

PROSPECTUS

2023/2024

Bachelor of Laws Honours Degree



The Open University of Sri Lanka
Department of Legal Studies

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
BACHELOR OF LAWS HONOURS DEGREE
2023/2024**

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

The Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL) is an academically autonomous national university in Sri Lanka. It provides higher education through distance learning. Any person over the age of 18 years may pursue programmes of study at OUSL. It offers an opportunity for those who have missed opportunities to follow a programme of study to do so at a later stage in their life.

The OUSL was established under the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978, the Open University of Sri Lanka Ordinance No. 01 of 1990 and its subsequent amendments. It has the same legal and academic status as any other national university in Sri Lanka. Like other state universities in Sri Lanka, the OUSL too has its own Council, which is its executive and governing authority, as well as a Senate which acts as the apex academic decision-making body. The Vice Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the university. The university has its own full-time staff, both academic and non-academic, a Central Campus and a network of Regional and Study Centres. At present OUSL has nine Regional Centres in Colombo, Kandy, Matara, Anuradhapura, Jaffna, Batticaloa, Badulla, Kurunegala and Ratnapura, as well as several Study Centres in the various districts.

The University has six Faculties namely, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Engineering Technology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences and Faculty of Management Studies. These Faculties offer different study programmes ranging from certificates to postgraduate degrees and higher degrees. The Dean is the Chief Academic and Administrative Officer of the Faculty. Under each Faculty, there are academic Departments dealing with specific disciplines of study. Each Department has a Head who is responsible for the administrative and academic activities of the Department.

The Department of Legal Studies attached to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences conducts programmes of study leading to LL. B and LL.M Degrees.

For more details visit the OUSL web page <https://www.ou.ac.lk/>

COURSES AND THE PROGRAMMES OF STUDY

Since the Open University is different from other conventional universities, you will be required to familiarize yourself with the specific vocabulary used by the University in its day-to-day activities. For example, a COURSE is the basic unit of study, normally completed over a period of an academic year. A PROGRAMME OF STUDY may consist of many courses.

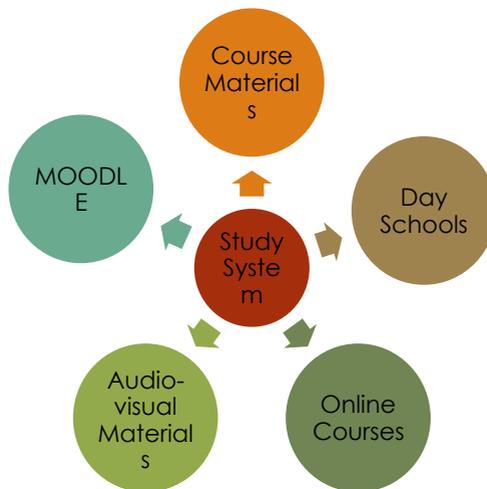
The successful completion of courses offered by a particular academic Department leads to the award of Certificate, Diploma, First Degree or Postgraduate degrees. These qualifications can be obtained by pursuing Foundation,

Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor’s and Postgraduate study programmes.

THE STUDY SYSTEM

The OUSL adopts an Open and Distance Learning (ODL) method as the mode of teaching and learning. It offers open and flexible access to learning opportunities to anyone, anywhere, and at any time. ODL methods use a wide variety of technologies to bridge the divide that is created by the physical separation of learners from the teachers and the educational institution.

The following study methods are used in the ODL system to deliver its courses.



ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS

Students’ performance is evaluated throughout the course of studies. Students are required to sit several tests and submit a number of assignments throughout the academic year. Those

are evaluated, graded and returned to them together with the marks and examiners' written comments. This evaluation system is called Continuous Assessment. Students should read all instructions relating to Continuous Assessment Tests (CATs) and should understand their academic importance.

The Department may decide on the nature, structure, weightage and number of tests/assignments per course, and it may vary from course to course and year to year. For example, it could take the form of Closed Book Tests (CBTs) / No Book Test (NBTs), Open Book Tests (OBTs), Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs), Oral Presentations, Project Reports, etc.

Students should sit the required number of Continuous Assessment Tests (CATs) and a Final Examination for each course. The Overall Mark of a course is determined by combination of Overall Continuous Assessment Marks (OCAM) obtained through tests/assignments and final examinations. CATs are an important component of the examination system in the Open University and obtaining marks at CATs is essential for successful completion of a course.

LIBRARY FACILITIES

The Main Library is located within the Central Campus premises and there are also libraries in the Regional Centres. They provide lending and reference facilities to students. The staff in those libraries will help you to obtain necessary information on reading and reference materials you may need for your studies.

FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES

The Open University is a fee-levying distance learning institution. The Finance Division will issue a payment voucher to all selected applicants to make those payments of fees in two installments. Students should pay the first installment prior to enrolment.

BACHELOR OF LAWS HONOURS DEGREE PROGRAMME

AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The Department of Legal Studies has been offering an LLB Degree since 1984. It is the only university in Sri Lanka which offers an LLB Degree in the Open and Distance Learning mode (ODL).

The objectives of the Bachelor of Laws Honours (LLB Hons.) Degree Programme are as follows:

- To teach the core courses in the law requires a law degree programme whilst introducing changes and modifications to combine the necessary professional orientation.
- To stimulate interest in the historical development of the law in Sri Lanka and internationally and its effectiveness in the social context in which it operates.
- To guide students to communicate complex legal arguments both orally and in writing in a clear, concise, and effective way.
- To develop skills needed for legal research of the students who have gained prior knowledge in other disciplines.

- To convey and understand the law in action, the role of law in society and theoretical aspects of the law.
- To develop intellectual skills of reasoning and investigation, analysis and critical thought.
- To cultivate the ability to handle complex facts analytically and synthetically and to locate the law and apply them to practical situations.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants who wish to apply to the programme are required to:

- Have three (03) passes from any three subjects at one and the same sitting at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination in Sri Lanka in any stream, or
- Have four (04) passes at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination (under the old syllabus, which has four (04) subjects), of which at least three (03) passes should have been obtained at one and the same sitting in any stream, or,
- Have thirty (30) course credits at SLQF level 2 or above from any Programme offered by the Open University of Sri Lanka, or
- Have an equivalent or higher qualification acceptable to the Senate.
- Attorneys-at-Law of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka** may seek direct entry into Level 4 of the programme, and they will be exempted from the selection test and Level 3 of the programme.

Regarding admission related rules of the Sri Lanka Law College please refer to the Extra Ordinary Gazette dated 15-05-2023 (Gazette no. 2332 / 02).

Link: [2332-02_E.pdf \(documents.gov.lk\)](#)

THE SELECTION TEST

- The Selection Test for the selection of students has been scheduled to be held on 17th December 2023.
- Candidates must sit the Selection Test at the particular Regional Centre mentioned by them in the application form to follow the study programme.
- The structure and the allocation of marks of the selection test would be as follows:

| Paper | Title of the Paper | Marks Allocated | Time Duration | Threshold mark |
|-----------|--|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Paper I | General Intelligence | 100 | 01 Hour | 20 |
| Paper II | General Knowledge | 100 | 01 Hour | 10 |
| Paper III | Comprehension Test in Sinhala/Tamil Language | 100 | 01 Hour | 20 |
| Paper IV | English Language | 100 | 01 Hour | 20 |

Candidates should obtain the **threshold marks (minimum marks)** for papers to be considered for admission.

ALLOCATED PLACEMENTS/SEATS AT REGIONAL CENTRES

- Please note that the academic activities of the Bachelor of Laws Honours Degree Programme will be conducted

in Colombo, Kandy, Matara, Jaffna, Batticaloa, Anuradhapura, Badulla, Kurunegala and Ratnapura Regional Centres only.

- After the selection test, a certain number of students who have scored the highest marks out of 400 will be admitted to the programme. The number of placements/seats available in each Regional Centre and the medium of teaching at each centre are given below:

| Centre | Allocated Seats | Medium | | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|
| | | Sinhala | English | Tamil |
| Colombo | 200 | √ | √ | √ |
| Kandy | 120 | √ | √ | √ |
| Matara | 75 | √ | - | - |
| Anuradhapura | 75 | √ | - | - |
| Jaffna | 75 | - | - | √ |
| Batticaloa | 75 | - | - | √ |
| Badulla | 40 | √ | - | √ |
| Kurunegala | 45 | √ | - | - |
| Ratnapura | 45 | √ | - | - |

- Please note that the number of placements/seats available at each Regional Centre will be filled strictly in descending order of marks obtained by candidates at the Admission Test. Under no circumstances would a candidate be considered for filling the placement of another Regional Centre other than what is chosen by that candidate.
- **Candidates must clearly indicate in the application the Regional Centre in which they wish to follow the**

academic activities. Under no circumstances a registered student be permitted to change the Regional Centre selected by him/her after enrollment or during the programme.

HOW TO SELECT YOUR REGIONAL CENTRE

- I. Candidates must select the Regional Centre located in the province relevant to her/his permanent residency.
- II. At the time of registration, the selected candidates must submit the Grama Niladari Certificate (DS 4 Certificate) to prove the permanent residency status.
- III. The submission of Grama Niladari Certificate (DS 4 Certificate) is a compulsory requirement for enrolment without which no selected candidates shall be enrolled in the programme.

MEDIUM OF THE SELECTION TEST

- The medium of study selected by the candidates to sit for the Selection Test shall be the medium of study to continue with studies in the programme.
- Please note that under no circumstances a candidate be permitted to change the **medium and centre** selected by him/her after submitting the application.

BACHELOR OF LAWS HONOURS DEGREE PROGRAMME

THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

The medium of instruction of the LLB Honours Degree Programme will be **Sinhala, Tamil and English**. However, medium of instructions in English will be incrementally increased level wise.

DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme will be of four years duration. **A student is required to complete the LLB Degree Program within a maximum of twelve (12) academic years from the date of her/his first registration.**

DETAILS OF THE CURRICULUM OF THE LLB HONOURS DEGREE PROGRAMME

The Degree of Bachelor of Laws Honours has a minimum of Hundred and twenty-three (123) course credits as specified below. Art of Advocacy is a non-GPA and continuing education (CE) course, and thus, it does not count for the GPA calculation. Therefore, the total credits for the GPA calculation in all levels is 120.

| Level | Credits | Courses | | | |
|---------|---|-------------|---|----------------|--|
| | | Course Code | Course Title | Course Credits | Compulsory (C) /Elective(E) /Continuing Education (CE) |
| Level 3 | Compulsory 30 course credits | LLU3601 | Legal System and Legal History of Sri Lanka | 6 | C |
| | | LLU3602 | Legal Method and Legal Writing | 6 | C |
| | | LLU3303 | Roman Law | 3 | C |
| | | LLU3604 | Constitutional Law I | 6 | C |
| | | LLU3505 | Equity and Trust Law | 5 | C |
| | | LLU3406 | Interpretation of Statutes and Documents | 4 | C |
| Level 4 | Compulsory 30 course credits and Non-GPA (*) course 3 credits | LLU4607 | Laws of Contract | 6 | C |
| | | LLU4608 | Criminal Law | 6 | C |
| | | LLU4609 | Family Law | 6 | C |
| | | LLU4610 | Constitutional Law II | 6 | C |
| | | LLU4611 | Land Law | 6 | C |
| | | LLU4312 | Art of Advocacy* | 3 | CE |
| Level 5 | Compulsory 27 Course credits and | LLU5613 | Public International Law | 6 | C |

| | | | | | |
|---------|--|------------------------------|--|---|--|
| | optional 12 course credits (Students must select one optional course ; 3 credits) | LLU5514 | Environmental Law | 5 | C |
| | | LLU5615 | Research Methodology | 6 | C |
| | | LLU5516 | Administrative Law | 5 | C |
| | | LLU5517 | Human Rights Law | 5 | C |
| | | LLU5318 | International Humanitarian Law | 3 | Elective courses: (Students must select one course) |
| | LLU5319 | International Law of the Sea | 3 | | |
| | LLU5320 | Refugee Law | 3 | | |
| | | LLU5321 | Health Law | 3 | |
| Level 6 | Compulsory 27 Course credits | LLU6622 | Jurisprudence | 6 | C |
| | | LLU6523 | Law of Delict | 5 | C |
| | optional 12 course credits (Students must select one optional course ; 3 credits) | LLU6524 | Commercial Law | 5 | C |
| | | LLU6525 | Labour Law | 5 | C |
| | | LLU6626 | Dissertation | 6 | C |
| | | LLU6327 | Information Communication Technology Law | 3 | Elective courses: (Students must select one course) |
| | | LLU6328 | Intellectual Property Law | 3 | |
| | | LLU6329 | International Investment Law | 3 | |
| | | LLU6330 | International Trade Law | 3 | |

REQUIREMENT OF FOLLOWING THE ENGLISH FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS HONOURS PROGRAMME

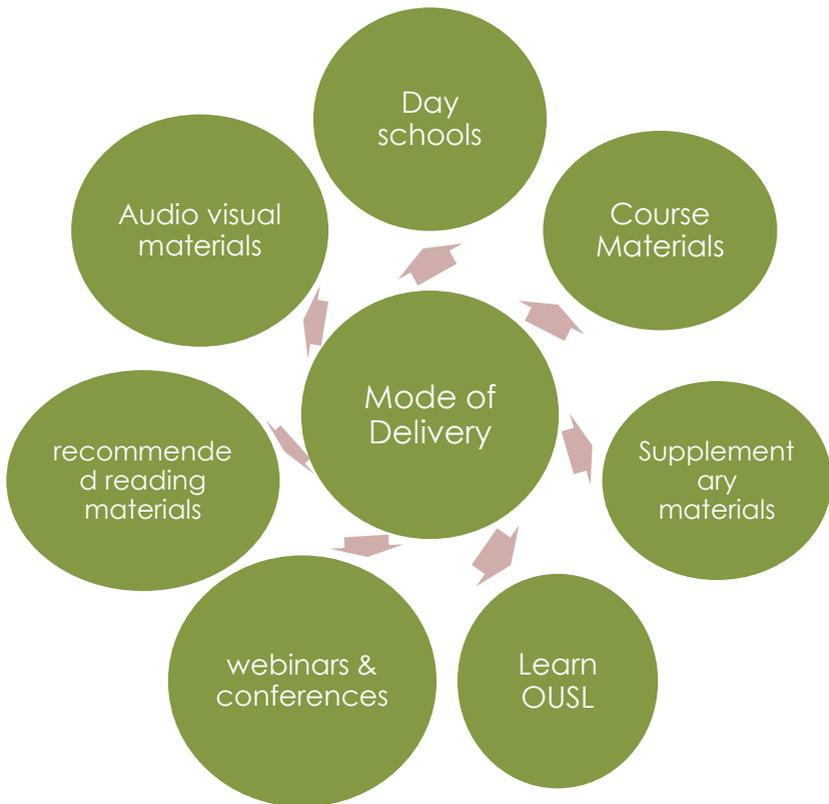
The Department of Language Studies of the Faculty of HSS conducts a special programme in English for law students. This programme has been designed to develop academic and professional skills in English that are necessary for law students. All selected students of the LLB Degree Programme will be graded according to their performance of the English grading test. Those who perform better at this test or who have achieved required level of proficiency in English at IELTS and TOEFEL are exempted from the English Programme (However, those qualifications should have been obtained not more than 3 years prior to the date of request for exemption from English Programme) while others are required to register for the English Programme as a continuing education course. Those who do not complete the English Language Programme will not be awarded the degree even if they have completed all courses of LLB Degree Programme.

Courses of Certificate in English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies)

| Continuous Education Courses in in English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) | Course code | Course title | Course credits |
|--|-------------|---|----------------|
| | LTE3602 | English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part I | 6 |
| | LTE3603 | English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part II | 6 |

MODE OF DELIVERY

The programme is delivered through the following methods.



COMMENCEMENT OF STUDY PROGRAMME

The study programme will be commenced in the month of June 2024.

THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM

For the completion of online application Form please refer the weblink www.ou.ac.lk

REGIONAL CENTERS

| Regional Center | Center Code | Contact person | Contact details |
|------------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| Colombo | WP10 | Assistant Director Ms. U.H.B.V.P. Angamma Assistant Director Ms. W.K.R. Sadeesha | adcol@ou.ac.lk wksad@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0112-853930 Fax -0112-853930 OURC, Nawala, Nugegoda |
| Kandy | CP20 | Assistant Director Mr. Anushka Bandara | adkan@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0812-494083 Fax : 0812-494498 OURC, Polgolla, Kandy. |
| Matara | SP30 | Assistant Director Mr.G. Dinesh | admat@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0412-222943 0412-229782 Fax : 0412-222943 OURC, Nupe, Matara. |
| Anuradhapura | NC50 | Assistant Director Ms. L.M.S.S. Bandara | adanu@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0252-222871 Fax : 0252-225674 OURC, Jayanthi Mawatha, (Depot Area), Anuradhapura. |
| Batticaloa | EP60 | Assistant Director Mr. Kamalanathan | robat@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0652-222264 Fax : 0652-224222 OURC, No.23, New Road, Batticaloa. |
| Jaffna | NP40 | Assistant Director Mr. K. Kanthavel | adjaf@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0212-223374 Fax : 0212-223374 |

| | | | |
|------------|------|---|---|
| | | | OURC, Browns Road, No. 303, Kokuvil, Jaffna. |
| Badulla | UP80 | Assistant Director Mrs.H.N.K. Galahitiyawa | adbad@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0553-012151 0552-228842 Fax : 0552-228842 OURC, No.18/1, Bandaranayake Mawatha Badulla. |
| Kurunegala | NW70 | Assistant Director Mr.H.A.K.J.M. Hettiarachchi | adkur@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0372-223473 Fax : 0372-230555 OURC, Negombo Road, Malkaduwawa, Kurunegala |
| Ratnapura | SG90 | Assistant Director Dr.(Ms) U.W.N.P.Wanigasekara | adrat@ou.ac.lk Tel. 0452-228660 Fax : 0452-228660 OURC, Hidellana, Ratnapura. |

Instructions for ONLINE Application

Applications for Bachelor of Laws Honours Degree Programme must be submitted ONLINE

First you need to create an online login account. Then only, you can proceed to submit your application online.

1. In the internet browser type : www.ou.ac.lk/
2. In the OUSL homepage, click on the 'Apply Online' as shown below to obtain an online account login.
3. Register ONCE by creating a new account. To do this, click on 'create new account' as per the instructions.

Note : Your need to provide information considered as MANDATORY including an email address and a mobile number, both of which may be your own or of a family member/friend. The university may use them to communicate with you, to acknowledge receipt of your application and to provide additional information, when necessary.

4. Once the account has been created you can proceed to submit your application online. For this you need to go to “online Application” and proceed by entering your username and password and then fill the online application form. Once all sections are filled, submit the form.
5. Fill the form as indicated below ;

Programme :

- If you are a ‘General Applicant’ select “Bachelor of Laws Honours (LW)” from the drop-down menu.
- If you are an ‘Attorney-at-Law’ select “Bachelor of Laws Honours (LX)” from the drop-down menu. **(Please note that, this option is only available for lawyers.)**

Centre: Select your relevant Centre from the drop-down menu.

Medium: Select and complete the “Medium” in which you want to do the Selection Test.

Personal Data: (This is self-explanatory and therefore fill relevant fields with your personal information)

E-mail address and mobile phone number: Since the only mode of contacting you is only through email and mobile phone, providing your email address and mobile phone number is mandatory. (Those who do not have an email address, please create one before filling this application)

G.C.E. O/L and A/L : Give relevant details

6. Select the payment method and proceed further by following the instructions given. The Application Fee for LLB Honours Degree Programme is Rs. 5000/-. You can pay this amount by Credit/Debit card with online payment facility or eZ cash. Applicants can also make the respective payment by cash to any Regional Centre or Study Centre of the OUSL before the application closing date.
7. Admissions will be processed after closing the application. Selection Test admissions are available to download **8th December 2023 to 17th December 2023**. IT Help Desk will send a link to download via both SMS and emails to all applicants who have payment done.

Check whether your name, NIC No. and other details are accurately listed in the admission card.

Whom to contact if your online admission card could not be generated or had issues with making the payment online.

If the admission card could not be generated or your payment could not be processed, contact the relevant AD/Regional centre immediately (before attending the selection test) by using the contact details provided above.

Note: You cannot sit the selection test without a valid admission card, with your details accurately listed. Therefore, it is your responsibility to check all information in advance, and rectify, if necessary, to avoid disappointments.

FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO APPLY ONLINE

Those who need assistance with the online application process can call over at any one of the Regional Centre with the following information: Full name of applicant with address, National Identity Card number, E-mail address, Mobile Phone number, A/L results sheet. The contact details of the OUSL Regional Centres are given above.