

CURRICULUM

MASTER OF LAWS (LLM)

GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY

(A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITIES)

MASTER OF LAWS

1. The KDU Master of Laws offers an outstanding postgraduate degree programme for law graduates and attorneys. It covers the subject areas of legal specialization which focus on contemporary legal issues in combination with the latest legal professional expertise and academic excellence.
2. The breadth of the programme gives students an opportunity to harness their legal knowledge and skills, and enhance the career prospects for the purpose of attaining their personal and professional goals. A limited number of students will be admitted so as to facilitate interaction with and contribution from all participants.
3. The program's teaching staff 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 will benefit from a rich educational environment while intermingling with professionals from many backgrounds and industries and building the specialized expertise and experience needed to gain a cutting professional edge.

OBJECTIVES

4. Provide you with an advanced knowledge and understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of different fields of Law and the skills required in practice.
5. Enhance your perceptions on the international dimensions of the different fields of Law.
6. Develop your capacity to understand, critically assess and provide practical solutions to the type of problems commonly encountered in the practice of Law.
7. Inculcate you with knowledge, understanding and skills at postgraduate level deemed appropriate to careers involving International Law or areas which it has relevance.
8. Provide the foundation for progression to PhD level study.

AIM

9. The programme provides a broad education in Law and in postgraduate legal research. It is designed for those with a personal or professional interest in Law and will be suitable for study by both law graduates and attorneys. The course would develop key postgraduate legal skills and knowledge with specialization in a specific area of Law.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

10. Candidates are required to earn 60 credits within two years to be qualified to obtain Master of Laws or to complete the academic requirements of the first year to obtain the Postgraduate Diploma in Law. The programme includes six (06) mandatory subject modules and

four (04) optional subject modules. A credit is defined as having 15 hours of interactive class room sessions or 30 to 45 hours of practicals and other time work including assignments. The medium of instructions will be English.

11. A take home assignment of 3000 words on a research question from all subject modules will be given.

12. The duration of the Master of Laws will be two years and classes will be conducted on every other weekends other than public holidays.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXPECTATIONS

13. The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes as follows:

- a. Knowledge and understanding of your chosen area of speciality, augmented by current practice, scholarship and research.
- b. Critical analysis of current issues and developments in your chosen area of speciality.
- c. Application of research findings to practical and hypothetical situations.
- d. Utilization of a range of techniques and research methodology.
- e. Undertaking critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis of novel and complex ideas.
- f. Making decisions in complex and challenging situations.
- g. Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and resolving complicated legal problems.

COURSE DELIVERY PLAN

14. The Programme contains 13 subject modules. Any candidate intending to terminate the programme with the Postgraduate Diploma Qualification, is required to complete minimum 30 credits with the year one compulsory subjects and one (01) subject out of two (02) Optional Subjects A and B modules. Those who progress for masters degree required to complete one each from Optional Subjects A and B modules additional to compulsory subjects.

Master of Laws Curriculum		
Course Code		GPA Credits
Year 1 Semester 1		
LLM 1015	Jurisprudence	04
LLM 1025	Advanced Legal Research writing and com Skills	03
LLM 1035	Research Methodology	04
LLM 1042	Information Technology	02NGPA
Year 1 Semester II		
LLM 2055	International Law	04
LLM 2065	Human Rights Law	04
Optional Subjects - A		
LLM 2075	Domestic Criminal Justice System	04
LLM 2085	International Criminal Justice System	04
Year II Semester I		
LLM 3095	Information & Communication Technology (Cyber) Law	04
LLM 3104	Soft Skill Development	02
LLM 3114	Constitutional Law and Administrative Law	04
Optional Subjects - B		
LLM 3113	Military Law	04
LLM 3123	Security Law	04
Year II Semester II		
LLM 4134	International Trade Law	04
LLM 4143	International Arbitration Law	04
LLMR	Dissertation	15
Total Credits		60

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

a. Continues Assessment (Assignments/ Presentation)	-	40%
b. Written Examination	-	60%
Total	-	100%

HOW TO APPLY

15. Legal officers of the Tri Services and Police should apply through the respective Service Commanders Inspector General of police and public and private sector personnel through the respective heads of the departments. The application should be addressed to the Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana.