. It operates at two levels: Level 1 (narrow AI) involves perception and inference using data science, sensors, and robotics, while Level 2 involves more complex, adaptive reasoning in less constrained environments. The integration of both levels is expected to revolutionize industries ranging from natural resources and manufacturing to healthcare and education.

The MSc in Data Science and AI at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura was developed as part of an Erasmus+ KA2 project for curriculum development and capacity building in higher education. Supported by European academic partners and coordinated by the Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand), the program offers advanced courses and research training in data-driven technologies.

This UGC-approved MSc aligns with SLQF Level 10 and provides multiple exit options: Postgraduate Certificate (SLQF 7), Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF 8), and Master (SLQF 9). It is designed to equip graduates with the skills required to lead in AI and data science innovation, both locally and internationally.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Data Science and AI program, graduates will be able to:

- Analyze and utilize big data through AI methods and techniques.
- Gain valuable insights that can lead to innovative ideas and intelligent solutions across various fields.
- Develop a broad academic and practical literacy in computer science, statistics, and optimization, with relevance in data science and artificial intelligence, so that students can critically select and apply appropriate

methods and techniques to extract relevant and important information from data.

- Adapt easily to changes and new demands in the industry through strong core training.
- Apply integrated fields within computer science, optimization, and statistics to become adept and well-rounded data scientists.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Job opportunities for Data Science and AI graduates include, but are not limited to, the following roles: Data Scientist, Machine Learning Engineer, AI Research Scientist, Business Intelligence Analyst, Data Analyst, Big Data Engineer, Deep Learning Engineer, Natural Language Processing (NLP) Engineer, Computer Vision Engineer, Robotics Engineer, Data Engineer, AI Product Manager, Data Architect, Chief Data Officer, Research Scientist in AI, Cloud Data Engineer, Quantitative Analyst, Bioinformatics Scientist, Predictive Analytics Specialist, Ethical AI Consultant, and Cognitive Computing Engineer. This is a fast-growing field, with new inventions emerging almost every day. Opportunities will arise in private-sector manufacturing industries, including multinational and international companies.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Data Science and AI program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree, including 30 credits in Computer Science, Statistics or Mathematics, or a related discipline, from a university or an equivalent institution recognized by the University Grants Commission.
- b) A qualification of SLQF 6 or above in the relevant areas of Computer Science, Statistics or Mathematics or a related discipline from a university or an equivalent institution recognized by the University Grants Commission /University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Students will be selected based on an aptitude test if required. An interview will be conducted for shortlisted applicants based on their performance in the aptitude test.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------------|--|---------|--------|
| Year 1 - Semester 1 | | | |
| DSA 502 2.0 | Programming for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence | 02 | C |
| DSA 503 3.0 | Artificial Intelligence: Problem Solving | 03 | C |
| DSA 504 2.0 | Machine Learning I | 02 | C |
| DSA 505 2.0 | Data Modeling and Management | 02 | C |
| DSA 507 3.0 | Statistics for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence | 03 | C |
| DSA 508 2.0 | Mathematics for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence | 02 | C |
| Year 1 - Semester 2 | | | |
| DSA 551 3.0 | Business Intelligence and Analytics | 03 | C |
| DSA 552 3.0 | Machine Learning II | 03 | C |
| DSA 553 3.0 | Knowledge Representation and Reasoning | 03 | C |
| DSA 554 3.0 | Spatio-Temporal Data Analysis | 03 | O |
| DSA 555 3.0 | Nature-Inspired Computing | 03 | O |
| DSA 556 2.0 | Data Governance | 02 | O |
| DSA 557 1.0 | Scientific Writing and Communication | 01 | C |
| DSA 558 5.0 | Independent Study | 05 | C |
| DSA 559 2.0 | Artificial Intelligence: Planning | 02 | C |
| Year 2 - Semester 1 | | | |
| DSA 601 2.0 | Recent Trends in Machine Learning | 02 | O |
| DSA 602 3.0 | Computational Linguistics | 03 | O |

| | | | |
|--------------|---|----|---|
| DSA 603 3.0 | Human-Computer Interaction and Information Visualization | 03 | O |
| DSA 604 2.0 | Bayesian Computation | 02 | O |
| DSA 605 4.0 | Internship | 04 | O |
| DSA 606 18.0 | Research Project | 18 | C |
| DSA 607 3.0 | Advanced Statistics for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence | 03 | O |
| DSA 608 3.0 | Health Data Science | 03 | O |
| DSA 609 4.0 | Research and Applications in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence: A Seminar Course | 04 | O |
| DSA 610 2.0 | Sports Analytics | 02 | O |

Year 2 - Semester 2

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|----|---|
| DSA 606 18.0 | Research Project | 18 | C |
| Total Credits | | | |

Abbreviations: C - Core Course, O - Optional Course

*DSA 558 5.0 Independent Study is only available for students following the Master's of Data Science and AI. It is a core course for this program.

Evaluation Criteria

The method of assessment can differ from course unit to course unit. For each course unit, a course description, including the topics, course objectives, learning outcomes, method of evaluation, and a tentative schedule for assessments, will be provided by the lecturer in charge at the beginning of the course unit.

Assessments can be in the form of written examinations, practical examinations, take-home assignments, oral presentations, etc.

There are two types of assessments. Assessments held between the first and the last lecture are called "mid-course-unit assessments" (MCUA). The overall assessment held after the last lecture of a course unit is called the "end-course-unit assessment" (ECUA)."

- a) Continuous Assessment (% weighting): 20%

b) Final Examination (% weighting): 80%

Exit Points

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|--|--|
| PG Certificate in Data Science and AI (SLQF 7) | Students who wish to exit with a PG Certificate should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.00 for 20 credits at the end of Semester 2 of the program. All course units in Semester 1 and DSA 552 3.0 from Semester 2 are core courses. All the other courses in Semesters 2, 3, and 4, except DSA 558 5.0, DSA 605 4.0 and DSA 606 18.0, are optional. DSA 558 5.0, DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0 course units are not offered for the PG Certificate program. |

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| PGDip in Data Science and AI (SLQF 8) | Students who wish to exit with a PGDip should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.50 for 25 credits at the end of the second semester. All course units in Semester 1 and, DSA 551 3.0 and DSA 552 3.0 from Semester 2 are core courses. All the other courses in Semesters 2, 3, and 4 except DSA 558 5.0, DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0 are optional. DSA 558 5.0, DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0 course units are not offered in the PGDip program. |

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|--|--|
| Master of Data Science and AI (SLQF 9) | Students who wish to exit with a Master's should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 30 credits at the end of the second semester of the program. Further, students should obtain a minimum grade of B- for DSA 558 5.0 Independent Study. All course units in Semester 1 and DSA 551 3.0, DSA 552 3.0, DSA 557 1.0 and DSA 558 5.0 from Semester 2 are core courses. All the other courses in Semesters 2, 3, and 4 are optional except DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0. DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0 course units are not offered in the Master's program. |

| Exit Level | Requirements |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| MSc in Data Science and AI (SLQF 10) | Students who wish to graduate with an MSc should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 42 credits at the end of the fourth semester of the program. This should include all the core courses (except DSA 606 18.0) defined under "MSc in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence". Further, students should obtain a B or higher grade for the DSA 606 18.0 Research Project. All course units in Semester 1 and DSA 551 3.0, DSA 552 3.0, DSA 553 3.0, DSA 557 1.0, DSA 559 2.0 and DSA 606 18.0 are core courses. All other courses except DSA 558 5.0 are optional. DSA 558 5.0 course unit is not offered in the MSc program. DSA 606 18.0 is an annual course that spans the entire academic year. |

Repeating Course Units

Students who want to improve their GPA for any course unit up to 3.00 may sit for the assessments of that course unit in the immediately following batch. The maximum GPA obtainable by such a candidate is 3.00. To sit for the second attempt, the candidate must pay the “Repeat Examination Fee.” The repeat application form must be submitted to the FGS office with the approval of the Course Coordinator, at least two weeks before the exam. You will not be allowed to sit for the exam otherwise.

None of the assessments will be held more than once within a program. Students can make a second attempt only with the immediately following batch.

If a student is absent for an assessment, they may sit for that assessment with the immediately following batch. Whether the student can sit with full privileges or not will be decided by the University Senate, depending on the reason for the absence. If a student is not eligible for full privileges, they are considered as a “repeat student.”

If a student is absent for an examination due to a medical reason, the medical certificate must be submitted one week after the particular examination. Excuses for examinations will be accepted only if they are approved by the university.

The maximum number of times a student can repeat any assessment is two.

If a student does not register for an optional course examination during their academic year, they may take the examination with a subsequent batch or within their study period as a first-time attempt. However, attendance in lectures for the optional course with the subsequent batch/s is subject to resource availability and requires consent from the Course Coordinator and the lecturer in charge.

Awarding the Degree

PG Certificate in Data Science and AI (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.00 | Students who wish to exit with a PG Certificate should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.00 for 20 credits at the end of the second semester of the program (All course units in Semester 1 and DSA 552 3.0 from Semester 2 are core courses. All the other courses in Semesters 2, 3 and 4, except DSA 558 5.0, DSA 605 4.0 and DSA 606 18.0, are optional. DSA 558 5.0, DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0 course units are not offered for the PG certificate program). |

PGDip in Data Science and AI (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.50 | Students who wish to exit with a Postgraduate Diploma should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.50 for 25 credits at the end of the second semester of the program (All course units in Semester 1 and, DSA 551 3.0 and DSA 552 3.0 from Semester 2 are core courses. All the other courses in Semesters 2, 3, and 4 except DSA 558 5.0, DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0 are optional. DSA 558 5.0, DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0 course units are not offered in the PGDip program) |

Master of Data Science and AI (Exit Point)

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students who wish to exit with a Master should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 30 credits at the end of the second semester of the program (All course units in Semester 1 and DSA 551 3.0, DSA 552 3.0, DSA 557 1.0 and DSA 558 5.0 from Semester 2 are core courses. All the other courses in Semesters 2, 3, and 4 are optional except DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0. DSA 605 4.0, and DSA 606 18.0 course units are not offered in the Master program) |

MSc in Data Science and AI

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Students who wish to graduate with an MSc should obtain a GPA of not less than 2.70 for 42 credits at the end of the fourth semester of the program. This should include all the core courses (except DSA 606 18.0) defined under “MSc in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence”. Further, students should obtain a B or higher grade for the DSA 606 18.0 Research Project (All course units in Semester 1 and DSA 551 3.0, DSA 552 3.0, DSA 553 3.0, DSA 557 1.0, DSA 559 2.0 and DSA 606 18.0 are core courses. All other courses except DSA 558 5.0 are optional. DSA 558 5.0 course unit is not offered in the MSc program. DSA 606 18.0 is an annual course that spans the entire academic year). |

Payment Plan

Students can follow the following payment plans:

Method 1: Pay the full course fee and other fees at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments.

First installment: 60% of the course fee and other fees at the time of registration.

Second installment: The remaining balance before the end of the first semester.

3.4.3. MPhil and PhD Programs

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11) and PhD (SLQF 12)

Introduction to Program

MPhil and PhD degree programs are offered in the following fields: Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics and Computer Science, Information Systems, etc. The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2, Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

**Board of Study
in
Management
Studies and
Commerce**

3.5. Programs offered by the Board of Study in Management Studies and Commerce

3.5.1. MPhil and PhD Programs

3.5.1.1. Master of Philosophy in Business

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11)

Introduction to the Program

The MPhil in Business degree program is a Master's thesis program that aligns with SLQF 11. It aims to help students acquire the knowledge and skills required to become independent researchers in the field of business while developing their self-discipline and confidence. Hence, the MPhil in Business degree program provides a learner-centered pathway leading to a rigorous research project in the business field, conducted under the close supervision of academic supervisors appointed by the Department of Business Administration, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MPhil in Business program, graduates will be able to:

- Establish themselves as independent researchers, generating new insights into socio-organizational phenomena and emerging issues in business organizations through rigorous research.
- Contribute to the sustainable success of organizations by critically analyzing broader socio-organizational trends, forces, and processes.
- Develop the necessary knowledge, skills, and self-discipline required to excel as independent researchers in the field of Business.
- Foster a strong research culture within the Department, Faculty, and University, as well as contribute to the broader academic and professional community at the national level.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

The MPhil in Business is a research-oriented degree designed for individuals aiming to advance their careers through scholarly engagement. The degree supports career progression, particularly for early-career academics and professionals seeking to advance in research and academic scholarship. Opportunities are open for graduates of this program to engage in high-quality research and contribute to peer-reviewed publications, enhancing their scholarly impact. Beyond academia, the MPhil in

Business degree supports career development in several other fields, including, but not limited to, consultancy and policy-related roles, where the research skills cultivated through the program are highly regarded. Most importantly, the program serves as a pathway to PhD studies, offering theoretical grounding and methodological training required for doctoral-level research.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MPhil in Business program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications and possess sound knowledge of the English language:

- a) Applicants with a first-class or second-class (upper division) Special/Honors degree in Business Administration, Management, or any other field in the broad area of Management Studies (equivalent to SLQF 6) with a substantial research component.
- b) Applicants with a first-class or second-class (upper division) Special/Honors degree in Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, or a similar discipline with a minimum of 30 credits in the broad area of Management Studies (equivalent to SLQF 6) and with a substantial research component.
- c) Applicants with an MSc (Management), MBA, or any other Master's degree in the broad area of Management Studies with a substantial research component (equivalent to SLQF 10).
- d) Applicants with an MA in Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, or any other Master's degree in a similar discipline, with a substantial research component related to the broad area of Management Studies (equivalent to SLQF 10).
- e) Applicants with a first-class or second-class (upper division) Special Degree in Business Administration, Management, or any other field in the broad area of Management Studies, with at least three years of experience as a researcher or academic and/or with a proven track record of publications in the broad area of Management Studies.
- f) Applicants with an MSc in Management, MBA, or any other Master's degree in the broad area of Management Studies (equivalent to SLQF 9 or above), with at least one year of experience as a researcher, or academic and/or with a proven track record of publications in the broad area of Management Studies.
- g) Applicants with an MA in Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, or any other Master's degree in a similar discipline (equivalent to SLQF 9 or above), with at least one year of experience as a researcher or academic and/or with a proven track record of publications in the broad area of Management Studies.
- h) Applicants with a Postgraduate Diploma in Management or in a similar discipline (equivalent to SLQF 8), with at least two years of experience as a

researcher or academic and/or with a proven track record of publications in the broad area of Management Studies.

- i) Any other qualifications accepted by the University Senate according to the minimum admission requirement(s) of the SLQF.

Course Duration

- For Full-time Students : Minimum of 2 years (extension up to 5 years).
- For Part-time Students : Minimum of 3 years (extension up to 8 years).

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

The MPhil in Business program is designed and implemented as a minimum of two years for full-time students and a minimum of three years for part-time students. Upon enrollment, both full-time and part-time students are required to commence their research project, leading to the MPhil thesis under an academic mentor or provisional supervisor appointed by the Department of Business Administration. In parallel, during the first and second terms of the program, both full-time and part-time students must successfully complete four non-credit (NC) taught courses and two workshop series. However, as the MPhil in Business degree program is a Master's by thesis, the degree is awarded solely based on the thesis.

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------|---|---------|--------|
| Term 1 | | | |
| BUS-MPhil 1010 | Sociological Foundation of Knowledge | NC | C |
| BUS-MPhil 1011 | Contemporary Organization Theory | NC | C |
| BUS-MPhil 1012 | Academic Writing (Workshop Series) | NC | C |
| Term 2 | | | |
| BUS-MPhil 1013 | Qualitative Business Research Methods | NC | C |
| BUS-MPhil 1014 | Quantitative Business Research Methods | NC | C |
| BUS-MPhil 1015 | Reflecting Research Proposals (Workshop Series) | NC | C |

Abbreviations: NC - Non-Credit, C - Compulsory Course

Evaluation Criteria

Completion of Taught Courses and Workshop Series:

Each full-time and part-time student must complete the courses and workshop series of the MPhil in Business degree program successfully within no more than three and four consecutive academic years, respectively. To be eligible to continue with the degree, a student must earn no less than 50 marks (or B- grade) for the courses and must fulfill the attendance and other requirements of the workshop series.

Six-Monthly Progress:

Each full-time and part-time student is required to submit a six-monthly progress report, approximately 500 words in length, to the Course Coordinator of the MPhil in Business degree program. Upon receiving the progress report, the coordinator will invite the student to attend a meeting to discuss the progress and plan the next steps.

Proposal Defense:

Students who have successfully completed the courses and the workshops are eligible to defend the proposals of their research projects (including the feasibility of the implementation plan of the research project) at the first six-monthly progress meeting or a subsequent progress meeting.

Supervision:

All students are required to conduct their research project under the close supervision of at least two (02) academic supervisors, known as the first or principal supervisor and the second supervisor, who are appointed by the Department of Business Administration of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura in accordance with the rules and regulations. Once enrolled in the MPhil in Business degree program, and until the defense of their research project proposal, students are required to commence and conduct their research project under an academic mentor or provisional supervisor appointed by the Department of Business Administration.

Evaluation:

The evaluation of student performance in the non-credit courses and workshop series conducted in Terms 1 and 2 of the program may consist of end-term and continuous assessments, as well as individual and group assessments. However, marks earned for the non-credit courses will not be considered when evaluating the thesis to award the MPhil in Business degree program. Once the thesis is submitted to the Deputy Registrar of the FGS, it will be evaluated in accordance with the rules and regulations of the FGS and the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Repeating Course Units

Both full-time and part-time students are entitled to repeat the courses and/or the workshop series. However, if full-time students are unsuccessful at the third attempt and part-time students are unsuccessful at the fourth attempt, they are not entitled to continue the degree, and thereby their studentship in the degree will automatically cease.

Awarding the Degree

Upon the successful completion of non-credit courses, workshop series, and the thesis, the examiners of the viva voce examination shall recommend the award of the MPhil in Business degree according to the examination regulations and bylaws of the University.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: The first installment should be paid at the time of registration, and the second installment should be paid in the second year on a date specified by the coordinator of the program.

3.5.1.2. Master of Philosophy in Business Economics

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11)

Introduction to the Program

The MPhil in Business Economics program is a two-year program equivalent to SLQF 11. This research-oriented program focuses on the development of high-level independent research outcomes. Furthermore, the program enables graduates to enhance their theoretical knowledge and analytical skills in Business Economics, supplemented by courses, seminars, and the oral defense of a thesis.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MPhil in Business Economics program, graduates will be able to:

- Enhance the capabilities of candidates by equipping them with the economic and managerial skills necessary to address the challenges posed by an increasingly complex and rapidly changing business environment.
- Meet the educational and professional needs and expectations of those who require a comprehensive business education with a focus on policy-making skills.
- Gain an understanding of governance issues and have opportunities to develop strong business and managerial skills.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Graduates of the MPhil in Business Economics program will be well-positioned to pursue advanced professional and academic pathways that demand rigorous analytical, research, and policy-oriented competencies. The program cultivates a skillset that is highly valued across sectors, enabling graduates to engage in evidence-based decision-making and contribute meaningfully to complex problem-solving in economic and business environments.

Career opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- Policy Analysts and Economic Advisors in government institutions, regulatory bodies, and international organizations, where they support strategic policy formulation and evaluation.
- Research Economists and Consultants in think tanks, research institutes, and consulting firms, contributing to applied research, market analysis, and impact assessments.

- Corporate Planners and Strategic Managers in private sector firms, particularly within finance, manufacturing, and service industries, who utilize economic modeling and forecasting to inform strategic business decisions.
- Academics and Lecturers in universities and higher education institutions, contributing to teaching, research supervision, and the development of new knowledge in the fields of economics and management.
- Development Professionals and Program Managers in multilateral and non-governmental organizations, focusing on socio-economic development, economic inclusion, and sustainability initiatives.

The program also serves as a foundation for those intending to pursue doctoral studies (PhD) in economics, business, or related interdisciplinary fields, both locally and internationally.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MPhil in Business Economics program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications and possess sound knowledge of the English language (admissions are made twice a year):

- a) A Bachelor's degree in Business Economics or Economics or Business Administration or Commerce or Human Resource Management or Marketing or Accounting or Financial Management or Entrepreneurship or Estate Management and Valuation or Operations and Technology Management or Public Administration or Business Information Systems or Statistics or Science or Mathematics special with first or second-class standing from a recognized university.
- b) A Master's degree in Business Economics or Economics or Business Administration or Commerce or Human Resource Management or Marketing or Accounting or Professional Accounting or Financial Management or Applied Finance or Entrepreneurship or Entrepreneurial Business Management or Real Estate Management and Valuation or Operations and Technology Management or Public Administration or Business Information Systems or Statistics or Science or Mathematics from a recognized university.
- c) Other qualifications equivalent to the above-mentioned qualifications in points (a) and (b) may be considered, subject to the approval of the University Senate.

Note: According to an internal memo circulated by the BoS in Management Studies and Commerce on January 31, 2022, it was decided to offer internal recruitment to students who have already completed the MSc in Business Economics, Master of Business Economics, or PGDip in Business Economics. Furthermore, it was determined that students would receive exemptions for **MPhil_BEC 5104: Research Methods** and **MPhil_BEC 5105: Applied Econometrics** if they had previously taken these courses as

part of the MSc in Business Economics, Master of Business Economics, or PGDip in Business Economics programs offered by the Department of Business Economics, at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

The selection procedure consists of the following steps:

1. The applications received are screened to ensure that applicants meet the admission requirements.
2. Applicants who meet the basic requirements are called for an Aptitude Test. This test is designed to assess the English proficiency and quantitative skills required for the MPhil in Business Economics program, as well as the level of intelligence of the applicants. However, if there are fewer than 50 applicants, suitable candidates will be selected based on a formal interview to assess their required competencies to follow the program.
3. A formal interview will then be conducted for those who have met the specified eligibility requirements. The interview has the following objectives:
 - To evaluate the synopsis of the applicant's proposed study.
 - To assess verbal competence in English.
 - To assess the candidate's motivation for higher studies and the commitment to pursue the program to completion.

The final selection will be made after considering the total marks obtained in the aptitude test (if applicable) and the interview.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

The MPhil in Business Economics program consists of preliminary coursework and a thesis. The coursework is supplementary to the thesis and, therefore, will not be considered for credit calculations.

Coursework: Compulsory; Dissertation: 60 Credits

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits |
|---|---|---------|
| Year 1 - Semester 1 | | |
| MPhil_BEC 5104 | Research Methods | 03 |
| MPhil_BEC 5105 | Applied Econometrics | 03 |
| Year 2 - Semester 2 | | |
| MPhil_BEC 6001 | Graduate Seminar in Business Economics I | 01 |
| MPhil_BEC 6002 | Graduate Seminar in Business Economics II | 01 |
| Year 2 - Throughout the Second Year Period | | |
| MPhil_BEC 6003 | Dissertation | 60 |

Evaluation Criteria

Students must complete the following steps to finish the MPhil program in two years:

1. Successfully complete the taught courses MPhil_BEC 5104 and MPhil_BEC 5105 and defend the proposal by the end of Semester 1 of Year 1.*
2. Successfully complete MPhil_BEC 6001: Graduate Seminar in Business Economics I by the end of Year 1.
3. Successfully complete MPhil_BEC 6002: Graduate Seminar in Business Economics II by the end of Semester 1 of Year 2.
4. Publish the findings of the research in at least one indexed journal or two refereed journals. If there is a delay in obtaining the printed version of the journal, students need to provide a letter of acceptance stating that the article will be published in an upcoming issue. **
5. Submit the dissertation for assessment by the stipulated deadline.
6. Defend the thesis at the viva voce examination.

7. Submit the dissertation (MPhil_BEC 6003: MPhil Dissertation) by the deadline, addressing all comments raised at the final viva-voce examination, if any.

*MPhil students may attend other lectures in the Master of Business Economics (MBE) and MSc in Business Economics programs with the approval of the Principal Supervisor. This will help students acquire the expected expertise in the respective research area.

**Please note that publications based on MPhil research should be a joint work of students and supervisors. Hence, the names of the student (first author), principal supervisor, and co-supervisor(s) should appear in publications. To graduate, a student must have at least one research paper published in an indexed journal or two papers in refereed journals. Supervisors may encourage their students to publish more than one research paper in indexed or peer-reviewed journals or as book chapters. In addition, supervisors should encourage their students to present their research findings at local and/or international conferences.

Graduate Seminars in Business Economics:

Graduate Seminars are supplementary progress seminar series offered for MPhil students. Students' research progress will be assessed monthly after completing their coursework, i.e., six months after commencing the course. Throughout the entire course, each student is required to present their research progress at four graduate seminars.

MPhil_BEC 6001: Graduate Seminar in Business Economics I

This is a supplementary course offered to MPhil students. Students are expected to present their research progress at the graduate seminar, and the supervisors of the presenting students will take part as panel members of the seminar. The MPhil coordinator may invite other supervisors or experts to provide comments at this seminar. This seminar supports graduate students by providing critical reviews, inputs, and feedback on their research work from peer graduate students and their supervisors/panel members. This graduate seminar meets once a month in the second semester of Year 1, and four seminars will be held during this semester.

MPhil_BEC 6002: Graduate Seminar in Business Economics II

This is a continuation of the Graduate Seminar in Business Economics I. Students are expected to present their analytical findings at the graduate seminar, with their supervisors participating as panel members. This seminar meets once a month in the second semester of Year 2, with four seminars held during this semester.

Please note that the principal and co-supervisor of the student should participate in these progress meetings. If the required content is not covered during Graduate Seminars I and II, the final result will be "Fail and Incomplete". If a student does not

complete all four seminars, they will be considered as an “Incomplete” student. The evaluation criteria for the Graduate Seminar are as follows:

| Method | Breakdown of Marks | | Marks as a Percentage (%) |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Live Presentation | Progress of the Research | 30 | 50 |
| | Active Engagement in Q/A | 20 | |
| Participation | Attendance | 30 | 50 |
| | Active Engagement in Q/A | 20 | |
| Total Marks | | 100 | 100 |

The final result of Graduate Seminars will be awarded as either “Pass” or “Fail,” with marks greater than 50 designated as “Pass” and marks less than 50 designated as “Fail.”

Proposal Preparation and Defense Guidelines:

The MPhil in Business Economics program encourages and supports a wide range of thesis topics and methodologies stemming from the study of economics and business. The thesis proposal represents a formal understanding between the supervisors and the MPhil student. This agreement outlines the work to be done and the intellectual rigor expected from the candidate by the Board of Examiners. The supervisor will act as an observer and cannot defend the students during the Proposal Defense. The proposal serves as a map guiding students toward the effective completion of their thesis project.

Structure of the Thesis Proposal:

The MPhil student should work closely with the principal supervisor and the co-supervisor(s) to determine the composition of the thesis proposal and write it.

The proposal should contain sufficient details to describe the background and significance, the rationale for the problem (justification of the research problem), and the work plan for completing the thesis. The following list of elements should be included in the thesis proposal:

- a) **Statement of the Problem:** Includes the background, key questions, significance of the problem, and description of the chosen methodology.
- b) **Grounding and Rationale:** Provides a discussion of the need in the area of study, which may include a comprehensive review of theoretical, conceptual, or methodological precedents directly related to the research topic. This section

may also include a detailed analysis of the precedents that justify the need for the research, as well as a review of the literature related to the research, which helps establish the research gap. A summary table of the empirical review should be provided in the appendix.

- c) Research Objectives: This should include primary and secondary objectives.
- d) Research Methodology: Description of the research methodology, methods to be used in the analysis, etc.
- e) Research Plan: Outlines the work plan to complete the research project.
- f) Reference List
- g) Appendices

Word Limit:

The proposal should be no more than 10,000 words, inclusive of tables, references, figure captions, and endnotes.

Reference Style:

The students should adhere to the APA (6th or 7th) reference style when writing the proposal. Refer to the APA guidelines to ensure your proposal conforms to this reference style.

Similarity Index:

The proposal can be checked for duplication using duplication-checking software. The overall similarity index should be less than 25%, and the individual paper similarity index per source should be less than 1%. If the proposal submitted is found to have plagiarized other work, includes third-party copyright material without permission or with insufficient acknowledgement, or if the authorship of the proposal is contested, the Course Coordinator and the Board of Examiners reserve the right to take action and require the candidate to resubmit the proposal.

Note: The student should submit three (03) hard copies of the research proposal to the MPhil in Business Economics office one week prior to the Proposal Defense.

Oral Presentation:

The proposal should be defended before a committee comprising the principal supervisor, co-supervisor(s), one member associated with an academic discipline from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and one member from outside the university. The oral presentation will be open to fellow MPhil students as well as the academic staff of the Department. The supervisor(s) will act as observer(s).

Structure of the Oral Presentation:

Candidates are required to develop their presentations according to the following guidelines (content of the presentation):

- a) Introduction
- b) Research Problem/Question
- c) Research Objective(s)
- d) Significance and Justification
- e) Brief Literature Survey
- f) Research Approach, Methodology, and Conceptual Framework

The number of slides in the presentation should be limited to 15-20.

The allocated time is 20 minutes for the presentation and 10 minutes for the Q&A session.

Note: The student should submit three (03) hard copies of the PowerPoint presentation to the Board of Examiners (print on both sides, four slides per page, in landscape orientation).

In the case of a virtual presentation, the student needs to submit only the soft copies of the aforementioned documents to the course coordinator.

MPhil Dissertation:

Students should follow the instructions outlined in the Handbook when writing their final dissertations.

Repeating Course Units

Awarding the Degree

All course units outlined in the program structure must be successfully completed prior to the submission of the final thesis.

Payment Plan

The student is given the following payment plan.

| Year | Installment | Amount (Rs) |
|----------------------|---|----------------|
| 1 st Year | 1 st Installment - Upon registration | 345,000 |
| 2 nd Year | 2 nd Installment - During the 1 st Semester | 230,000 |
| Total Amount | | 575,000 |

3.5.1.3. Doctor of Philosophy in Management

Program Type and SLQF Level

PhD (SLQF 12)

Introduction to the Program

Various challenges are anticipated in managing organizations, and the survival and growth of organizations are essential for enhancing the standards of living and the development of the nation. Managing these contexts and meeting these challenges requires independent, conceptual, operational, and creative thinking based on a sound understanding of both the theory and practice of management. A concentrated period of research into the forefront of knowledge is essential for developing the necessary understanding and for stimulating original and innovative thinking. In that sense, the relevant doctoral program aims to help the advanced student of management develop such knowledge, skills, and attitudes. This PhD Program in Management aims to produce top-level/experienced managers and management consultants, and researchers to contribute significantly to institutional development as well as human development, and to help academics become better academics and increase the quality and relevance of their teaching and research in management studies.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the PhD in Management program, graduates will be able to:

- Acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes about advanced aspects of research.
- Systematically find solutions for problems to improve the body of knowledge of management.
- Enhance erudition (serious academic study and the knowledge obtained from serious learning) in the area of specialization.
- Independently produce high-quality original research and resultant publications in scholarly-recognized journals.
- Apply interdisciplinary knowledge in the social sciences to solving management problems.
- Capitalize on the highest level of educational opportunities to enhance career prospects and psychological and social well-being.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

The PhD in Management program prepares graduates for advanced leadership roles across diverse sectors. Career opportunities include senior executive positions in corporations, government agencies, and non-profit organizations, where doctoral-level analytical and strategic thinking skills are highly valued. Graduates are well-positioned for academic careers as lecturers and researchers in universities and research institutions, contributing to the advancement of management knowledge through teaching and scholarly research. The program also prepares graduates for roles as high-level consultants, policy advisors, and organizational development specialists, where they can apply their expertise to solve complex management challenges and drive organizational transformation.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the PhD in Management program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Master of Philosophy degree in Management/Management-related discipline
- b) A Master degree in Management/Management-related discipline
- c) A Master's degree or a higher degree in any field from a recognized University with a minimum of three (3) years of managerial-level work experience.

Course Duration: Three Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Year Semester | | Admission Criteria (b) and (c) | Admission Criteria (a) |
|---------------|------------|--|--|
| Year 1 | Semester 1 | Courses on Research Methodology (participation in lectures is compulsory) | Courses on Research Methodology (participation in lectures is not compulsory) |
| | | Submission of assignments is mandatory for all students* | |
| | Semester 2 | Preparation of research proposal and allocation of the examiners. | Eligible to submit detailed research proposals to the evaluation board consisting of two examiners (approved by the BoS and at least one external examiner) for their upgrading (Progress Evaluation) ** |
| Year 2 | Semester 1 | Eligible to submit detailed research proposals to the evaluation board consisting of two examiners (approved by the BoS and at least one external examiner) for their upgrading (Progress Evaluation) ** Evidence of satisfactory progress of the research work. PhD Seminar -***1 | Evidence of satisfactory progress of the research at each quarter. PhD Seminar -***1 |
| | Semester 2 | Students are expected to proceed with their research work. PhD Seminar -***2 Evidence of satisfactory progress of the research work. | Students are expected to proceed with their research work. PhD Seminar -***2 Evidence of satisfactory progress of the research within a 6-month period. |
| Year 3 | Semester 1 | Students are expected to proceed with their research work. PhD Seminar in Management - ***3 Evidence of satisfactory progress of the research in each semester. | Students are expected to proceed with their research work. PhD Seminar in Management - ***3 Evidence of satisfactory progress of the research within a 6-month period. |

| | | | |
|--------|------------|--|--|
| Year 3 | Semester 2 | Students are expected to proceed with their research work. Evidence of satisfactory progress of the research work. Students are expected to submit their final thesis. | Students are expected to proceed with their research work. Evidence of satisfactory progress of the research work. Students are expected to submit their final thesis. |
| | | | |

** Students who intend to submit a research proposal with three chapters shall submit a letter with the supervisors' consent at least three weeks prior to the submission.

*** The first seminar should be held subsequent to the Board of Evaluation meeting, and the final seminar should be held at least one month prior to the submission of the doctoral thesis.

Evaluation Criteria

There will be an assessment for the respective courses. The marks of the assessments will be considered in fulfillment of upgrading requirements.

Research Methodology Courses (Compulsory)

Contact Hours: 165 Hours

The course is compulsory and consists of the following components:

- Qualitative Management Research - 45 hours (3 credits)
- Quantitative Management Research - 45 hours (3 credits)
- Seminars in Research Methods - 30 hours (2 credits)
- Advanced Statistics in Research - 45 hours (3 credits)

Evaluation of the course will be carried out through a series of continuous assessments, which include critical essays, concept papers, critical reviews of literature, and presentations, etc. The student should follow the courses in Research Methodology in the First Semester and obtain at least 50 marks (B-) for all of them.

Research Supervision and Examination

Appointment of Supervisors

The BoS in Management Studies and Commerce will appoint a supervisory committee in respect of each research student comprising a minimum of two members, of whom at least one shall be from the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and will nominate one of them to be a Senior Supervisor for a student who is responsible for initiating the research work with the research proposal and who also has administrative rights for student matters.

If the coordinators of the program or the Senior Supervisor for a student deem there is a need for the support of another supervisor, an expert may be appointed with a similar capacity after the approval of the BoS.

Eligibility for Supervision

A person eligible for supervision of a PhD student must possess a PhD from a recognized university with a minimum of three years of research experience and research publications in indexed/refereed journals.

Research Progress Evaluation

The supervisory committee will review the research work (based on the bi-annual progress report submitted by the student).

Supervision of Doctoral Research

Each student enrolled in the PhD program shall be assigned two academic supervisors (not exceeding three). One supervisor shall be designated as the senior supervisor. At least one supervisor should be internal. The student must prepare a study and project plan in consultation with the senior supervisor. This ensures that the supervisors and the PhD students carefully consider and formulate the purpose, contents, and schedule of the study to ensure a high-quality output.

A bi-annual assessment of the student's progress will be made by the Supervisory Committee (consisting of the supervisor(s), Coordinator Research, and the Coordinator of the PhD program). Registration of any PhD candidate whose progress is found to be unsatisfactory may be terminated with the approval of the BoS. Every student is required to submit a progress report at the end of each six months with the approval of the supervisors.

The supervisory committee for a PhD student is required to provide 180 hours of supervision (at the rate of 45 hours per semester X 4 semesters, after the coursework).

The relationship between the student and the supervisors is based on mutual trust and respect, in which the supervisor is expected to protect the student's interests, focusing on high-quality research work.

The change of a supervisor at the early stages of the student research work can be permitted with the consent of the supervisor. Student-supervisor relationships are likely to terminate formally even at a late stage for a fair reason. Change of supervisor at a late stage should happen only as the last resort subject to an agreement on the use of the previous work and the role of the previous supervisor.

If a meeting does not result in any agreement, then, in the final thesis, the contribution of the previous supervisor will be explicitly recorded.

Doctoral Research Proposal

The continuation of PhD studies is permitted after fulfilling the following:

- a) Complete the compulsory courses in research methodology with a minimum mark of 50 (B-).
- b) Fulfill the requirements of the proposal defense examination with a grade of not less than 50 marks.
- c) Produce a letter of consent from the student's supervisor(s)
- d) Obtain approval of the Board of Study in Management Studies and Commerce of the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

A student is given three attempts to present their proposal to the examination. If a candidate is found unsatisfactory, the BoS decides to discontinue their registration.

PhD Seminars

Students are required to present their progress of research in three seminars after the proposal defense. The students are required to provide evidence of satisfactory progress in their research at each seminar. Thirty minutes will be allocated for the presentation of the seminar. The main purpose of progress seminars is to help the student improve the quality of the research based on the reviewers' comments.

First Progress Seminar: The first seminar will be held after the approval of the research proposal. When presenting the first progress seminar, students should submit the revised first three chapters (PDF version – soft copy) with a response sheet including comments from the examiners at the defense and actions taken to incorporate them into the research with the supervisors' approval. The format of the response sheet is attached ([see Annexure 06 in the PhD in Management Handbook 2025](#)).

Second Progress Seminar: The second progress seminar focuses on data analysis and discussion. Students should submit the PDF version (soft copy) of the chapter one month before the presentation. When presenting the second progress seminar, students should submit a response sheet including comments from the panel members at the first progress seminar and actions taken to incorporate them into the research with the supervisors' approval. The format of the response sheet is attached ([see Annexure 07 in the PhD in Management Handbook 2025](#)).

Third Progress Seminar: The third progress seminar will be held at least one month before the submission of the doctoral thesis. It covers the conclusion chapter including recommendations, theoretical/ practical implications, future research, and limitations. Students should submit the final chapter one month before the presentation. When presenting the third progress seminar, students should submit a response sheet including comments from the panel members at the second progress seminar and actions taken to incorporate them into the research with the supervisors'

approval. The third progress seminar will provide the student with an opportunity to review the research outcome and make the necessary corrections and revisions before the final submission. The format of the response sheet is attached (see [Annexure 08 in the PhD in Management Handbook](#)).

Composition of the Review Board

The seminar board consists of two reviewers who should be subject experts selected from the internal/external academic staff, whose names are proposed by the PhD unit and are recommended by the Board of Study.

Eligibility for Defense of the PhD Thesis

The PhD student may submit a formal request to defend the thesis, subject to the following conditions:

- a) Successful completion of recommended courses on Research Methodology
- b) Possession of valid registration as a doctoral student at the time of submission of the PhD thesis.
- c) Preparation and submission of the PhD thesis in accordance with the Harvard guidelines. The submission of the thesis shall be accompanied by a formal declaration that the PhD thesis represents the original work of the student. The due acknowledgements must be made in the text of all secondary materials used in the thesis. It should also be accompanied by a recommendation from the supervisors indicating the successful completion of the research program and a request for evaluation of the PhD thesis by the Board of Examiners.
- d) The decision to award the PhD will be taken at the viva-voce examination conducted by the Board of Examination.

Students who have not reached the standard level of the PhD program may be awarded the MPhil degree with the consent of the student.

Submission and Defense of the PhD Thesis

Students who intend to submit their doctoral thesis shall submit a “Letter of Intention to Submit the PhD Thesis” in the prescribed form to the Coordinator of the PhD program, 3 months before the date of submission subject to the recommendation of the Supervisor(s). The student is eligible to make a formal request to submit the PhD thesis for defense. Five copies of the PhD thesis shall be prepared according to the approved format and submitted to the Deputy Registrar of the Faculty of Graduate Studies through the Coordinator of the program.

Note: The PhD in Management will be awarded in accordance with the Guidelines for **Chapter 2, Section 2.4**, concerning MPhil/PhD Degrees, which provide further details regarding Application Requirements, Evaluation Criteria, Repeating Course Units, and the Awarding of the Degree.

Furthermore, for more details on the PhD in Management degree program, please refer to the handbook on the **PhD in Management**. These guidelines offer detailed explanations regarding the degree.

Payment Plan

The fee for this program is fixed for a three-year period. A grace period (4th year) will be given, subject to an additional payment to cover the administrative expenses. Beyond the four-year period, additional costs will be charged for each year, from the 5th year to the 6th year. If a student requests further extension due to special circumstances, an additional two-year period may be granted with the approval of the supervisors and the Board of Study. For the 7th and 8th years, the student must pay an additional charge per year, along with the registration fee. After the 8th year, the registration of the student will be canceled. The library deposit is refundable at the end of the program. The registration fee applies for each year at the time of resubmission of the thesis ([follow the payment structure outlined in the PhD in Management Handbook](#)).

**Board of Study
in
Medical Sciences**

3.6. Programs offered by the Board of Study in Medical Sciences

3.6.1. Master Programs

3.6.1.1. Master of Science in Immunology

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

Immunology and molecular medicine are rapidly developing specialties. Many treatment modalities for cancer, infectious diseases, autoimmune diseases, allergies, and even diabetes and ischemic heart diseases are based on immunology- and molecular-medicine-based drugs. Many of the techniques currently used in the diagnosis of infectious diseases, cancers, allergies, and autoimmune diseases are based on immunology and molecular medicine. The MSc in Immunology degree program has been designed for graduates with a basic knowledge of immunology to provide them with an opportunity to further develop their knowledge and expertise in immunology, molecular medicine, allergy, and related fields, and make them well-rounded experts in immunology. Those who successfully complete the program will gain knowledge of immunological mechanisms, autoimmunity, cancer immunology, and integrated fields within immunology, molecular medicine, and allergy. They will also develop practical skills in molecular biology techniques and allergy diagnosis.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in Immunology program, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate specialist knowledge and practical skills by understanding the basic principles of the immune system, immunology, and molecular biology techniques.
- Critically assess, select, and apply appropriate research methods to investigate basic immunological mechanisms.
- Critically evaluate primary scientific data and published scientific literature.
- Contribute to innovation, research, and service development in immunology at both institutional and national levels.
- Develop effective scientific communication skills through oral/poster presentations in research symposia.
- Develop soft skills related to interpersonal communication, creativity, and teamwork, which are necessary for working in research and innovative environments.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Immunology and molecular medicine are rapidly advancing global fields, and there is a high demand for individuals with expertise in these specialties. Therefore, individuals who are experts in immunology and molecular medicine have more opportunities to work as academics in universities/institutions, diagnostic laboratories, research laboratories, pharmaceutical companies, and the health sector, not only in Sri Lanka but also internationally.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in Immunology program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), Veterinary Science (BVSc), or Dentistry (BDS).
- b) A BSc Special or Honors degree.
- c) A BSc General degree with Immunology as a subject from a recognized university in Sri Lanka or overseas, provided that the overseas university is recognized by the University and/or the University Grants Commission.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------------|--|---------|--------|
| Year 1 - Semester 1 | | | |
| IMM 501 1.0 | Module I: Basic Immunology | 01 | C |
| IMM 502 6.0 | Module II: Molecular Biology and Infectious Diseases: Basics | 06 | C |
| IMM 503 3.0 | Module III: Bioinformatics: Basics and Databases | 03 | C |
| IMM 504 2.0 | Module IV: Advanced Innate Immunity | 02 | C |
| IMM 505 3.0 | Module V: Immunology Techniques | 03 | C |
| Year 1 - Semester 2 | | | |
| IMM 506 4.0 | Module VI: Allergy | 04 | C |
| IMM 507 1.0 | Module VII: Independent Case Study | 01 | C |
| IMM 508 4.0 | Module VIII: Advanced Cellular Immunology and Antibodies | 04 | C |
| IMM 509 3.0 | Module IX: Autoimmune Diseases | 03 | C |
| IMM 510 2.0 | Module X: Research Methods | 02 | C |
| IMM 511 1.0 | Module XI: Vaccine Development | 01 | C |
| Year 2 - Semester 1 | | | |
| IMM 512 5.0 | Module XII: Immunity in Compromised Host | 05 | C |
| Year 2 - Semester 2 | | | |
| IMM 513 25.0 | Module XIII: Research Project | 25 | C |

Abbreviations: C - Compulsory Course

Evaluation Criteria

Students' performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through theory examinations, practical examinations, continuous assessments, assessment reports, oral examinations, etc. The assessment structure is modified, when required, to facilitate the achievement of the intended learning outcomes of each course unit. When multiple assessment methods are used for a course unit, marks obtained by the student are combined in a pre-determined manner to obtain a final grade. The pass mark is 50% and the student should pass all the courses. Students should complete a minimum of 30 credits in the first year. In addition, students should carry out research project equivalent to 25 credits in the second year. The following table indicates the percentage weightings of continuous assessment and final examination marks for each module.

| Module | Continuous Assessment | Final Examination |
|--------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 01 | 20% | 80% |
| 02 | 20% | 80% |
| 03 | 0% | 100% |
| 04 | 30% | 70% |
| 05 | 0% | 100% |
| 06 | 0% | 100% |
| 07 | 0% | 100% |
| 08 | 30% | 70% |
| 09 | 0% | 100% |
| 10 | 0% | 100% |
| 11 | 0% | 100% |
| 12 | 0% | 100% |
| 13 | 0% | 100% |

Repeating Course Units

Students who are unable to sit for the course unit examination or fail a course can sit for the same course unit with the next MSc batch as repeat students. Except for medical reasons, the maximum mark that can be obtained is 50%. Students can repeat a theory paper if the GP of that paper is less than 2.70 (B- grade). If the students are repeating course unit(s) within the study program period, it will be free

of charge. However, the student must pay an examination fee if they wish to repeat course unit(s) after the program study period.

Students are permitted to repeat a subject/course unit only two times. A separate repeat examination will not be held under any circumstance, and repeat students are expected to sit for repeat subjects with the next batch. They must pass the course/subject within three consecutive batches. If students obtain a lower grade in a repeat attempt than in an earlier attempt, the better grade will be retained.

In cases where the Department does not start a new MSc batch within a period of one year from the date of issuing the results, or the particular course units are not included in the curriculum of the next batch, a separate repeat examination will be held within 12 months. Non-taught components cannot be repeated under any circumstances.

Awarding the Degree

MSc in Immunology

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2.70 | Should pass all the taught and non-taught courses, including the Research Project, and possess a minimum GPA of 2.70 (B- grade). |

Students will be awarded an MSc in Immunology with Merit if they secure a GPA of 3.70 or above for the taught and non-taught courses and obtain an A grade for the Research Project.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments: 50% of the course fee at the time of registration and the balance in two 25% installments before the examinations of Semesters 1 and 2.

3.6.2. MPhil and PhD Programs

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11) and PhD (SLQF 12)

Introduction to Program

Academic staff members in the Faculty of Medical Studies undertake a wide spectrum of research, ranging from studies in frontier basic medical science to cutting-edge clinical research. Every Department in the Faculty actively participates in the training of postgraduate research students for MPhil and PhD degrees.

Fields of study cover Anatomy, Biochemistry, Food and Nutrition, Physiology, Parasitology, Microbiology, Pharmacology, Forensic Medicine, Community Medicine, Clinical Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical Education, Family Medicine, Health Science, Molecular Medicine and Immunology.

Pre-clinical departments conduct research mainly in laboratories, while clinical departments conduct research both in laboratories and in clinical settings. Research students in the faculty enjoy the benefits of working in state-of-the-art laboratories.

Admission Requirements of MPhil

To be considered eligible for admission to the MPhil program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) An MBBS degree with at least 2nd Class Lower Division in the final or relevant examination (SLQF 7; GPA 3.00 or above).
- b) A BDS or BVSc degree with at least 2nd Class Lower Division (SLQF 6; GPA 3.00 or above).
- c) Any Special degree recognized by the UGC in a relevant subject with at least 2nd Class Upper Division. (SLQF 6; GPA 3.30 or above).
- d) An MSc/MA/MD degree in a relevant subject discipline or any other postgraduate professional qualifications acceptable to the BoS.
- e) An MBBS (GPA 2.7-2.9) with a postgraduate Diploma (at least one year)
- f) A one-year graduate standing with any degree (General) recognized by the UGC or professional qualifications recognized by the University Senate in relevant subjects which are acceptable to the BoS, with a pass in the qualifying examination.

Course Duration: Two years (Full-Time)

Medium of Instruction: English

Payment Plan and Other Instructions

The due fees for the first year plus other necessary fee items must be paid at the time of registration. In every subsequent year, the relevant fees for that year must be paid when the registration is extended. The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2 Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

Admission Requirements for PhD

To be considered eligible for admission to PhD program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Master's degree.
- b) MBBS with at least 2nd Class Lower Division in final or relevant examination (SLQF 7; GPA 3.00 or above).
- c) A Bachelor's degree in SLQF Level 6 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 with or without qualifying examination as determined by the University.
- d) A Bachelor's degree (Honors) at SLQF Level 6 who has registered to follow an MPhil degree may be upgraded to a PhD level after a minimum period of one year, provided the candidate's research competencies are of exceptional merit.
- e) A Bachelor's degree at SLQF level 5 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 and successful completion of a qualifying examination, which will be conducted after completion of 30 credits equivalent to SLQF level 6 in the same or a related field and register to follow an MPhil degree may be upgraded to PhD level after a minimum period of one year, provided candidate's research competencies are of exceptional merit.

Course Duration: Three Years (Full-Time)

Medium of Instruction: English

Payment Plan and Other Instructions

The due fees for the first year plus other necessary fee items must be paid at the time of registration. In every subsequent year, the relevant fees for that year must be paid when the registration is extended. The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2 Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

**Board of Study
in
Multidisciplinary
Studies**

3.7. Programs Offered by the Board of Study in Multidisciplinary Studies

3.7.1. Master's Programs

3.7.1.1. Master of Science in GIS and Remote Sensing

Program Type and SLQF Level

Master's [Coursework & Research] (SLQF 10)

Introduction to the Program

Geographic Information Science (GIS) is the foundation of modern spatial analysis, integrating geographic concepts, applications, and systems to interpret location-based data. As a recognized academic discipline, GIS encompasses tools for storing, analyzing, and visualizing geographic information, enabling users to create interactive queries, edit maps, and derive actionable insights. Remote Sensing (RS) complements GIS by capturing Earth's data from a distance, offering a global perspective on environmental, urban, and climatic phenomena. Together, GIS and RS empower data-driven decision-making across diverse fields—from urban planning and disaster management to environmental conservation and defense. This program equips students with cutting-edge skills in spatial analysis, database management, and advanced remote sensing technologies. Through a blend of coursework and research, graduates will harness these tools to address real-world challenges, fostering sustainable development and innovation.

Objectives/Graduate Profile

Upon successful completion of the MSc in GIS and Remote Sensing program, graduates will be able to:

- Support target program beneficiaries and institutions with training, quality standards, resources, and technologies, enabling better awareness and application of GIS and RS for effective decision-making practices.
- Broaden the scope for mutually beneficial, structural, and educational development through long-term collaboration, fostering research and development skills, and facilitating knowledge transfer between stakeholders and program beneficiaries.
- Create an enabling academic, research, and application environment with state-of-the-art technology and skills in GIS and RS.
- Promote sustainable best practices in GIS and RS by equipping participants with the necessary experience in planning, managing, and rationally using spatial information to better understand and visualize different phenomena.

Professional and Employment Opportunities

Graduates will find employment opportunities in public and private sector institutions, including fields such as agriculture, environmental management, urban and regional planning, water resources, conservation, health, transportation, defense and intelligence, forestry, surveying, emergency/disaster management, land administration, civil engineering, community mapping and analysis, marine and coastal studies, energy and climate change, homeland security, real estate valuation, law enforcement, facilities management, fire protection, telecommunications, utilities (electric, gas, water/wastewater), mining, banking and financial services, insurance, elections, media, and public works.

Minimum Admission Criteria

To be considered eligible for admission to the MSc in GIS and Remote Sensing program, applicants should hold one of the following qualifications:

- a) A Bachelor's degree from a recognized university.
- b) Special Enrollment: Officers of the rank of Captain and above in the Sri Lanka Army or the equivalent ranks in the Sri Lanka Navy and Sri Lanka Air Force, and officers of the rank of Inspector and above in the Sri Lanka Police, who require professional training in GIS to effectively perform specific tasks in their roles. They should have 15 years of experience after commissioning as a Captain in the Sri Lanka Army or the equivalent ranks in the Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Air Force, or as an Inspector in the Sri Lanka Police.

In addition to the above requirements, applicants should also possess a good command of both spoken and written English.

Course Duration: Two Years

Medium of Instruction: English

Course Description

| Course Code | Course Title | Credits | Status |
|----------------------------|--|---------|--------|
| Year 1 - Semester 1 | | | |
| GIS 1110 | Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems | 03 | C |
| GIS 1120 | Fundamentals of Remote Sensing | 03 | C |
| GIS 1130 | Fundamentals of GPS and Equivalent Technologies | 03 | C |
| GIS 1140 | Introduction to Database Management Systems | 02 | C |
| GIS 1150 | Cartography for GIS | 02 | C |
| Year 1 - Semester 2 | | | |
| GIS 1210 | Advanced Technologies in GIS | 03 | C |
| GIS 1220 | Digital Image Processing and Advanced Remote Sensing | 03 | C |
| GIS 1230 | Advanced Database Management Systems | 02 | C |
| GIS 1240 | Applications of GPS and Equivalent Technologies | 02 | C |
| GIS 1250 | Fundamentals of Web GIS | 02 | C |
| GIS 1260 | Geostatistics in GIS | 02 | C |
| GIS 1270 | Research Methodology and Scientific Writing | 01 | C |
| Year 2 - Semester 1 | | | |
| GIS 2110 | Spatial Analysis Modeling | 03 | C |
| GIS 2120 | Applications of GIS and Remote Sensing | 03 | C |
| GIS 2130 | Web GIS Applications | 03 | C |
| GIS 2140 | Programming in GIS | 02 | C |
| GIS 2150 | Advanced Mapping Technologies | 01 | C |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|---|
| GIS 2160 | Research Methodology and Scientific Reporting | 01 | C |
| GIS 2170 | Seminar on Applications of GIS and Remote Sensing | 01 | C |
| Year 2 - Semester 2 | | | |
| GIS 2290 | Research Project on RS and/or GIS Applications (Independent Research Thesis) ** | 18 | C |
| Total Credits | | 60 | |

Abbreviations: C – Compulsory Course

Evaluation Criteria

Student performance in each course unit is assessed and graded through theory examinations and continuous assessments, both during and at the end of the semester. Each course unit will include a theory examination and continuous assessment. Continuous assessment may include individual assignments, group assignments, case analyses, critical incident analyses, term papers, midterm examinations, quizzes, and practical and oral presentations. The maximum mark that can be allocated for the continuous assessments within a course unit is 60% of the total marks for written or other examinations. The pass mark is 50%, and students must pass all the course units and the Research Project. The percentage of continuous assessments and final examinations varies depending on the course unit.

Repeating Course Units

If a student is unable to attend the examination or fails the course unit, they may repeat the examination. However, unless there are medical reasons, the highest mark they can achieve is 50%. The student will be granted another opportunity with the next batch unless special arrangements are made by the course coordinator to conduct a make-up examination after releasing the third semester results. For more detailed information on repeating course units, please see **section 2.2.6**, titled **“Examinations and Evaluation Procedures,”** which includes the subsection **“Repeating the Course Units”** in this handbook. This section provides further clarification and guidelines on the specific procedures and regulations applicable in such situations.

Awarding the Degree

MSc in GIS and Remote Sensing

| Minimum GPA Requirement | Completion Criteria |
|-------------------------|---|
| 2.70 | Students should pass all courses and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.70 for a total of at least 60 credits, including the Research Project. |

Students will receive a merit pass award if the overall average exceeds 70%.

Payment Plan

Method 1: Pay the full course fee and any additional fees at the time of registration.

Method 2: Pay in two installments:

First installment: 60% of the course fee plus other fees at the time of registration.

Second installment: The remaining balance within six months from the date of registration.

3.7.2. MPhil and PhD Programs

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11) and PhD (SLQF 12)

Introduction to Program

The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2 Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

**Board of Study
in
Industrial
Technology**

3.9. Programs Offered by the Board of Study in Industrial Technology

3.9.1. MPhil and PhD Programs

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11) and PhD (SLQF 12)

Introduction to Program

MPhil and PhD programs are offered in the following fields: Biosystem Technology, Civil and Environmental Technology, Information and Communication Technology, Materials and Mechanical Technology, and Science for Technology. The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2, Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

Presentation of Thesis

The presentation of theses for students registered under the BoS in Industrial Technology is outlined in **Annexure 19, Note 02**, in the Annexures section.

Board of Study in Engineering

3.8. Programs Offered by the Board of Study in Engineering

3.8.1. MPhil and PhD Programs

Program Type and SLQF Level

MPhil (SLQF 11) and PhD (SLQF 12)

Introduction to Program

MPhil and PhD programs are offered in the following fields: Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Mechanical Engineering. The admission requirements are in accordance with the SLQF and are shown in **Chapter 2**. The admission requirements, evaluation, and other details for research degrees are outlined in **Chapter 2, Section 2.3 Guidelines for MPhil/PhD Degrees** of this handbook.

Presentation of Thesis

The presentation of theses for students registered under the BoS in Engineering is outlined in **Annexure 19, Note 02**, in the Annexures section.

ANNEXURES

Annexure 01: Admission Criteria and Volumes of Learning Required for Postgraduate Programs According to SLQF

| Qualification Type | SLQF | Minimum Admission Requirement | Volume of Learning |
|-------------------------------|------|---|-------------------------------|
| Postgraduate Certificate | 7 | 1. A Bachelor's Degree (a) including 30 credits in the relevant subject area* or (b) with prior learning/work experience equivalent to 30 credits in the relevant subject area | 20 credits after SLQF 5 or 6. |
| | | 2. A qualification in the relevant subject area equivalent to 1(a) or 1(b) | |
| | | 3. Completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the University | |
| Postgraduate Diploma | 8 | 1. A Bachelor's Degree (a) including, 30 credits in the relevant subject area* or (b) with prior learning/work experience equivalent to 30 credits in the relevant subject area | 25 credits after SLQF 5 or 6. |
| | | 2. A qualification in the relevant subject area equivalent to 1(a) or 1(b) | |
| | | 3. Completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the University | |
| Master's Degree by Coursework | 9 | 1. A Bachelor's Degree (a) including, 30 credits in the relevant subject area* (b) with prior learning/work experience equivalent to 30 credits in the relevant subject area | 30 credits after SLQF 5 or 6. |
| | | 2. A qualification in the relevant subject area equivalent to 1(a) or 1(b) | |
| | | 3. Completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the University | |

| | | | |
|---|----|---|--|
| Master's Degree with Coursework and a Research Component | 10 | 1. A Bachelor's Degree including 30 credits in the relevant subject area* | 60 credits after SLQF 5 or 6, including a research component of a minimum of 15 credits. |
| | | 2. A qualification of SLQF level 6 (Bachelor's Honors) or above in the relevant area* of study | |
| | | 3. A professional qualification equivalent to the SLQF level 6 or above | |
| | | 4. Completion of NVQ level 7 with a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a scale of 0-4, as determined by the University | |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|---|---|
| Master of Philosophy Degree | 11 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Bachelor's Honors Degree of level 6 with a minimum of 30 credits in the relevant field 2. A Bachelor's Honours degree of Level 6 with a minimum of 30 credits in a related field and successful completion of a qualifying examination 3. A Bachelor's degree of level 5 with a minimum GPA of 3 in the scale of 0-4 and successful completion of a qualifying examination which will be conducted after completion of 30 credits equivalent to SLQF 6 in the same or related field 4. A qualification of SLQF levels 7 or above in the relevant field 4. A qualification of SLQF levels 7 or above in the relevant field 5. Completion of NVQ level 7 with a minimum GPA of 3.0 in a scale of 0-4 and successful completion of a qualifying examination which will be conducted after completion of 30 credits equivalent to SLQF level 6 or 7, as determined by the University. | Minimum 2 years of full-time or equivalent time of original research after SLQF 6 or above. |
| Doctoral Degree | 12 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Masters of Philosophy Degree 2. A Master's Degree 3. A Bachelor's Honours Degree of level 6 with a minimum GPA of 3.0 in a scale of 0-4, with or without a qualifying examination as determined by the University 4. A holder of Bachelor's Degree Honours of level 6 who has registered to follow a MPhil degree may be upgraded to PhD level after a minimum period of one year provided that his/her research competencies are of exceptional merit 5. A Bachelor's Degree of level 5 with a minimum GPA of 3 in the scale of 0-4 and successful completion of a qualifying examination which will be conducted after completion of 30 credits equivalent to SLQF 6 in the same or related field and register to follow an MPhil degree may be upgraded to PhD level after a minimum period of one year provided that his/her research competencies are of exceptional merit. | Minimum of three years full-time or equivalent time of original research after SLQF 6 or above. |

Note:

- The relevance and relatedness of the course units for degrees other than MPhil and PhD can be decided by the University.
- In addition to the SLQF criteria, students need to fulfil the requirements indicated in the program. The relevant subject area is to be determined by the relevant Board of Study of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Annexure 02: Research Methodology & Scientific Writing – Course Outline

Objective:

This course has been designed to provide students with knowledge and skills to prepare a comprehensive research proposal, conduct a literature review, design experiments/surveys to procure data, analyze the data using standard qualitative and quantitative techniques and the use of statistical packages, and write theses, reports, and research papers.

Lectures: 30 hours

Lecture Plan

- Introduction to Research
- Main Research Approaches
- Research Philosophy
- The Scientific Method
- Grounded Theory
- Reviewing Literature
- Research Problem Declaration
- Objective Designing
- Conceptualization of Research
- Construction of Hypothesis and Testing
- Levels of Measurement
- Sampling Techniques: Quantitative
- Sampling Techniques: Qualitative
- Methods of Data Collection
- Questionnaire Designing
- Quantitative Data Analysis I
- Quantitative Data Analysis II
- Quantitative Data Analysis III
- Qualitative Data Analysis
- Case Studies
- Writing Your Research Proposal
- In-text Citations and Referencing
- Documenting Your Research

Duration: 48 hours

Medium of Instruction: English

A certificate will be issued to participants having 80% or higher attendance.

Please visit the FGS website for more information:

<https://www.graduate.sjp.ac.lk/rmsw/>

Annexure 06: Format of the Concept Paper/Research Proposal

1. Tentative Title:
2. Background/Justification/Introduction (100-500 words)
3. Research problem(s) and research questions
4. General Objective and Specific Objectives (in point form)
5. Literature Review (briefly indicating the most significant ones)
6. Methodology (materials and methods)
 - a. Study site(s)
 - b. Design of experiment/survey
 - c. Collection of data/information
 - d. Statistical analysis, etc.
7. Expected outcome
8. Timescale bar chart (Gantt chart)
9. Certificate of ethical clearance if applicable
10. Budget estimate
11. References

Note: The entire proposal must not exceed 10 pages (including tables and figures but excluding references) and should be either a Microsoft Word readable document or a PDF.

The format of the concept paper/research proposal can be downloaded from the following link: <https://www.graduate.sjp.ac.lk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Format-of-the-Concept-Paper.pdf>

Annexure 10: Roles of Principal Supervisor and Co-Supervisors

Supervisor(s) shall be responsible for providing guidance to students under their care in the following areas:

- a) Offering ideas and providing guidance and encouragement on the planning and progress of research, submission of the thesis, and publication of the results.
- b) Providing or arranging for instruction in research methodology, including the use of information technology.
- c) Guiding students in acquiring and improving appropriate generic skills, including written and oral communication, numeracy, decision-making, and organisational and management skills.
- d) Ensuring that students are aware of the manner in which research results are reported and that they understand the implications of plagiarism and other inappropriate academic practices

Supervisor(s) shall meet students regularly to review their progress. These meetings shall occur at least once a month for full-time students. Face-to-face meetings may be substituted by other means of communication. These records should be maintained in the student logbook.

The supervisory role of principal supervisors and co-supervisors shall cease when the thesis is submitted for examination. The role may be resumed, on the advice of the Board of Examiners, in order to provide guidance to students whose thesis is referred back for significant correction pending final acceptance.

Supervisors and co-supervisors are not responsible for proofreading theses. Neither is it their responsibility to ensure that theses do not contain plagiarized parts. Students are expected to check the level of plagiarism in their theses and attach the report to the thesis duly signed by them.

If plagiarism is detected by a supervisor in drafts or in the final version of a thesis prior to the formal submission for examination, the supervisor shall inform the student to take corrective action before final submission. If plagiarism is detected, disciplinary action will be taken against the student and will lead to the rejection of the thesis.

When co-supervisors and/or advisors are appointed, the principal supervisor shall retain the ultimate responsibility for leadership in supervision.

Principal supervisors shall be required to countersign the progress reports of their students before submitting them to the FGS.

Annexure 11: Supervisor/Student Logbook

A supervisor/student logbook will be provided by the FGS at the time of registration for research degrees to ensure that supervisors and students will have adequate contact hours which are important for the successful completion of the intended degree. It has pages with the following information, and students need to submit the duly signed pages along with the six-monthly progress report to the relevant Board of Study through their supervisor(s) and Head of Department. For degrees which fall under the Board of Multidisciplinary Studies, the chairperson of the Board will sign in place of the Head of the Department. The pages of this logbook will have the following information:

Supervisory Meeting Record

| | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Date of meeting: | |
| 2. Supervisor(s) present: first supervisor; second supervisor: | |
| 3. Review of actions from the last supervisory meeting: | |
| 4. Topics discussed: | |
| 5. Identification of any issues: | |
| 6. Actions set for the next meeting: | |
| Confirmation from student and supervisor: | |
| Student: | Date: |
| Supervisor: | Date: |

Annexure 14: Format of the Progress Report

All registered students are required to submit progress reports every six months. The format for the progress report will be as follows:

1. Progress Report Number :
2. Student Registration Number :
3. Date of Registration :
4. Time period covered by Progress Report :
5. Name of Research Student :
6. Name(s) of Supervisor(s) :
7. Institute where research is being carried out :
8. Degree Registered for :
9. The relevant Board of Study :
10. Title of the research :
11. Executive Summary :
12. Publications/Communications arising from the research during the reporting period :
13. Objectives of the research :
14. Objective(s) achieved to date :
15. Brief description of research work carried out during the reporting period :
16. Results /Observations/Outputs :
17. Chart for work done for the reporting period

| Activity | Month 1 | Month 2 | Month 3 | Month 4 | Month 5 | Month 6 |
|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

18. Were there any deviations in the work schedule compared to the one originally proposed? :
19. Was prior approval obtained for the deviations :
 20. If no why not :
 21. Brief work plan for the next 6 months

| Activity | Month 1 | Month 2 | Month 3 | Month 4 | Month 5 | Month 6 |
|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

22. Comments regarding project implementation, if any :
23. Signature of the student and date :
24. Comments, name, date, and signature of supervisor(s) :
25. Comments of the Head of the Department (in which the research is being carried out), signature, and date

The progress report form can be downloaded from the following link:

<https://www.graduate.sjp.ac.lk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Progress-Report.pdf>

Annexure 17: Format of the Final Page on the Practical Implications, Recommendations for Implementation of the Research Findings

Title :

Registration No :

| No. | Practical implication | Relevant institution | Recommendation for implementation |
|-----|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Signature of the Student:

Annexure 19: Thesis Preparation Guidelines for MA/MSc/MPhil/PhD

1. Basic Formatting Requirements

Paper Specifications:

- **Paper Type:** A4 size, good quality white paper (80 gsm)
- **Font:** Times New Roman or FM Abhaya (for Sinhala text)
- **Spacing:** Double-spaced throughout
- **Text Size:** Font size 12 for all body text

Page Margins:

| Page Orientation | Left Margin | Right Margin | Top Margin | Bottom Margin |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Portrait Pages | 4 cm (binding space) | 2 cm | 3 cm | 3 cm |
| Landscape Pages | 3 cm | 3 cm | 4 cm (binding space) | 2 cm |

2. Cover Page and Initial Pages

Front Cover Requirements

- **Cover Material:** Thick quality paper (230 gsm)
- **Font Size:** Title (24), Name/Degree/Year (18)
- **Font:** Times New Roman
- **Layout:**
 - **Top:** Full thesis title (Sentence case)
 - **Middle:** "By" + Full name of candidate
 - **Bottom Left:** Degree type (MA/MSc/MPhil/PhD)
 - **Bottom Right:** Year of submission

Inner Cover Page

- **Font Size:** 16, double-spaced
- **Layout:**
 - **Top:** Full thesis title
 - **Middle:** "By" + Full name of candidate
 - **Bottom:** "Thesis submitted to the University of Sri Jayewardenepura for the award of the Degree of [Doctor of Philosophy/Master of Philosophy/Master of Science/Master of Arts]"

Declaration Page:**Required Text** (exact wording)

“I do hereby declare that the work reported in this thesis was exclusively carried out by me under the supervision of It describes the results of my own independent research except where due reference has been made in the text. No part of this thesis has been submitted earlier or concurrently for the same or any other degree/diploma.”

Include: Student signature and date

Supervisor Certification**For Temporary Submission**

The student should provide a signed declaration with the date by his/her supervisor, certifying the work of the candidate stating:

“I/We certify that the above statement made by the candidate is true and that this thesis is suitable for submission to the University for the purpose of evaluation.”

For Final Hard-bound Submission

“I/We certify that the above statement made by the candidate is true and that this thesis is suitable for submission to the University for the purpose of evaluation.”

Note: Students are asked to submit a **cover letter** along with a signed declaration with the date by his/her supervisor, certifying the work of the candidate stating:

“I/We certify that the candidate has incorporated all corrections, additions, and amendments recommended by the examiners to this version of the [PhD/MPhil/MA/MSc] thesis.”

3. Table of Contents and Lists**Page Numbering System**

- **Roman numerals (i, ii, iii...):** From Table of Contents through Abstract
- **Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3...):** From Chapter 1 onwards
- **Position:** Bottom center of each page

Required Sections (in order)

- **Table of Contents**
 - Number sections with Arabic numerals (up to 3 decimals: 1.1.1)
 - Use Roman numerals for further subsections
- **List of Tables** (if applicable)

- **List of Figures** (if applicable)
- **List of Plates** (if applicable)
- **List of Abbreviations** (if needed)
- **Glossary** (if appropriate)
- **Acknowledgement**
 - Maximum one page
 - Use Roman numeral page numbering

4. Abstract Requirements

Format Specifications

- **New page:** Start on fresh page
- **Font:** Size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced
- **Bold text:** Only for thesis title and author name
- **Length:** Maximum two pages
- **Font size for "ABSTRACT":** 14, capital letters

Layout

Thesis Title

Full Name of the Candidate

ABSTRACT

[Abstract content here]

Keyword: Keyword1, Keyword2, Keyword3, Keyword4, Keyword5

5. Main Thesis Structure

Required Chapters (in order)

- Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: Literature Review
- Chapter 3: Materials and Methods
- Chapter 4: Results
- Chapter 5: Discussion
- Chapter 6: Conclusions
- Chapter 7: Recommendations

Note 01: Results and Discussion may be combined into one chapter. Similarly, **Conclusions and Recommendations** may be written together, depending on your research type.

Note 02: Main Thesis Structure for Theses Submitted to the Board of Study in Engineering and Industrial Technology:

Important: In addition to the thesis formats provided, students registered under the BoS in Engineering and Industrial Technology may use the following format for their thesis. Students must ensure that the selected format is followed consistently throughout the thesis.

- Mandatory chapters in the thesis: Introduction, Discussion, and Conclusions
- Candidate may include Literature Review, Objectives and Scope of the Study, Methodology/Design/Proposals, Results, Analysis, and Recommendations with a suitable chapter organization depending on the contents and the presentation.

Section Headings Format

- Use consistent heading styles throughout
- Number all sections and subsections clearly
- Maintain hierarchy in formatting

6. Tables and Figures

- Table caption should be mentioned above the table as follows (Sentence case).

Table 1.1. Levels of ingredients used to develop the treatment formulations

| Ingredient | Abbreviation for high level | High level (g) | Abbreviation for low level | Low level (g) |
|------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Rice | A ₁ | 50 | A ₀ | 40 |
| Green Gram | B ₁ | 30 | B ₀ | 20 |
| Black Gram | C ₁ | 15 | C ₀ | 10 |
| Meneri | D ₁ | 35 | D ₀ | 25 |

- Figure caption should be mentioned below the figure as follows (Sentence case).

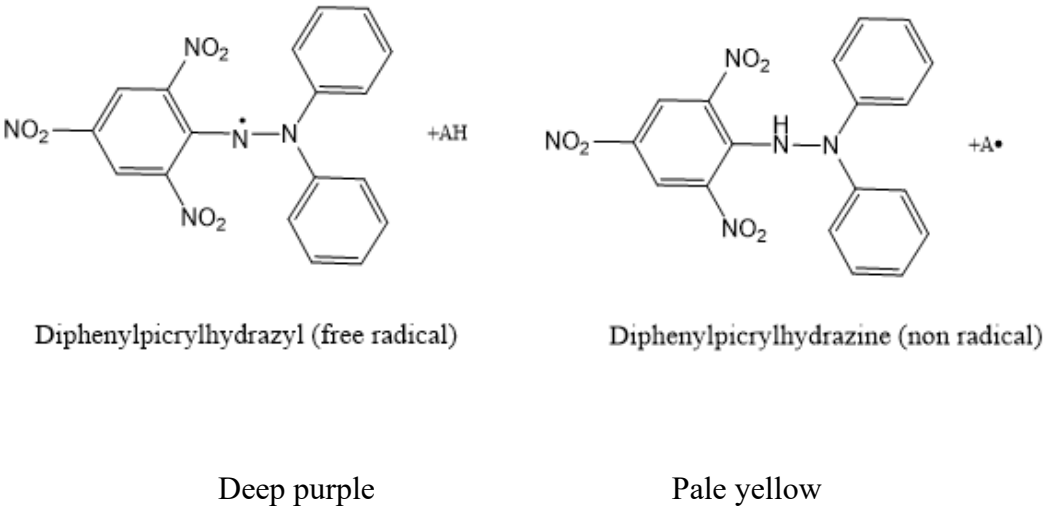


Figure 2.1. The DPPH free radical and its reduced form, the band depicts the color change that does occur in the reaction mixture

7. References

General Requirements

- **New page:** Start immediately after main text
- **Font:** Size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced
- **Bold:** Only for titles where appropriate
- **Italics:** Only for Latin words/scientific names
- **Alphabetical order:** List by first author's surname
- **No numbering:** For Harvard and APA styles
- Choose **ONE** Reference Style
 - Harvard Style
https://guides.library.lincoln.ac.uk/ld.php?content_id=35423739
 - Vancouver Style
https://guides.library.lincoln.ac.uk/ld.php?content_id=31974907
 - APA Style
https://guides.library.lincoln.ac.uk/ld.php?content_id=34554349

Important: Be consistent with your chosen style throughout the entire thesis.

References

Alqahtani, S.J.M. *et al.* (2018) 'Increased radiation dose and projected radiation-related lifetime cancer risk in patients with obesity due to projection radiography', *Journal of Radiological Protection*, 39(1), p. 38. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/aaf1dd>.

Arriaga, A. *et al.* (2024) 'Establishment of local diagnostic reference levels for abdomen and chest radiographies in the region of Algarve, Portugal', *European Journal of Radiology*, 170. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejrad.2023.111248>.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2022) *Defining adult overweight and obesity*, *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/basics/adult-defining.html> (Accessed: 10 May 2024).

8. Appendices

Requirements

- Follow the References section
- **Titles:** Each appendix must be titled and numbered
- **Explanatory notes:** Include when necessary
- Include the **"List of Publications"** related to the study as Appendix 01

9. Final Binding Requirements

Cover Colors by Degree Type

| Type | Cover Color | Lettering |
|--------|---|-----------|
| MA/MSc | Black  | Gold |
| MPhil | Green  | Gold |
| PhD | Red  | Gold |

Note: Students are encouraged to check the exact colors by visiting the FGS before printing the final hard-bound copies.

Annexure 20: Form of Intention to Submit the Thesis

Students who intend to submit their thesis need to fill out the following form with the signature of the student and principal supervisor and submit it to the Deputy Registrar of the FGS three months prior to submission.

| | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| Name of Student: | | |
| Registration No: | | |
| Criteria | YES | NO |
| Possession of a valid registration | | |
| Publications in peer-reviewed journals/ Accepted for publication (1 for MA, MPhil: 2 for PhD) | | |
| Completion of the research methodology and scientific writing course | | |
| Whether the minimum duration of the degree has been completed | | |
| Whether all due payments had been made | | |
| Whether ethical clearance has been received for the study (where appropriate) | | |

Signature of Student:

Date:

Signature of Principal Supervisor:

Date:

The checklist for the intention to submit the thesis can be downloaded from the following link: <https://www.graduate.sjp.ac.lk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Checklist-of-the-Intension-to-submit-the-Thesis.pdf>

Annexure 23: Format for Incorporation of Examiner's Comments to Thesis After Viva Voce Examination

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura | | | | |
| Incorporation of Examiner's Comments into Thesis | | | | |
| Name of the Student: | | | | |
| Degree: | | | | |
| Title of the Thesis: | | | | |
| Names of the Supervisors: 1 2 | | | | |
| Comments of the Examiner and action taken | | | | |
| Name of the Examiner: | | | | |
| Examiners Comments | page in Temporary Bound | Correction carried out | Page in Permanent Bound | Verification /Remarks |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name of the Examiner 2: | | | | |
| Examiners Comments | Page in Temporary Bound | Correction carried out | Page in Permanent Bound | Verification /Remarks |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

[Add more rows as required.]

Signature of the Student

Signature of the Principal Supervisor:

Name of the Verifying Officer:

Signature:

Date:



Faculty of Graduate Studies
University of Sri Jayewardenepura
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