



**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRILANKA**

**REGULATION FOR THE AWARD OF  
THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS**

**Regulation No: 1.5.3.1. (c )**

**September 2020**

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**THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS**

This Regulation was prepared under Section 136 of the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978 read in conjunction with The Open University Ordinance No. 1 of 1990 (as amended).

**Part I - General**

- 1.1. This Regulation shall be cited as the Regulation No. **1.5.3.1.(5)** of 2020 approved by the Council of The Open University of Sri Lanka at its **468<sup>th</sup>** meeting held on **25.09.2020** and shall be deemed to be the consolidated Regulation for the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws.
- 1.2. This Regulation for the Award of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws shall be made by the Senate and approved by the Council
- 1.3. A student who has successfully completed the prescribed Programme of Study shall be awarded the Degree of Bachelor of Laws in accordance with the General By-Law No. 1 for the Award of Certificates, Advanced Certificates, Diplomas, Higher Diplomas, Degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas, Post Graduate Degrees and Higher Degrees, By-Law No. 21 for the award of Bachelors Degrees and this Regulation for the award of the Bachelor of Laws.
- 1.4. This Regulation shall come into effect from the academic year 2020/2021 and shall be applicable to the students who have registered prior to the academic year 2017/2018 including academic year 2017/2018.

**Part II - Eligibility for Admission to the Programme of Study**

- 2.1. A person seeking admission to the Programme leading to the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws shall be required to:
  - 2.1.1 Have four (04) passes at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination (under the old curriculum which had four subjects) of which at least - three (03) passes should have been obtained at one sitting, or
  - 2.1.2 Have three (03) passes obtained at a single sitting at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination in any stream under the new curriculum, or
  - 2.1.3 Have at least C grades of thirty-six credits (36) each at Levels 1 and 2, from the Foundation Programmes offered by The Open University, or
  - 2.1.4 Be an Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka, or

- 2.1.5 Have an equivalent or higher qualification acceptable to the Senate.

### **Part III – Admission to the Programme of Study and Registration for the Courses**

- 3.1 A person may register for courses in the Programme of Study subject to limits on the course credit ratings and any other conditions as laid down in the General By-Law No. 1, By-Law No. 21 and the conditions provided in Schedule 1 of this Regulation.
- 3.2 To be eligible to register for each Level of the Programme of Study a person shall have satisfied the prerequisites for each Level and/or course(s) as specified in Schedule 1 of this Regulation.

### **Part IV - Programme of Study**

- 4.1. The combination of courses, the level and the credit rating of each course in the Programme of Study for the award of the Degree in Bachelor of Law shall be as specified in Schedule 1 of this Regulation.
- 4.2. Registration for courses at any given level shall be in accordance with Schedule 1 of this Regulation.
- 4.3. The medium of instruction of the Programme of Study leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Laws shall be Sinhala, Tamil and English

### **Part V - Scheme of Assessment**

- 5.1. The Overall Assessment Mark (Z%) of a student in respect of a course in Levels 3 and 4, shall be based on the Overall Continuous Assessment Mark (X%) and the mark obtained at the Final Examination (Y%) and shall be computed as follows:

if  $Y \geq 40$  and  $X \geq 35$ , then  $Z = (0.3 X + 0.7 Y)$

if  $Y \geq 35$  and  $< 40$ , and  $X \geq 35$ , then  $Z = (0.3 X + 0.7 Y)$ ; subject to a maximum of 40

If  $Y < 35$ , then  $Z = Y$

- 5.2. The Overall Assessment Mark (Z%) of a student in respect of a course in Levels 5 and 6, shall be based on the Overall Continuous Assessment Mark (X%) and the mark obtained at the Final Examination (Y%) and shall be computed as follows:

if  $Y \geq 40$  and  $X \geq 40$ , then  $Z = (0.3 X + 0.7 Y)$

if  $Y \geq 35$  and  $< 40$ , and  $X \geq 40$ , then  $Z = (0.3 X + 0.7 Y)$ ; subject to a maximum of 40

- 6.8.2 successfully completed the Certificate in English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) or the Continuing Education Courses in English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) unless exempted from same.
- 6.9. A candidate shall be awarded Second Class (Lower Division) in Degree of Bachelor of Laws if he/she has,
- 6.9.1 obtained a Pass in accordance with the Section 6.8 above with a GPA of 3.00 or above obtained at the first attempt and
- 6.9.2 B+ grade or above for courses adding up to not less than forty-five (45) course credits at Level 4, 5 and 6.
- 6.10. A candidate shall be awarded Second Class (Upper Division) in Degree of Bachelor of Laws if he/she has,
- 6.10.1 obtained a Pass in accordance with the Section 6.8 above with a GPA of 3.30 or above obtained at the first attempt and,
- 6.10.2 B+ grade or above for courses adding up to not less than forty-five (45) course credits at Level 4, 5 and 6.
- 6.11. A candidate shall be awarded First Class in Degree of Bachelor of Laws if he/she has,
- 6.11.1 obtained a Pass in accordance with the Section 6.8 above with a GPA of 3.70 or above obtained at the first attempt and,
- 6.11.2 B+ grade or above for courses adding up to not less than forty-five (45) course credits at Level 4, 5 and 6.

#### **Part VII - Exemptions**

- 7.1. Exemptions may be granted as specified in Schedule 3 of this Regulation.
- 7.2. Exemptions, other than those given in Schedule 3, may be granted with the approval of the Faculty Board and the Senate.
- 7.3.1 Notwithstanding any exemptions so granted for the award, 50% of the minimum course credit requirement a student shall acquire by successful completion in accordance with the Part V of this Regulation for the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws.

#### **Part VIII - Course Credit Transfers**

- 8.1. There shall be no course credit transfers granted for any component of this Programme of Study.

If  $Y < 35$ , then  $Z = Y$

- 5.3. Each student who sits for the Final Examination of a course shall be awarded a grade in respect of such course based on the Overall Assessment Mark (Z%), as specified in Schedule 2 of this Regulation and a Grade Point Value (GPV) shall be awarded in accordance with Section 5.5 in Part V of the By-Law No. 21.

### Part VI - Award of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws

- 6.1 A candidate eligible for the Award of Degree of Bachelor of Laws in accordance with this Regulation shall supplicate for same to the Deputy Registrar / Senior Assistant Registrar / Assistant Registrar of Examinations before the prescribed date on the prescribed form.
- 6.2 A candidate who satisfies the requirements for the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws shall be awarded such Bachelors Honours Degree with Pass, Second Class (Lower Division), Second Class (Upper Division) or First Class provided he/she satisfies the requirements specified in Sections 6.8, 6.9, 6.10 and 6.11 respectively in this Regulation, within such period specified in Section 6.4 below of this Regulation.
- 6.3. A candidate shall be awarded the Degree of Bachelor of Laws, if he/she has successfully completed minimum of Hundred and Twenty (120) course credits as specified in Schedule 1 of this Regulation.
- 6.4. A candidate shall acquire the course credit requirement as specified in Sections 6.2 and 6.3 of this Regulation within a minimum period of Four ( 04) academic years and a maximum period of Twelve (12) consecutive academic years from the date of his/her first registration considered for the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws.
- 6.5. The Grade Point Average (GPA) of a student shall be computed by considering the courses at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6 of a student who has satisfied the conditions for the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws in line with the procedure set out in sections below.
- 6.6. The Grade Point Average (GPA) shall be the course credit weighted mean of all the individual Grade Point Values (GPV) obtained by a candidate for Ninety (90) course credits of courses he/she has offered. The grades obtained for the continuing education courses shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA.
- 6.7. The Grade Point Average shall be computed as follows;

$$GPA = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (GPV_i)(CR_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (CR_i)}$$

where  $GPV_i$  = Grade Point Value of course  $i$

$CR_i$  = course credit rating of course  $i$

GPA shall be calculated to the second decimal place subject to a maximum of 4.00.

- 6.8. A candidate shall be awarded a Pass the Degree of Bachelor of Laws, if he/she has,
- 6.8.1 obtained a minimum of thirty (30) course credits at each of the Levels 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Programme of Study with a GPA of 2.00 or above, and,

**Part IX – Revisions**

- 9.1. This Regulation may be revised, amended or repealed as and when deemed necessary by the Senate.
- 9.2. Such revisions, amendments or repeals shall come into effect as determined by the Senate and approved by the Council.

**SCHEDULES****Schedule I (a) – Curriculum, Course List & Pre-requisites of the Degree of Bachelor of Laws**

Level	Type / Credits	Courses			Pre-requisites	
		Course Code	Course Credit	Course Title	Pre-requisites for Registration	Pre-requisites- to sit for the Final Examination
Level 3	Compulsory 30 Credits	LLU3901	9	Constitutional Law I	Eligibility for Admission to the Programme of study.	a minimum average OCAM of 35% for the two Continuous Assessment Tests for each course
		LLU3502	5	Principles of Equity		
		LLU3703	7	Introduction to the Laws of Sri Lanka		
		LLU3904	9	Legal Method		
Level 4	Compulsory 30 Credits	LLU4805	8	Law of Contracts	Minimum C grade for LLU3703, LLU3904 and LLU3901 in Level 3 and a minimum OCAM of 35% - for LLU3502	a minimum average OCAM of 35% for the two Continuous Assessment Tests for each course
		LLU4806	8	Criminal Law		
		LLU4707	7	Family Law		
		LLU4708	7	Constitutional Law II		
Level 5	Compulsory 30 Credits	LLU5709	7	Administrative Law	Minimum C grade for all courses at Levels 3 and 4.	a minimum average OCAM of 40% for the two best Continuous Assessment Tests
		LLU5810	8	Land Law		(a) Minimum of 40% for the Oral Presentation; and (b) a minimum average of 40% for the Oral Presentation and the better of the two other Continuous Assessment Tests
		LLU5811	8	Environmental		(a) Minimum of 40% for

				Law		the Project Report; and (b) a minimum average of 40% for the Project Report and the better of the two other Continuous Assessment Tests
		LLU5712	7	Public International Law		a minimum average OCAM of 40% for the two best Continuous Assessment Tests
Level 6	Compulsory 16 Credit	LLU6813	8	Jurisprudence	A minimum average of 40% OCAM in at least two courses in Level 5	(a) Minimum of 40% for the Project Report and (b) a minimum average of 40% for the Project Report and the better of the two other Continuous Assessment Tests
		LLU6814	8	Law of Delict		a minimum average OCAM of 40% for the two best Continuous Assessment Tests
	Electives 14 Credits (select any two courses)	LLU6715	7	Labour Law		a minimum average OCAM of 40% for the two best Continuous Assessment Tests
		LLU6716	7	Commercial Law		a minimum average OCAM of 40% for the two best Continuous Assessment Tests
		LLU6717	7	International Human Rights Law		a minimum average OCAM of 40% for the two best Continuous Assessment Tests

**Schedule I (b) - Course List of Certificate in English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies)  
and Continuing Education Courses**

Certificate in English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) To be applicable for students enrolled in the academic	Credits	Course Code	Course Title
	18	LEE 3601	English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Beginners
		LEE3602	English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part I

Level 3	Attorneys-at-Law shall be exempted from all courses at Level 3.	Graduates in law with more than 75% of legal subjects or courses from a recognized university may obtain exemptions from courses that they have completed in their previous degree provided such exemptions shall be granted after evaluation of the relevant syllabi and courses by the Department of Legal Studies with the approval of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and Senate.
Level 4	No exemptions granted at Level 4.	The total credit exemptions so granted shall not exceed sixty course credits (60).
Level 5	No exemptions granted at Level 5.	
Level 6	No exemptions granted at Level 6.	

**Schedule 3(b): Transfer scheme from old courses to new courses**

Program level	Course Code		Course Title
	Old Course Code	New Course Code	
Level 3	LWU1201	LLU3901	Constitutional Law I
	LWU1202	LLU3502	Principles of Equity
	LWU1411	LLU3703	Introduction to the Laws of Sri Lanka
	LWU1412	LLU3904	Legal Method
Level 4	LWU2311	LLU4805	Law of Contracts
	LWU2312	LLU4806	Criminal Law
	LWU2313	LLU4707	Family Law
	LWU2314	LLU4708	Constitutional Law II
Level 5	LWU3311	LLU5709	Administrative Law



years up to 2015/2016		LEE3603	English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part II
Continuous Education Courses in English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) To be applicable for students enrolled from the academic year 2016/2017 onwards.	12	LEE3604	English for Special Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part I
		LEE3605	English for Special Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part II

### Schedule 2 - Overall Assessment Marks (Z%) Ranges and Grades

Range of Marks (Z %)	Grade	Grade Point Value
85-100	A+	4.0
70-84	A	4.0
65-69	A -	3.7
60-64	B+	3.3
55-59	B	3.0
50-54	B-	2.7
45-49	C+	2.3
40-44	C	2.0
35-39	C-	1.7
30-34	D+	1.3
20-29	D	1.0
0-19	E	0.0

### Schedule 3 Schedule 3(a): Exemptions

Description	Attorneys-at-Law	Law Graduates from other universities
Admission Test for the Degree of Bachelor of Laws	Attorneys-at-Law may be exempted from any admission test for the purpose of admission and may obtain direct admission to levels 4 of the programme.	Graduates in law from a recognized university with more than 75% of legal subjects (after evaluation by a departmental committee, with the approval of the faculty board and the Senate) may be exempted from any admission test for the purpose of admission.

	LWU3312	LLU5810	Land Law
	LWU3314	LLU5811	Environmental Law
	LWU3315	LLU5712	Public International Law
Level 6	LWU4321	LLU6813	Jurisprudence
	LWU4326	LLU6814	Law of Delict
	LWU4323	LLU6715	Labour Law
	LWU4324	LLU6716	Commercial Law
	LWU4325	LLU6717	International Human Rights Law

**Schedule 3(c): Transfer scheme from old courses to new courses (continuing education courses)**

Old Course Code	New course code	Course Title
LSC0207	LEE 3601	English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Beginners
LSC1207	LEE3602	English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part I
	LEE3603	English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part II