



General Sir John Kotelawala  
Defence University

**FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES**



General Sir John Kotelawala  
Defence University

P.O. Box 32, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka | [www.kdu.ac.lk](http://www.kdu.ac.lk)



# **STUDENT'S HANDBOOK**

**MASTER OF LAWS IN PUBLIC LAW**

**FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

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**MASTER OF LAWS IN PUBLIC LAW**



**General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University**







## Key Appointments

a. Chancellor

**General Gerard Hector de Silva (Retired) RWP VSV USP ndc**

b. Vice Chancellor

**Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc**

**MPhil (Ind) PGDM**

c. Deputy Vice Chancellor (Defence & Administration)

**Brigadier W Chandrasiri RSP USP psc**

d. Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic)

**Prof. KAS Dhammika**

PhD (Northern University of Malaysia), M.Com (Kelaniya), PGD in Business Statistics (USJP),  
B.B.Mgt.(HR) (Kelaniya)

e. Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies

**Brigadier RGU Rajapakshe RSP psc**

BSc (DS) KDA, MSc (DS) Kelaniya, MASSS (NDU) Washington DC

f. Dean, Faculty of Law

**Mr WS Wijesinghe**

Master of Laws (Medical Law), Bachelor of Laws, Postgraduate Diploma in International  
Relations

g. Registrar

**Mr VD Kithsiri**

Executive Master of Business Administration (USJP), BSc (USJP), Post Graduate Diploma in  
Management (USJP)

“The power of the lawyer  
is in the uncertainty of the law.”





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# Master of Laws in Public Law

## Introduction

The specialized LLM Programme intends to inculcate the candidates with an advanced knowledge in the area of Public Law, thus filling the dearth of legal practitioners with such expert knowledge and enhancing the career development and prospects of the students. The students upon the successful completion of this qualification will be able to gain employment as academics, researchers, legal officers, policy officers, government officials and engage in legal practice in the area of Public Law.

The teaching staff of the programme brings together the best legal minds in Sri Lanka which includes leading academics, practitioners and industry professionals with special expertise, as well as visiting international scholars. Students would benefit from the rich educational environment while intermingling with professionals from many backgrounds and industries, and building the specialized expertise and experience needed to gain a professional cutting edge.

## Objectives

The breadth of the programme gives students an opportunity to harness their legal knowledge and skills and enhance career prospects for the purpose of attaining their personal and professional goals. Further,

- a. To offer a comprehensive study programme for those who intend to specialize in Public Law by gaining more advanced knowledge and critical thinking abilities.
- b. To develop the competencies on critical analysis of the theory and practices of Public Law in Sri Lanka particularly the relationship between the citizens and the State.

- c. To uplift the career standards and research competencies of the professionals and academics in the field of Public Law.
- d. To provide the foundation for progression to doctoral level study in Public Law.
- e. To enhance attitudes, values, ethics and communication skills to facilitate career progression.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of the Master of Laws in Public Law, a student will be able to:

- a. Demonstrate critical awareness of current issues in Public Law and be able to apply techniques relevant to profession/ area of specialization.
- b. Deal with complex issues systematically and creatively and make sound judgments and communicate decisions clearly to specialist and non-specialist groups.
- c. Should demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and be able to plan and implement tasks at professional manner.

## Eligibility Criteria

A person may be eligible for admission to the Degree Programme provided he/she meets the following criteria;

- i. A Legal Officer in the Armed Forces, the Police or the Public/Private sector, or an independent practitioner; and
- ii. Possesses any of the following qualifications;
  - a. A Degree in Law with a 1st class/ 2nd class upper division; or



- b. A Degree in Law with a 2nd class lower division and with 2 years professional experience, or
- c. A Degree in Law without a class and with 3 years professional experience, or
- d. An Attorney at Law with a minimum of 5 years professional experience.

### Programme Structure

The Degree Programme shall be considered as full-time study programme with a research component of 15 credits and 12 modules of 45 credits (Total - 60) offered in 04 semesters. The duration of the Degree Programme shall be two (02) academic years (24 months). Lectures will be held on weekends according to the schedule provided by the Faculty of Law other than public holidays from 0830 hrs to 1730 hrs. The medium of instruction and evaluation of the Degree Programme is English.



Lecturer Room

### Continuous Assessments

Instructions for Submission of Continuous Assessments

- a. FGS expects the highest professional, academic and scholarly standards in student assignments. Therefore, haphazard, incomplete or hurried assignments will not qualify for marking.
- b. Marks obtained for assignments will be added to the examination marks; FGS expects the students to work hard, consider these assignments seriously and concentrate on them. Assignments are potentially powerful learning resources for communication.
- c. Assignments call for a significant degree of knowledge, analysis and critique. Therefore, the students must prepare in advance for their assignments thoroughly and well. Assignments should not be completed in a rush.
- d. Students must try out different drafts and work hard on them.
- e. There are no extensions on assignment submission dates. Students are responsible for submitting their assignments on due date.



Computer Lab



## Master of Laws in Public Law

### Do's

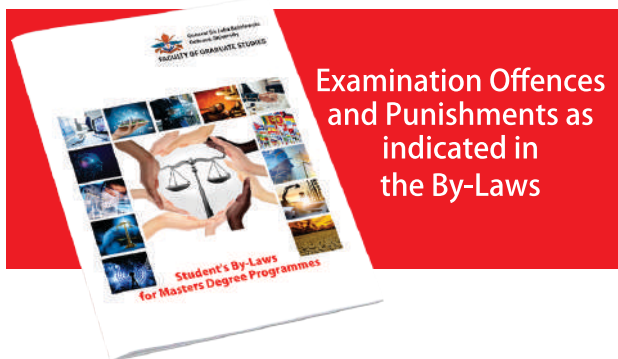


- a. Always enclose every single assignment in a separate folder.
- b. Fill in the following details on the first page of the folder.
  - ▶ Registration Number
  - ▶ Name
  - ▶ Course Code and Title
  - ▶ Semester
  - ▶ Name of the Resource Person
- c. Always submit your assignment to the Staff at the Faculty of Graduate Studies.
- d. Always submit your assignment on or before the last date of submission.
- e. You may have your assignment handed over by someone else on your behalf.

### Don'ts



- a. Never hand over any assignment to unauthorized staff members at KDU personally known or unknown to you.
- b. Never mail assignments, unless specified.
- c. Never use one folder for more than one assignment.



### Specifications for Assignments

- a. Students must always use only A4 size paper to compliance their assignments.
- b. Leave a 1" Margin on all four sides.
- c. Students must type or word process their assignment answers. If a student is unable to do so, he / she must write the answer very neatly and legibly. Assignments with illegible handwriting will not be marked.
- d. We recommend the 11/2" line spacing formats.
- e. Students must be creative in approaching and answering questions.
- f. If a student uses another author's idea, he / she must cite that author / publication with references.





## Specimen of Assignment Cover Page

# **JURISPRUDENCE**

PL 11024

TOPIC OF THE ASSIGNMENT

**NAME OF THE STUDENT**

REGISTRATION NO: KDU/.....  
LECTURER: .....

NAME OF THE DEGREE

PROGRAMME NO.... – YEAR .... – SEMESTER ....

# Master of Laws in Public Law

## Declaration Form

1. I declare that this assignment is my own work.
2. I have acknowledged ideas of other authors (if any) following the standard acknowledgement practice.
3. I am aware of the consequences of cheating and malpractice.
4. I am willing to answer any query raised by any Academic Staff Member in relation to this report at any time during the course.
5. I understand that the decision relating to mark on this report is purely based on my performance and that it is first and final.

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

## Specimen Letter for handing over Assignments

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

(Your Ref) \_\_\_\_\_

DEAN  
FGS  
KDU

**SUBMISSION OF** \_\_\_\_\_ *(Subject Name)*

1. Assignment of \_\_\_\_\_ (Module) or  
*(Research)* is forwarded herewith for *(making / approval)* please.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name in upper case)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Rank)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Registration No)



## Course Syllabus

The programme contains 12 compulsory subject modules and a dissertation on guided research. The medium of instruction and evaluation of the Degree Programme shall be English. Each subject module shall carry a maximum of 100 marks. Performance of the candidate in each module shall be evaluated by means of a Continuous Assessment and an End Semester Examination. Continuous Assessment shall be a library-based research containing 4000 words, conducted by the Candidate. Similarity level of the Continuous Assessment shall be below 20%. The Candidate shall be required to fulfil both the Continuous Assessment and the End Semester Examination in order to complete each subject module. A candidate is also required to produce a dissertation which shall be a well-researched document of high academic standard of 25000 words. A Candidate shall defend both his research proposal and the Dissertation in front of an Evaluation Panel.

## Master of Laws in Public Law Programme – Summary of the Course Delivery Plan

Code	Module	Contact Hours	Notional Hours	No. of Credits
LLM/C 11014	Legal Research Methodology	60	200	4
PL 11024	Jurisprudence	60	200	4
PL 11034	Constitutional Law	60	200	4
PL 11043	Interpretation of Statutes and Documents	45	150	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>225</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>15</b>
PL 12054	Administrative Law	60	200	4
PL 12064	Criminal Law	60	200	4
PL 12074	Environmental Law	60	200	4
PL 12083	Information Technology Law	45	150	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>225</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>15</b>
PL 21014	Human Rights Law	60	200	4
PL 21024	Military Law	60	200	4
PL 21034	Security Law	60	200	4
PL 21043	Domestic Criminal Justice	45	150	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>225</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>15</b>
LLM/C 22015	Dissertation		750	15
<b>Total Credits</b>			<b>750</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>675</b>	<b>3000</b>	<b>60</b>



# Master of Laws in Public Law

## Lecturer Panel

### Mr WS Wijesinghe

Master of Laws (Medical Law), Bachelor of Laws,  
Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations,  
Attorney at Law of Supreme Court  
Senior Lecturer  
Dean, Faculty of Law - KDU

### Ms BKM Jayasekera

LLM (India), LLB (Hons) (Colombo), Attorney at Law  
Senior Lecturer  
Faculty of Law - KDU

### Ms MRIK Munasinghe

Master of Human Rights (Colombo), LLM in International  
Trade Law (Wales, UK), PG Dip in Human Rights  
(Colombo), Attorney at Law  
Senior Lecturer  
Faculty of Law - KDU

### Ms RBWMH Rathnamalala

LLM in Human Rights Law (Minnesota, USA), LLM  
(Colombo), LLB (Hons) (Colombo), Attorney at Law  
Senior Lecturer  
Faculty of Law - KDU

### Ms AA Edirisinghe

MPhil (Colombo), LLM (West London), LLB (Hons)  
(Colombo), Attorney-at-Law  
Senior Lecturer  
Faculty of Law – KDU

### Ms LM De Silva

MPhil (Colombo), LLB (Hons) (Colombo), Attorney at Law  
Senior Lecturer  
Faculty of Law - KDU

### Maj ShiranMendis

LLM (KDU), LLB, Attorney at Law  
Head of the Department (Civil Law)  
Faculty of Law - KDU

### Dr CS Talagala

PhD (Griffith), LLB (Hons)(Colombo), ADMA (UK),PG Dip in  
IPL (Hons), LLM (Hons), Attorney at Law  
Member, Australian Center for Intellectual Property in  
Agriculture

### Dr Joe Silva

PhD (SGU), LLM (Colombo), LLB (Sri Lanka)  
Former Principal, Sri Lanka Law College,  
Former Vice President, Commonwealth Legal Education  
Association (CLEA),  
Former Commonwealth Moot Coordinator

### Dr Dantha Rodrigo PC

PhD (Queensland), LLM (Colombo), BA (Sri  
Jayawardenapura), LLB (Colombo)  
Former Principal, Sri Lanka Law College

### Prof Suri Rathnapala

PhD (QLD), LLM (Macquarie), LLB (Colombo)  
Emeritus Professor TC Beirne School of Law

### Mohan Peiris PC

Solicitor, England and Wales  
Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United  
Nations,  
Former Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka,  
Former Attorney General, Sri Lanka

### Mr HA Menaka Harankaha

MPhil, LLB (Hons) (Colombo)  
Head, Department, Department of Commercial Law,  
Faculty of Law, University of Colombo.

### Ms Deepthika Kulasena

MPhil (Colombo), LLB (Colombo)  
Additional Legal Draftsman  
Legal Draftsman's Department

### Priyasad Dep PC

BA (Colombo)  
Former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Former  
Solicitor General, Attorney General's Department

### Dr Jayantha de Almeida Guneratne

PhD (Hawaii), MPhil (Colombo), MA (Kelaniya), BA  
(Kelaniya), LLB (Colombo)  
Acting President, Court of Appeal, Fiji

### Dr Sunil Cooray PC

PhD (Colombo)



**Dr Kokila Konasinghe**

PhD (Keele), LL.M (Rotterdam), LL.B (Colombo) (Hons)  
Senior Lecturer, Department of Public and International  
Law, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

**Dr Jagath Gunawardana**

PhD (Sri Jayawardenapura), LL.B (Colombo)  
Attorney at Law

**Dr Sunil Abeyrathne**

PhD (Colombo), MBA (India), LL.M (Queen Mary)  
Attorney at Law

**Ms Aparajitha Ariyadasa**

LL.M (Colombo), BSc, Attorney at Law  
Senior Partner at ATD Legal Associates  
Lecturer, Cardiff Metropolitan University

**Mr Jayantha Fernando**

LL.M (London), Attorney at Law

**Manohara de Silva PC**

Member of Law Commission of Sri Lanka

**Dr Nihal Jayawickrama**

LL.B (Colombo)  
Former Attorney General, Sri Lanka  
Former Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Justice

**Shavendra Fernando PC**

LL.M (Colombo), LL.M (London), Chevening Fellowship  
(Birmingham)  
Former Judge Advocate General, Sri Lanka Navy  
Former Deputy Solicitor General, Attorney General's  
Department  
Judge, Court of Appeal, Fiji

**Cmde (Dr) ID Piyasiri**

Director (HL & HRL), Sri Lanka Navy

**Maj DP Aluthge**

LL.M (Colombo), LL.B (Colombo)  
Sri Lanka Army

**Justice Yasantha Kodagoda**

LL.M (London)  
Judge, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka

**Prof Jeeva Niriella**

MPhil (Colombo), LL.B (Hons) (Colombo)  
Attorney at Law  
Dean, Faculty of Criminal Justice, General Sir John  
Kotelawala Defence University,  
Professor, Department of Public and International Law,  
Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

**Dr Ravi Widyalandara**

PhD (Russia), MPhil (USJP), LL.M (Colombo), LL.B (OUSL)  
Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police (Retd)

**Mr Raja Gooneratne**

LL.M (Monash)  
Senior Lecturer, Head, Department of Legal Studies, Open  
University of Sri Lanka

**Note: Lecturer panel subject to change as per the University requirements.**

“A lawyer without books would  
be like a workman without tools.”



## Reference Reading

Module	Recommended Readings
Legal Research Methodology	<p>Singh R, Legal Research Methodology (2nd edn, 2016).</p> <p>Van Hoecke M, Methodologies off Legal Research (1st edn, Hart Publishing 2013).</p> <p>Van Bon K, Empirical Legal Research (Edward Elgar Publishing 2020).</p> <p>Nirmal B.C, Singhe R.K and Nirmal A, Legal Research Methodology (Sathyam Law International 2019).</p>
Jurisprudence	<p>Hart H.L.A. and Green L, The Concept of Law (4th edn, Oxford University Press 2015).</p> <p>Penner J and Melissaris E, Mccoubrey &amp; White's Textbook on Jurisprudence (12th edn, Oxford University Press 2012).</p> <p>Wacks R, Understanding Jurisprudence (6th edn, Oxford University Press 2020).</p>
Constitutional Law	<p>Jennings I, Law and The Constitution (5th edn, Hodder &amp; Stoughton Ltd 1979).</p> <p>Cooray J.A.L, Constitutional and Administrative Law of Sri Lanka (Sumathi Publishers 1995).</p> <p>Wickramasinghe J, Fundamental Rights in Sri Lanka. (2nd edn, Stamford Lake Publication, 2012).</p>
Interpretation of Statutes & Documents	<p>Bennion F.A.R. and others, Bennion on Statutory Interpretation (7th edn, LexisNexis Butterworths 2019).</p> <p>Cross R, Bell J and Engle G, Statutory Interpretation (Butterworths 1995).</p> <p>Wilson R, Galpin B and Maxwell P.B, Maxwell on The Interpretation of Statutes (12th edn, Sweet &amp; Maxwell 1969).</p>
Administrative Law	<p>Wade H.W.R and Forsyth C, Administrative Law (11th edn, Oxford University Press 2014).</p>



## Reference Reading

Module	Recommended Readings
Administrative Law	<p>De Smith, Stanley A. and Evans J.M. De Smith's Judicial Review of Administrative Action, (4th Edition. London: Stevens and Sons Ltd., 1980. Print).</p> <p>Johns B.L and Thompson K, Garner's Administrative Law (8th edn, Butterworth 2021).</p> <p>Sunil C, Principles of Administrative Law in Sri Lanka (Sunil FA Cooray 1998).</p>
Criminal Law	<p>Ormerod DCBE, QC (Hon) and Laird K, Smith, Hogan, and Ormerod's Criminal Law (Sixteenth Edition Oxford University Press 2021).</p> <p>Chan W.C and others, Criminal Law in Sri Lanka (1st edn, Lexis Nexis 2019).</p> <p>Peiris G.L, General Principles of Criminal Liability in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) (Lake House Investments 1980).</p>
Environmental Law	<p>Sands P and Peel J, Principles of International Environmental Law (4th edn, Cambridge University Press 2018).</p> <p>Wolf and White, Principles of Environmental Law (3rd edn, Cavendish Pub Ltd. 2002).</p> <p>Godden L, Peel J and McDonald J, Environmental Law (2nd edn, Oxford University Press 2018).</p> <p>Hughes D, Jewell T, Lowther J, Parpworth N, and de Prez P, Environmental Law (4th edn, Oxford University Press 2002).</p>
Information Technology Law	<p>Lloyd I.F, Information Technology Law (9th edn, Oxford University Press 2020).</p> <p>Bainbridge D, Introduction to Information Technology Law (6th edn, Trans-Atlantic Pub 2007).</p> <p>Dudley A, Braman J and Vincenti G, Investigating Cyber Law and Cyber Ethics (Information Science Reference 2012).</p>
Human Rights Law	<p>Sharvananda S, Fundamental Rights in Sri Lanka (S Sharvananda 1993).</p> <p>Wickramaratne J, Fundamental Rights in Sri Lanka (2nd edition, Stamford Lake Publication, 2012).</p> <p>Gunasekara R.K.W, Fundamental Rights and the Constitution, A Case Book.</p>



## Reference Reading

Module	Recommended Readings
Military Law	<p>Shewale S.P, Military Law (Sumit Enterprises 2013).</p> <p>Bar Association of Sri Lanka, Handbook on Military Law.</p> <p>Weerasinghe U, 'Military Justice System and Right to Appeal: A Comparative Study of Laws in Sri Lanka UK USA And India' (Masters, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University 2015).</p>
Security Law	<p>Dycus S. And others, National Security Law (6th edn, Wolters Kluwer 2016).</p> <p>Pastor J.F., Security Law and Methods (1st edn, Butterworth-Heinemann 2007).</p> <p>Wickramaratne J, Fundamental Rights in Sri Lanka (2nd edn, Stanford Lake Publishers 2012).</p>
Domestic Criminal Justice	<p>Marsh I, Cochrane J and Melville G, Criminal Justice: An Introduction to Philosophies, Theories and Practice (1st edn, Routledge 2004).</p> <p>Chan W.C. and others, Criminal Law in Sri Lanka (1st edn, Lexis Nexis 2019).</p> <p>Peiris G.L., General Principles of Criminal Liability in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) (Lake House Investments 1980).</p>



## Master of Laws in Public Law

### Course Fee Structure

Item	Amount (Full Time / Part Time)	
	Military/Police/MOD	Civil
Tuition Fee	Rs. 350,000.00	Rs. 350,000.00
Registration Fee - 3 Years (Initial Registration)	Rs. 4,000.00	Rs. 5,000.00
Library Fees	Rs. 2,000.00	Rs. 2,000.00
Refundable Library Deposit	Rs. 10,000.00	Rs. 10,000.00
Refundable Mess Deposit	Rs. 2,000.00	Rs. 2,000.00
Study Pack	Rs. 2,500.00	Rs. 2,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 370,500.00</b>	<b>Rs. 371,500.00</b>

### Registration Renewal Fee

- 1st Year after initial registration - Rs. 12,500/=
- 2nd Year after initial registration period - Rs. 25,000/=
- Continuation to another additional year under any circumstances - Rs. 100,000/=

### Repeat Examination Fee

- For entire semester - Rs. 2,500/=
- For one subject - Rs. 1,000/=
- Repeat Thesis Defence - Rs. 11,500/=
- Viva-Voce Fee - Rs. 11,500/=

- Selected candidates may opt to pay programme fee in two equal instalments, first of which should be paid at the time of registration (for the 1st academic year), together with all other cost components.
- 2nd instalment – Before commencement 1st semester of the 2nd academic year.
- **Any candidate who has not settled the course fees by the beginning of the 1st semester of the 2nd academic year after the initial registration will not be allowed to proceed further.**

#### Note:

1. FGS will be compelled to not permit the students who are unable to pay the course fee to sit for semester examinations.
2. Course fee and other payments mentioned in above subject to change as per the University Board of Management decisions.



### How to Apply

Legal officers of the Tri-services and Police should apply through their Service Commanders and the Inspector General of Police, respectively; and public and private sector personnel through their heads of departments. The application should be addressed to the Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies. All applicants are required to pass an aptitude test conducted by KDU.

### Contact Persons:

Programme Coordinator (Academic)

#### **Ms NKK Mudalige**

LLM (KDU), Masters in Labour Relations and Human  
Resource Management (Colombo), LLB (Hons)  
(Colombo)

Tel : 0716500313

Email : namudi.mudalige@kdu.ac.lk

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Programme Coordinator (Admin)

#### **Lieutenant Commander (ND) JPCJ De Silva psc**

MSc (D&SS)

Tel : 0710219325

Email : soiifgs@kdu.ac.lk



## Annex A

## E- Library Policy

1. Only visit approved Internet sites.
2. Never give out your personal information.
3. Inform the authority if you see something uncomfortable or inappropriate.
4. Never download irrelevant anything without permission.
5. Leave your workspace as you found it.
6. Print only if you have permission.
7. Never change any settings without permission.
8. Touch the mouse and keyboard gently.
9. Do not eat or drink near devices.

