



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL STUDIES

# PROSPECTUS

## 2024/2025



**BACHELOR OF LAWS HONOURS DEGREE**



**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
BACHELOR OF LAWS (HONOURS) DEGREE  
2024/2025**

**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 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 LLB and LLM Degrees.

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

## **COURSES AND THE PROGRAMMES OF STUDY**

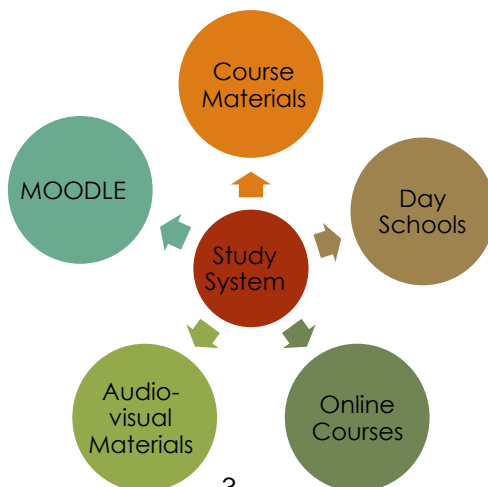
Since the Open University is different from other conventional universities, you will be required to familiarize yourself with the specific vocabulary used by the University in its day-to-day activities. For example, a COURSE is the basic unit of study, normally completed over a period of an academic 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 for 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 law 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 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:

- i. 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
- ii. 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,
- iii. Have thirty (30) course credits at SLQF level 2 or above from any Programme offered by the Open University of Sri Lanka; or
- iv. Have an equivalent or higher qualification acceptable to the Senate.

- v. **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. However, they are supposed to apply following the normal application process.

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

**Link: [http://documents.gov.lk/files/egz/2023/5/2332-02\\_E.pdf](http://documents.gov.lk/files/egz/2023/5/2332-02_E.pdf)**

### **THE SELECTION TEST**

- The Selection Test for the selection of students has been scheduled to be held on 09<sup>th</sup> February 2025.
- Candidates must sit the Selection Test at the specific 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 **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 are given below:

<b>Centre</b>	<b>Allocated Seats</b>
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 selection 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.

## **MEDIUM OF THE SELECTION TEST AND STUDY**

- 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.
- Students can sit for the selection test in any medium of their preference at the regional centre which is relevant to their permanent residency.
- However, according to the University policy, day schools (face-to-face teaching sessions/lectures) are conducted in each centre in a particular medium only if a sufficient number of students have registered in the centre to follow the course in that medium.
- In a case where day schools are not conducted in a centre in the preferred medium of the student, he / she can attend day schools at a Regional Centre that conducts day schools in the preferred medium.

Note: Attending day schools in another centre does not change the registered centre of the student. All the other academic activities including sitting for examinations should be done at the registered Regional Centre.

## HOW TO SELECT YOUR REGIONAL CENTRE

- I. Candidates must select the Regional Centre located in the province relevant to her / his permanent residency.
- II. Those who passed the Selection Test should register for the LLB (Honours) Degree programme. At the time of registration, the selected candidates must submit the Grama Niladari Certificate (DS 4 Certificate) to prove the permanent residency status.
  - 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.

## 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, instruction in English will be incrementally increased level wise.

### DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme will be for four years duration. Students have the flexibility to choose less number of courses per year

according to the time they have for their studies. In such event, those students may take longer than 4 years to complete the programme. **However, 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 optional 12 course credits  (Students must select one optional course ; 3 credits)	LLU5613	Public International Law	6	C
		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	

		LLU5319	International Law of the Sea	3	Elective courses: (Students must select <b>one course</b> )
		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	LLU6524	Commercial Law	5	C
		LLU6525	Labour Law	5	C
	(Students must select one optional course ; 3 credits)	LLU6626	Dissertation	6	C
		LLU6327	Information Communication Technology Law	3	Elective courses: (Students must select <b>one course</b> )
		LLU6328	Intellectual Property Law	3	
		LLU6329	International Investment Law	3	
LLU6330		International Trade Law	3		

## REQUIREMENT OF FOLLOWING THE ENGLISH PROGRAMME 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 Language paper of the Admission 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	Course code	Course title	Course credits
	LEE3604	English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part I	6

Purposes (Legal Studies)	LEE3605	English for Academic Purposes (Legal Studies) Part II	6
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## COMMENCEMENT OF STUDY PROGRAMME

The study programme will be commenced in the month of July 2025.

## THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM

For the completion of online application Form please refer the weblink [www.ou.ac.lk](http://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	robot@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.W.M. Senevirathne	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/](http://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. (Lawyers only)

**Residential District:** Select your residential district which you can produce DS4 Certificate to prove your permanent residency.

**Center:** The respective regional center will be automatically appeared based on your residential district.

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

**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 are 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. 6000/-. 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 of the OUSL before the application closing date.
7. Admissions will be processed after closing the application. Selection Test admissions are available to download 01 January 2025 to 09 February 2025. IT Help Desk will send a link to download the admission via both SMS and emails to all applicants who have completed the payment.

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.