

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO FACULTY OF LAW

UNDERGRADUATE HANDBOOK

Bachelor of Laws (Hons.) Degree Programme 2025/2026

All rights reserved.

DISCLAIMER

This handbook has been compiled with information received up to November 2025. Kindly note that this handbook is only for general information and is not for official purposes. Any information contained herein should be verified by reference to the relevant authority.

© Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

Printed by: University of Colombo Press

Issued Free of Charge to Undergraduates

Vision

The Faculty will promote the full development of individual personalities inculcating in them a commitment to justice and a sense of responsibility to the wider community

Mission

The Faculty of Law is committed to legal education and research which maintains standards of excellence and responds to social challenges and needs. It is committed to achieving this mission within a university community based on academic freedom, including respect for dissent and diversity and a culture of learning

Contents

Messa	age from	the Handbook Committee	vi
	_	the Dean	vii
Messa	age from	the Co-Academic Coordinators	viii
Part I:	Institutio	ns and Mandates	
1.1	Universi	ty of Colombo	03
	1.1.1	Motto	03
	1.1.2	Vision	03
	1.1.3	Mission	03
	1.1.4	Office-bearers of the University	04
	1.1.5	University Policies	04
1.2	Faculty	of Law	05
	1.2.1	History	05
	1.2.2	Research and Publications	06
	1.2.3	Staff	80
		Administrative Staff	80
		Academic Support Staff	80
		Non-Academic Staff - Dean's Office	80
1.3	Academ	ic Departments	09
	1.3.1	Department of Commercial Law	09
		a. Message from Head of Department	09
		b. Academic staff of the Department	10
		c. Non-academic staff of the Department	11
		d. Extension Courses	12
	1.3.2	Department of Private and Comparative Law	12
		a. Message from Head of Department	12
		b. Academic staff of the Department	14
		c. Non-academic staff of the Department	15
		d. Extension Courses	16
	1.3.3	Department of Public and International Law	16
		a. Message from Head of Department	16
		b. Academic staff of the Department	18
		c. Non-academic staff of the Department	19
		d. Extension Courses	19
1.4	Centres		20
	1.4.1	Centre for Environmental Law and Policy	20
	1.4.2	Center for the Study of Human Rights	21
1.5	Units		22
	1.5.1	Examination Unit	22
	1.5.2	Legal English Unit	23
	1.5.3	Legal Aid Unit	23
	1.5.4	Career Guidance Unit	24
	1.5.5	Legal Research Unit	25

1	.5.6	Mediation Unit			
1	.5.7	Post-Graduate Unit			
1		Internal Quality Assurance Unit			
Part II:		<u>•</u>			
2.1 L	LL.B (Hons.) Degree Programme				
	Course-modules				
	Course-modules				
	Law Library				
	Teaching Framework				
-	Medium of Instruction				
	Blended Learning				
		Learning Management System (LMS)			
2		Email			
_		Computer Facilities 4			
	Attendance and Leave of Absence				
	Medical Certificates				
		opeals/ Requests by students 4.			
	-	4:4			
	_	Role of English in Learning Law			
	Examinations and Evaluation				
		End-Semester Examination 4			
		Computation of Results 4			
		Student Information System 4			
		Examination Rules and Offences 4			
	Prizes and Awards				
		Granted by the Faculty of Law			
		Granted by the University4			
		Graduate Attributes4			
Part III:					
		Life as an Undergraduate5			
	Students' Union and Faculty Board Representation				
	Societies				
	Sports				
	Counselling Services				
	Student Discipline				
	Ragging				
		ing a Lawyer			
		onal Responsibility			
	Attorneys-at-Law Examination				
	Alumni Associations 6				
	Explore the City				
	Contact Details				
		Details6 mination Offences and Punishments			

Message from the Handbook Committee

Welcome to the Faculty of Law!

As you mark this important milestone in your life, we appreciate that the transition from school life to university life is fraught with numerous challenges and we hope that this handbook will be useful to you in navigating this transition smoothly. Here, you will find information on the courses offered under the LL.B. (Hons.) degree, examinations, graduate attributes, student societies, and helpful contacts. We have also included a brief account of the history of this illustrious institution of which you are now a part, and which we think you will find interesting. Additionally, this handbook contains details relating to your career as a responsible Attorney-at-Law after graduation. Please bear in mind that this handbook is meant for information only, and we encourage you to peruse the handbook prepared by the University of Colombo and other relevant By-Laws for detailed guidance on examination matters. For any further queries you may consult the student counsellors of the Faculty of Law. Their contact details are mentioned elsewhere in this handbook.

You may be aware that the sole medium of instruction of the LL.B. (Hons.) degree program is English. We understand that some of you may find this challenging. However, there are several inbuilt mechanisms within the curriculum itself, to support your learning in English. Furthermore, the curriculum contains several skills-oriented courses which will be beneficial for your future career. In today's context, learning is regarded as more effective when it also focuses on the development of skills and attitudes, as opposed to the mere delivery of knowledge, and this is what our curriculum strives to offer you. As a result, our LLB programme provides greater opportunities for your active engagement and holistic development into a graduate who is prepared to serve society meaningfully.

We hope you will spend four productive years at the Faculty of Law and leave, not only as skilled lawyers but more importantly, as responsible citizens.

Wathsala Samaranayake, Nath Gunawardena, Susarithaa Segar, Shanthi Gamage, Wajira Rajapaksha Arachchi and Naazima Kamardeen

Message from the Dean



I am truly delighted to contribute a short message to the Undergraduate handbook published by the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, the premier institution for legal education in the country. It gives me immense pleasure to inform you that this will be the fourth batch of students following the revised LL.B. (Hons.) Degree Programme which is designed to meet both the local and international standards of legal education. The revised programme will be offered in four academic years comprising eight semesters in total. The revised curriculum includes a variety of new course modules tailormade to equip students to meet the challenges of the present day. Under the revised programme, learning will transcend beyond the traditional classroom system to legal research, clinical legal education and skills-oriented sessions.

The Faculty of Law, University of Colombo is the only Faculty of Law falling within the purview of the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka. It has produced and continues to produce legal luminaries in the field of law ranging from diplomats, statesmen, practitioners, judges and academics of the highest caliber. Our hope is that you too, will follow in their footsteps and serve society, standing on the shoulders of those who have studied at this Faculty before you. At the Faculty of Law, you will be provided with the best form of legal education delivered by an able academic staff consisting of Chair Professors, Professors, Senior Academics and others.

I urge you to go through and familiarize yourself with the contents of this handbook which will help you uphold the traditions and ethos of the Faculty of Law and the University of Colombo. I wish you all the very best and hope you will have a productive and memorable stay at the Faculty of Law.

Professor Nishantha Sampath Punchihewa, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo.

Message from the Co-Academic Coordinators





It is with great pleasure that we welcome you as the Academic Coordinators of the Bachelor of Laws Honours Degree (LL.B) (Hons.) programme at the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. You are joining a faculty with a long-standing tradition of academic excellence, and we are delighted to have you as part of this vibrant intellectual community.

The transition from school to university, and particularly into a degree in law, is both exciting and demanding. Though the journey may be challenging, we are confident that it will shape you into reflective, principled, and independent legal professionals as well as responsible citizens.

As Academic Coordinators of the LL.B. (Hons.) Programme, our role is to support your academic journey, guide you in understanding programme requirements, rules and regulations, and to ensure that your learning environment is enriching, inclusive and student friendly. If you have any questions about your studies, concerns regarding academic matters, or need guidance in adapting to university life, we encourage you to reach out to us without hesitation.

If you wish to contact us, you may write to ugc@law.cmb.ac.lk or to our individual email addresses, thilini@law.cmb.ac.lk and kavindu@law.cmb.ac.lk. In addition, Ms. Piumi Perera at the Dean's Office is available to assist you and facilitate communication with us, including conveying any concerns you may have. She can be reached at piumi@law.cmb.ac.lk.

We wish you every success as you begin this important chapter of your life, and we look forward to working with you in the years ahead.

With best wishes,

Mr. Kavindu Hewa Geeganage and Ms. Thilini Galappaththige

Undergraduate Handbook - Faculty of Law, 2025 / 2026

Part I: Institutions and Mandates

Undergraduate Handbook - Faculty of Law, 2025 / 2026

1.1 University of Colombo

The history of the University of Colombo dates back to the establishment of the Ceylon University College in 1921. Today, it is a university established under the Universities Act of 1978. The University of Colombo is a sprawling complex located in the heart of the capital city of Colombo. In keeping with its motto "Buddhi Sarvathra Bhrajate", Sanskrit for "Wisdom Enlightens", the University of Colombo strives to maintain academic excellence in all areas of study. The University, one of the leading South Asian Universities, The University of Colombo has ten (10) Faculties, one Campus, one School and six (6) Institutes altogether consisting of 77 academic departments and several Centers & Units- This is the description included in the strategic plan 2024-2028 of the University of Colombo. Many undergraduate and postgraduate study programmes are available in the fields of Arts, Science, Medicine, Management, Finance, Law, Education, IT, Aesthetic Studies, Molecular Biology etc. The University also offers several other services, such as library services, career guidance, and services for students with disabilities. Today, the University of Colombo continues in its endeavour to meet the challenge of maintaining its position as the "Capital University, modern and international in outlook and character". The location of the University affords the student population all the advantages of a "metropolitan university", with easy access to international information/resource centres, libraries, theatres, complexes and other amenities.

1.1.1. Motto

"Buddhi Sarvathra Bhrajate", Sanskrit for "Wisdom Enlightens"

1.1.2. Vision

To be a centre of global excellence in education, research and stakeholder engagement to enrich human potential for the betterment of society.

1.1.3. Mission

To discover and disseminate knowledge; enhance innovation and promote a culture of broad inquiry throughout and beyond the university through engagement and collaboration with industry and community.

1.1.4. Office-bearers of the University

Chancellor

Venerable Muruththettuwe Ananda Nayaka Thero

Vice Chancellor

Professor I M Karunathilake (vc@uoc.cmb.ac.lk)

Registrar

Ms. K C Sanjeevani Perera (registrar@uoc.cmb.ac.lk)

Bursar

Ms. J T L Dharmasena (bursar@uoc.cmb.ac.lk)

Actg. Librarian

Dr. Kalpana Manatunge (librarian@uoc.cmb.ac.lk)

1.1.5. University Policies

The University adopts policies from time to time to govern its academic, extra-curricular and administrative activities. Applicable policies include the Policy on the Use of Electronic Mail (E-mail), Policy against Sexual Harassment and Social Media Guidelines. Applicable policies can be accessed via the website of the University. https://cmb.ac.lk/by-laws

1.2 Faculty of Law

The Faculty of Law of the University of Colombo is the pioneering institution for the academic study of the legal discipline in Sri Lanka. Situated in the heart of Colombo, based within the Island's oldest University, the Faculty of Law offers a four-year programme of study, leading to the award of the Bachelor of Laws (Hons.) Degree. In addition, the Faculty of Law also offers courses leading to the Degrees of Master of Laws, Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy.

The Faculty consists of Senior Professors, Chair Professors, Professors of Law, Senior Lecturers, Lecturers, Probationary Lecturers and Temporary Lecturers. Apart from their teaching functions, academics engage in research and regularly contribute to national, regional and international academic and professional activities in the legal sphere. They also contribute to various welfare activities and functions at the University and serve the institution as Student Counsellors, Senior Treasurers of Student Societies and Academic Wardens and Sub-Wardens of student hostels.

1.2.1. History

In 1947, a Department of Law was established at the University of Peradeniya in the Faculty of Arts, and in 1950, the first Law Degrees were awarded. This Department was later shifted to the Colombo Campus of the University of Ceylon. A separate Faculty of Law was established in 1967. The Faculty of Law functioned as a single-department faculty until 2009, when three separate departments were established. The degree offered is generic, with all three departments contributing to the training and education of students in order to provide a holistic legal education.

1.2.2. Research and Publications

Sri Lanka Journal of International Law (SLJIL)

The Sri Lanka Journal of International Law is a refereed journal focusing on international and comparative law, published annually by the Department of Public and International Law, Faculty of. Publication in this Journal is valid for purposes of academic accreditation. Information on submission guidelines and abstracts of prior volumes of the journal are available at https://jil.law.cmb.ac.lk/. Printed copies of the journal can be purchased from the Department of Public and International Law and e-copies of articles are available online through HeinOnline. The Journal is listed in the periodical indexes of *Ulrich, Lex Opus,* and *Sri Lanka Journals Online*, a database of journals published in Sri Lanka.

Colombo Law Review (CLR)

The Colombo Law Review is published by the Faculty of Law. The first issue was published in 1969. The Editorial Board accepts submissions by legal experts, young researchers, post-graduate and undergraduate students on any contemporary legal issue. Each article is peer-reviewed by an expert in the field prior to being accepted for publication.

Colombo Law Journal (CLJ)

The Colombo Law Journal is the flagship student journal published by the Faculty of Law and is managed by the Moot Court and Debating Society of the Faculty. This Journal offers an opportunity for students to publish their work alongside legal practitioners and academics. The Colombo Law Journal comprises essays written on new developments of international and national law.

South Asian Environmental Law Report (SAELR)

The South Asian Environmental Law Reports (SAELR) is a joint publication by the Centre for Environmental Law and Policy (CELP) of the University of Colombo and the Centre for Environmental Justice, Sri Lanka (CEJ). Each issue of SAELR presents four landmark judgments from Sri Lanka and four significant judgments from South Asian jurisdictions. Each case includes a review by a legal expert.

South Asian Journal for Environmental Law and Policy (SA-JELP)

The South Asian Journal of Environmental Law and Policy (SA-JELP) is the first journal focusing on environmental law and policy within the South Asian region. It is the brainchild of a collaboration between the Centre for Environmental Law and Policy (CELP) of the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo and the Centre for Environmental Justice (CEJ). The primary objective of the SA-JELP is to act as a platform for academic collaboration and the dissemination of knowledge within the region.

The Faculty accords high priority to research, both among students and teachers. To encourage research among academic staff and students, the Faculty organizes its Annual Research Conference parallel to the Annual Research Symposium of the University of Colombo.

Thulawa Law Journal

The Thulawa Association, established initially as the Thulawa Editorial Board, officially transformed into an association in 2023. Since 2016 it published a student magazine titled the Thulawa Magazine as the designated student academic publication of the Faculty of Law. This was formalised as the Thulawa Law Journal and formally instituted in 2024. This journal is dedicated to promoting meaningful academic discourse among students.

Sri Lanka Journal of Public Law

Through the publication of the Sri Lanka Journal of Public Law, the Department of Public and International Law of the Faculty of Law, aims to establish a pioneering platform, marking the first journal in Sri Lanka dedicated to encompassing all branches of public law within a single publication. In an era marked by globalization and increasing complexity in legal issues, the journal will play a vital role in disseminating research, analysis, and commentary that contribute to legal literacy and the promotion of justice. With the publication of high-quality articles, case notes, and reviews, the journal aims to foster intellectual discourse, encourage innovative thinking, and enhance the academic and practical understanding of legal principles and their applications in Sri Lanka and beyond.

1.2.3. Staff

Administrative Staff

- Senior Assistant Registrar
- Ms. Sakunthala Samarakoon. Email: sar@law.cmb.ac.lk

Academic Support Staff

- Computer Instructor
- Ms. Shanthi Gamage Email: shanthi@law.cmb.ac.lk
- System Analyst Cum Programmer
- Mr. Sachitha Dilshan Email: dilshan@law.cmb.ac.lk

Non-Academic Staff - Dean's Office

- Senior Management Assistant
- Ms. Wajira Rajapaksha Arachchi Email: wajirahemanthi@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Management **Assistants**
- Mr. Prasanna Rupasinghe Email: prasanna@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Mr. Nuwan Samaraweera Email: nuwan@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Ms. Hansa Perera Email: hansa@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Ms. Nithya Chethani Email: nithya@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Mr. Buddhi Britto Email: buddhibritto@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Ms. Sandani Lakma Email: sandani@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Laboratory **Attendants**
- Ms. Shiromi Gamhewa Email: shiromi@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Ms. Piumi Perera Email: piumi@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Works Aides
- Mr. Lahiru Chandrarathna Email: lahiru@law.cmb.ac.lk Ms. Prasangi Amarasiri
- Email: prasangi@law.cmb.ac.lk

1.3 Academic Departments

In December 2009, the Department of Law was re-structured as three separate Departments. They are the Department of Commercial Law, the Department of Private and Comparative Law and the Department of Public and International Law

1.3.1. Department of Commercial Law

The Department of Commercial Law offers thirteen course-modules at the student level and ten course-modules at the postgraduate level covering a comprehensive range of laws relating to the commercial field. In today's world, there is a growing demand for specialized legal expertise in each of these fields such as Banking, Corporate Governance, Arbitration, Insurance, and Competition Policy. The Department consists of a highly qualified teaching faculty, whose expertise aligns closely with the evolving demands of both academia and the industry.

a. Message from the Head of the Department

Dear Students,

On behalf of the Department of Commercial Law, I am pleased to welcome you to the Faculty of Law and hope you will have a happy, fruitful and successful learning experience while reading for the LL.B (Hons.) Degree.

The Department of Commercial Law offers some of the most exciting and cutting edge topics in the legal world today and our staff are earnestly researching into these topics to be able to bring you the latest knowledge, skills and values in relation to them.

Our aim is to assist you to sharpen your insight into the various branches of commercial law and expand your skills as a professional who will fit well into the corporate world. This will enable you not only to find a broad spectrum of opportunities and exciting career prospects in the commercially oriented industry but also to successfully overcome any injustice or malpractice effectively.

In addition to your studies there are many additional activities that will aid your holistic development, and I hope you will make time to engage in these, develop your talents and hone your skills.

In conclusion, I wish to remind you that as a recipient of free education, you must bear a sense of responsibility to your Alma Mater and your country. I anticipate the day you will be in a position of strength and confidence to give back to all those who supported you in this journey. I wish you all success!

Professor Naazima Kamardeen Head, Department of Commercial Law.

b. Academic staff of the Department



Prof. Nishantha Sampath Punchihewa Dean Professor

Ph.D., LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

sampath@law.cmb.ac.lk



Prof. Naazima Kamardeen

Head of the Department Senior Professor Chair of Commercial Law Ph.D., LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

naazima@law.cmb.ac.lk



Prof. Indira Nanayakkara

Professor

M.Phil, LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

indira@law.cmb.ac.lk



Prof. Prathibha Mahanamahewa

Professor

Ph.D., LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

prathiba@law.cmb.ac.lk



Dr. Menaka Harankaha Senior Lecturer Gr.I Ph.D., LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law menaka@law.cmb.ac.lk



Dr. Shamila Dawood

Senior Lecturer Gr.I Ph.D., LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law shamila@law.cmb.ac.lk Senior Lecturer Gr.I Ph.D., LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law darshika@law.cmb.ac.lk

Dr. Darshika

Pathirana



Dr. Dilini Pathirana

Senior Lecturer Gr.I Ph.D., LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

dilinipathirana@law.cmb.ac

Undergraduate Handbook - Faculty of Law. 2025 / 2026



Ms. Pramoda Vithanage Lecturer

LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law pramoda@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Kavindu Hewa Geeganage

Lecturer

LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law kavindu@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Dianarthy Suthakar

Lecturer (Probationary) LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

dianarthy@law.cmb.ac.lk



Dr. Wathsala Samaranayake

Lecturer (Probationary) Ph.D., LL.B.(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law

wathsala@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Thisari Shashindri Lecturer

(Probationary) LL.B.(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law thisari@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Manawa Nanayakkara

Lecturer (Probationary) LL.M., LL.B.(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law manawa@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Akash Dinendra

Assistant Lecturer (Temporary) LL.B.(Hons.)

akash@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Anusiva Pakkiyaraja

Assistant Lecturer (Temporary) LL.B.(Hons.)

anusiya@law.cmb.ac.lk

Visiting academic staff of the Department

Visiting Lecturer - Mr. Vishakan Sarveswaran

c. Non-academic staff of the Department

Management Assistant - Mr. Roshan Sampath

Email: roshan@law.cmb.ac.lk

Works Aide - Mr. W. A. C. Pushpakumara

Email: kumara@law.cmb.ac.lk

d. Extension Courses

- 1) Diploma in Commercial Law (6 months)
- 2) Certificate in Business Law (3 months)
- 3) Certificate in Intellectual Property Law (3 months)
- 4) Certificate in Patent Law (3 months)
- 5) Advanced Certificate in Data Protection Law (3 months)
- 6) Advanced Certificate in ICT Law (3 months)

1.3.2. Department of Private and Comparative Law

The Department of Private and Comparative Law is a distinct department with a strong international and regional comparative focus in Private Law and aspires to provide an environment that advances scholarly discussion and debate. The Department encourages its staff to aspire to high standards of teaching and research. It supports programmes, initiatives and innovations that will serve to further enhance the Department's performance as teachers. Established in December 2009, the Department of Private and Comparative Law offers sixteen course-modules at the student level. Highly qualified academic staff of the Department have the necessary expertise to teach these course-modules to the students.

a. Message from the Head of the Department

Dear Students,

It is with great pleasure that I write these words on behalf of the Department of Private and Comparative Law to mark the beginning of your journey in legal education. Entering the world of legal education is both an achievement and a new beginning, a journey that will shape not only your professional identity but also your way of understanding society, relationships, and justice.

The Department of Private and Comparative Law plays a central role within the Faculty by offering the largest number of course modules in the LL.B. (Hons.) degree programme. Private and comparative law lies at the heart of every legal system. It governs the relationships

between individuals, families, and communities, reflecting the balance between rights and responsibilities. Through your studies in subjects such as Family Law, Law of Delict, Law of Property, Law and Medicine, Private International Law, Interpretation of Statutes and Documents and Ethics of the Legal Profession, you will learn how law functions as a living force. This will equip you with the intellectual tools and analytical skills required to understand, interpret, and apply the law responsibly in an ever-changing world.

Our teaching philosophy goes beyond transmitting legal knowledge. We aim to cultivate a generation of lawyers who think critically, reason ethically, and act with empathy. Law, at its heart, is about people, their rights, relationships, and responsibilities. Understanding this human dimension of law is what transforms a student of law into a thoughtful practitioner and a compassionate citizen.

You will learn under the guidance of a committed and diverse team of professors, senior lecturers, and young academics who are not only experienced teachers but also active researchers contributing to legal scholarship and reform. Our department strives to provide a friendly, inclusive, and intellectually stimulating environment where curiosity and dialogue are valued.

As you embark on this transformative phase of your life, we encourage you to approach your studies with curiosity, dedication, and integrity. Engage actively in your classes, participate in discussions, and take advantage of opportunities to grow beyond the classroom. Most importantly, let your education inspire you to use the law as a tool for justice and positive change in society.

On behalf of the Department, I wish you every success in your academic and professional journey ahead. May your time at the Faculty of Law be one of learning, reflection, and empowerment!

Dr. Danushika Abeyrathna Head, Department of Private and Comparative Law.

b. Academic staff of the Department



Dr. Danushika Abeyrathna Head of the Department Senior Lecturer Gr.II Ph.D, LL.B(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

danushika@law.cmb.ac.lk



Prof. A. Sarveswaran

Professor

M.Phil, LL.B(Hons.), Attorney at Law

sarwes@law.cmb.ac.lk



Prof. (Chair) Rose Wijeyesekera Professor

Ph.D, M.Phil, LL.B(Hons.)

rose@law.cmb.ac.lk



Dr. Udapadie Liyanage Senior Lecturer Gr.I

Ph.D., M.Phill, LL.B (Hons.), Attorney-at-Law udapadie@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Buddhika Munasinghe Senior Lecturer Gr.II

MPhil, LL.B (Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

buddhika@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Jeyakala Jeyarednam Senior Lecturer Gr.II

MPhil, LL.B (Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

jeyakala@law.cmb.ac.lk



Dr. Kaushani **Pathirana** Senior Lecturer

(Transitional) Ph.D, LL.M, LL.B

(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law kaushani@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Isankhya Udani

Senior Lecturer (Transitional)

LL.M, LL.B (Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

udani@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Yasodha Ekanayaka Senior Lecturer (Transitional) LL.M, LL.B (Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

yashodha@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms .Thushanthiga Kumarasoorier Senior Lecturer (Transitional) LL.M, LL.B (Hons.), ACCA, UK (Affiliate) Attorney-at-Law thushanthiga@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Tavini Nanayakkara Lecturer

LL.M, LL.B (Hons.) Attorney-at-Law

tavini@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Dumindu Madhushan Lecturer

LL.M, LL.B (Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

dumindu@law.cmb.ac.lk

Undergraduate Handbook - Faculty of Law, 2025 / 2026



Mr. Kamal Ahamed

Lecturer
(Probationary)
LL.M, LL.B (Hons.),
PgD in Diplomacy &
World Affairs,
Adv.Dip.in Transitional
Justice,
Attorney-at-Law
kamal@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Sathiyaseelan Janani Lecturer (Probationary) LL.M, LL.B(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law



Mr. Shanil Wijesinha

Lecturer (Probationary) LL.M, LL.B(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law



Ms. Shermila Antony

Lecturer (Probationary) LL.M, LL.B (Hons.), Attorney-at-Law

janani@law.cmb.ac.lk

shanil@law.cmb.ac.lk

shermila@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Nath Gunawardena Lecturer (Probationary)

LL.M, LL.B (Hons.)
nath@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Prineetha Bandaranayake Lecturer (Probationary)

LL.M, LL.B(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law prineetha@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Udani Wijayarathna Lecturer (Probationary)

LL.B(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law imesha@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Gayani Huruggamuwa Assistant Lecturer (Temporary)

LL.M, LL.B(Hons.), Attorney-at-Law gayani@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Nooha Subuhan Assistant Lecturer (Temporary) LL.B (Hons.)

nooha@law.cmb.ac.lk

d. Non-academic staff of the Department

Management Assistant - Ms. Inesha Rajapakse Email: inesha@law.cmb.ac.lk

Works Aide - Mr. Vimukthi Wijerathna

Email: vimukthi@law.cmb.ac.lk

e. Extension courses

- Advanced Certificate in Human Resource Management Law (6 months)
- 2. Diploma in Private Law (1 year)
- 3. Diploma in Medical Law and Ethics (1 year)

1.3.3. Department of Public and International Law

The Department of Public and International Law offers academic instruction in aspects of law that are fundamental to the relationship of individuals and communities with the State, as well as at the international level. Currently, the Department is in charge of offering seventeen course modules at the undergraduate level and six course modules at the postgraduate level. The Department further offers three external courses (two advanced certificate courses and one diploma), which are open to the public at large. These courses are designed to improve legal literacy, strengthen citizenship, and, in general, promote access to justice. In an increasingly globalized and complex world, the course-modules offered by the Department continue to grow in their significance.

a. Message from the Head of the Department

Dear Students,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, and to the Department of Public and International Law. You are entering a space where ideas, principles, and values converge to shape your understanding of law's vital role in ensuring justice, equality, and the protection of human dignity. As you begin your journey in pursuit of the Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) (Hons.) degree, you are becoming part of a long tradition of excellence, inquiry, and service that defines our Faculty.

In a world increasingly shaped by international cooperation, transnational challenges, and public governance, the study of Public and International Law holds a vital role in preparing future lawyers to understand, interpret, and influence the legal frameworks that govern nations and protect global justice. Through this discipline, we seek to nurture scholars and practitioners who can think critically, act

responsibly, and contribute meaningfully to the rule of law both locally and globally.

The Department of Public and International Law offers a wide range of subjects that span across national and international dimensions. From Constitutional and Administrative Law to Human Rights Law, Environmental Law, the Law of the Sea, and International Humanitarian Law, our curriculum is designed to provide a comprehensive and dynamic learning experience. We aim to nurture your ability to think critically, analyze complex issues, and engage meaningfully with the evolving frameworks of justice and governance.

Beyond the classroom, we believe in fostering a vibrant academic culture that encourages student participation, creativity, and leadership. The Department annually organizes key student-centred events such as 'Law Goes Green', a pioneering environmental law and sustainability initiative that brings together academia, policymakers, and the public to engage in a dialogue on pressing environmental issues, and the 'Address to Jury contest', which provides students with an opportunity to refine their advocacy skills and express their legal reasoning with confidence and clarity. These initiatives reflect our commitment to experiential learning and to developing well-rounded individuals who can apply the law to real-world challenges.

As you embark on this transformative journey, I encourage you to make the most of the opportunities available to you – both within and beyond the lecture hall. Engage actively, question deeply, and let your passion for learning the law guide you. We look forward to accompanying you on this path of growth, discovery, and contribution to the ever-evolving world of law.

Professor (Dr.) Kokila Lankathilake Konasinghe Head, Department of Public and International Law.

b. Academic staff of the Department



Prof. Kokila Lankathilake Konasinghe

Head of the Department Professor Ph.D, LL.M, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law kokila@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. M.A.M.Hakeem

Senior Lecturer Gr.I LL.M, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law

mamhakeem@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Selvaraj Puwanitha

Senior Lecturer Gr. II M.Phil, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law

puwanitha@law.cmb.ac.lk



Senior Prof. (Chair) Wasantha Seneviratne

Senior Professor Ph.D, M.Phil, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law wasantha@law.cmb.ac.lk



Dr. Thakshila Udayanganie

Senior Lecturer Gr.I Ph.D, LL.M, LL. B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law thakshila@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Thilini Galappaththige

Senior Lecturer Gr. II LL.M, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law

thilini@law.cmb.ac.lk



Senior Prof. Jeeva Niriella

Senior Professor Ph.D, M.Phil, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law jeeva@law.cmb.ac.lk



Ms. Chathurika Akurugoda

Senior Lecturer Gr. II LL.M, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law

chathurika@law.cmb.ac.lk



Dr . Akalanka Thilakarathna

Senior Lecturer Gr. II LL.B (Hons) (Colombo), LL.M (Merit) (KDU), M.Soc (Colombo), Ph D (Colombo), Attorney-at-Law

akalanka@law.cmb.ac.lk



Prof. Dinesha Samararatne

Professor Ph.D, LL.M, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law dinesha@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Isuru Liyanage

Senior Lecturer Gr. II LL.M, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law

isuru@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Asela Dissanayake

Lecturer (Unconfirmed) LL. B(Hons) (Colombo) LL.M (Fribourg Switzerland), LL.M(OUSL), Attorney-at-Law

asela@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Kusal Amarasinghe



Ms. Binendri Perera



Ms. Susarithaa Segar

Lecturer
LL.M, LL.B(Hons.)
Attorney-at-Law
kusal@law.cmb.ac.lk

Lecturer (Probationary) LL.M, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law binendri@law.cmb.ac.lk Lecturer (Probationary) LL.M, LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law susaritha@law.cmb.ac.lk



Mr. Roshel Perera



Mr. Ishan Arachchi



Ms. Jayani hristina

Lecturer (Probationary) LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law roshel@law.cmb.ac.lk Assistant Lecturer (Temporary) LL.B(Hons.)

ishan@law.cmb.ac.lk

Assistant Lecturer (Temporary) LL.B(Hons.) Attorney-at-Law jayani@law.cmb.ac.lk

c. Visiting academic staff of the Department

Visiting Lecturers - Mr. Prashantha Lal de Alwis, PC Mr. Rohan Edrisinha

d. Non-academic staff of the Department

Management Assistant - Ms. Maheshika Perera
Email:maheshika@law.cmb.ac.lk
Works Aide - Mr. Samodh Amanga Weerakoon

e. Extension courses

- Advanced Certificate in Fundamentals of Criminal Law (6 months)
- 2) Advanced Certificate in Environmental Law (6 Months)
- 3) Diploma in Public Law (1 year)

1.4 Centres

The Faculty of Law, University of Colombo houses two centres which are dedicated to the causes of environmental conservation and restoration and the study of human rights. The centres engage in concerted and concentrated effort to bring about student engagement and positive changes within their respective areas.

1.4.1. Centre for Environmental Law and Policy

The Centre for Environmental Law and Policy (CELP) of the Faculty of Law, established in 2020, stands as a pioneering centre within Sri Lanka's university education system, dedicated to advancing environmental conservation and restoration. CELP aims to foster research, collaboration, education, and engagement in environmental law and policy to cultivate an environmentally conscious society. In an era of escalating environmental threats driven by development activities. CELP seeks to nurture individuals capable of spearheading conservation efforts, guiding policy-makers and communities, and influencing other educational institutions to prioritize environmental protection. CELP takes pride in offering South Asia's first LL.M. programme in International Environmental and Climate Change Law. Its other remarkable achievements encompass providing policy recommendations, publishing books and articles, and collaborating with international, regional and national bodies on environmentrelated rights and protection.

CELP publications include two compilations of statutory provisions and case law on animal welfare and public nuisance, South Asian Environmental Law Report (SAELR), and South Asian Journal of Environmental Law and Policy (SAJELP), all of which serve as valuable tools for students, academics, researchers, and the general public. Additionally, CELP has conducted nationwide workshops targeting the public sector and youth, disseminating knowledge on domestic environmental legislation, mechanisms such Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Protection License (EPL), and international environmental law standards. Recognizing its public responsibility, CELP is actively developing educational and training programmes for postgraduate law students, civil society actors, and other stakeholders, while organizing webinars featuring prominent environmentalists and experts. Through these initiatives, CELP aspires to become a leading institution in

promoting environmental law and policy within South Asia contributing significantly to the conservation and preservation of the natural environment in the region and beyond.

Contact information:

Centre for Environmental Law and Policy (CELP) Faculty of Law University of Colombo Phone: +94 11 2503017

Email - celp@law.cmb.ac.lk
Website - https://celp.cmb.ac.lk/

1.4.2. Centre for the Study of Human Rights

The Centre for the Study of Human Rights (CSHR), established in 1991, as a centre within the Faculty of Law, aims to raise public awareness about human rights and the remedies for violations. It engages various groups, including students, professionals, and communities. CSHR focuses on five key areas: Education. Research. Services. Building, Knowledge and Institutional Capacity Development. It offers a range of courses, from certificate to postgraduate programmes in human rights, including specialized training for Sri Lanka Air Airforce, Police, and Prison Officers. Additionally, CSHR facilitates internships for international students and conducts practical research in collaboration with local and international institutions. Its Capacity-Building initiatives enhance the skills of public sector workers, while Knowledge Services provides access to human rights materials. Further, the Institutional Development opportunities aim to strengthen CSHR staff capabilities for effective programme delivery.

Contact information:

Centre for the Study of Human Rights - CSHR Faculty of Law University of Colombo

Phone: +94 11 2500879 or +94 11 2503017, Fax: +94 11 2598462

Email: cshr@cmb.ac.lk Website: cshr.cmb.ac.lk

1.5 Units

The Faculty of Law, Colombo is proud to house six units which effectively facilitate activities in a variety of areas that are of importance to law students.

1.5.1 Examination Unit

This Unit is responsible for the administration of continuous assessments and semester-end examinations at the Faculty.

Contact information:

Co-ordinator, Examinations: Dr. Darshika Pathirana

Email: exam@law.cmb.ac.lk

Departmental Co-ordinators:

- Mr. Kavindu Hewa Geeganage Department of Commercial Law
- Ms. G I D I Udani Department of Private and Comparative Law
- Mr. Isuru Liyanage
 Department of Public & International Law

Non-academic staff

Ms. Wajira Rajapaksha Arachchi (Senior Staff Management Assistant)

Email: exam@law.cmb.ac.lk

1.5.2 Legal English Unit

The Legal English Unit of the Faculty of Law was established to design and implement programmes aimed at enhancing English language proficiency as the Faculty transitions to English as the sole medium of instruction. The primary objective of this unit is to ensure that graduates are fully equipped to conduct their professional responsibilities in English.

To this end, the Legal English Unit has developed and manages the English for Law I and English for Law II courses. Faculty members teaching these courses undergo specialised training conducted by experts in the field. These courses are mandatory components of the student curriculum, and all students, regardless of their existing language proficiency, are required to complete them. In addition, the Unit plans to introduce a variety of initiatives to improve students' skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. These efforts serve as a critical support mechanism, allowing students to successfully pursue their degrees in English.

Contact information:

Director: Dr. Shamila Dawood

Deputy Director: Mr. Manawa Nanayakkara

Email: leu@law.cmb.ac.lk

1.5.3 Legal Aid Unit

The Legal Aid Unit is a pro-bono service programme that involves a three-way partnership between Attorneys-at-Law, the Faculty of Law of the University of Colombo, and vulnerable citizens and community organisations. The services provided consist of consultation clinics and an in-house aid programme. Consultation clinics enable low-income earners to meet with Attorneys and receive advice.

The in-house aid programme provides selected clients with an Attorney through whom they can, if necessary, file and pursue a case. In both instances, the Attorneys-at-Law are assisted by students of the Faculty of Law. The services are supplemented by the dissemination of information through divisional awareness campaigns, press conferences and the programme website.

The programme has as its objective, the provision of essential legal services to those who are otherwise barred from accessing justice, mainly due to the inability to afford the high costs inherent in the system and also due to different circumstances that have put them in vulnerable positions in society. This process furthers the due recognition of the rights of such persons under the Constitution.

Contact information:

Director: Ms. Puwanitha Selvaraj

Deputy Director: Mr. Kusal Amarasinghe

Email: lau@law.cmb.ac.lk

1.5.4 Career Guidance Unit

The Career Guidance Unit has been established at the Faculty of Law in 2021 to provide students with career counselling, career information services, opportunities for professional networking, internships and for integration of career guidance into the co-curricular activities at the Faculty.

The Unit functions under the Dean of the Faculty and partners with the Career Guidance Unit of the University. The Unit collaborates with all relevant stakeholders in the legal sector seeking to serve the students at the Faculty. The Unit comprises a Director, Deputy Director and a Management Assistant. Volunteers are recruited from among the students of the Faculty on an ad hoc basis. Please refer to the Career Guidance Unit page on the LMS for updated information on the activities of the Unit.

(https://lms.law.cmb.ac.lk/course/view.php?id=371)

Contact information:

Director: Ms. Thusanthiga Kumarasoorier Deputy Director: Mr. Asela Dissanayake

Email: cgu@law.cmb.ac.lk

1.5.5 Legal Research Unit

The Legal Research Unit (LRU) was established in 2016, with the partnership of the Ministry of Justice, to facilitate legal research, including research with a multidisciplinary focus.

Currently, the Unit serves as a vehicle to lead and showcase the Faculty's research mandate. Its vision is to advance the research mission of the Faculty by producing pathbreaking legal scholarship celebrating academic freedom and research integrity. The Unit's mission is to contribute to the success of the Faculty by facilitating legal research, including research with an interdisciplinary focus and, thereby, contributing to the development of law and justice. As an integral aspect of the Unit's mandate, it facilitates research collaborations at different levels, university, national and international.

The undergraduate and post-graduate students of the Faculty are welcome to join the research initiatives facilitated by the Unit. In addition, undergraduate law students are most welcome to work with the Unit as research and project assistants designated through a competitive selection process. When such opportunities are available, the Unit will make public announcements in various media.

Contact information:

Director: Dr. Dilini Pathirana

Deputy Director: Ms. Buddhika Munasinghe

Email: Iru@law.cmb.ac.lk

1.5.6 Mediation Unit

The Mediation Unit of the Faculty of Law was recently established by the Department of Commercial Law pursuant to a contract between The Asia Foundation and the University of Colombo. Over the past three decades ADR has grown considerably; however, mediation remains underdeveloped despite its clear potential as a time saving, cost-effective, and efficient alternative for resolving commercial disputes.

The Mediation Unit which was established with the objective of integrating mediation into the country's legal education system, seeks fill this gap, and promote mediation as an effective method of dispute resolution in Sri Lanka. The Mediation Unit serves as the

administrative body responsible for coordinating and sustaining mediation-related programmes within the Faculty of Law and is committed to enhancing the engagement of students in mediation.

The Mediation Unit also manages the Moot Court of the Faculty of Law. The Moot Court offers students valuable space to develop their advocacy, negotiation, and dispute resolution skills. Together, these facilities contribute to an enriched learning environment and promote practical skills development among students.

1.5.7 Post-Graduate Unit

The Law Faculty offers the following postgraduate courses:

- Degree of Master of Laws by Coursework (LL.M)
- Degree of Master of Law by Research (LL.M)
- Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil)
- Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D)

We invite you to consider postgraduate study with us once you complete your undergraduate studies. Several options are available, and you are advised to refer to the By-laws (https://law.cmb.ac.lk/by-laws/) for the admission and eligibility criteria for these degrees.

Contact information:

Co-ordinator, LL.M Programme by Research: Mr. Isuru Liyanage, Ms. Tavini Nanayakkara Email: lawfacllm@law.cmb.ac.lk

Coordinators, LL.M Programme by coursework:
Dr. Thakshila Udayanganie, Ms. Chathurika Akurugoda,
Ms. Buddhika Munasinghe
Email: Ilmuoc@law.cmb.ac.lk

Co-ordinator, MPhil Programme:

Dr. Darshika Pathirana

Email: mphil@law.cmb.ac.lk, pgu@law.cmb.ac.lk

Coordinator, Ph.D Programme:

Dr. Shamila Dawood

Email: phd@law.cmb.ac.lk, pgu@law.cmb.ac.lk

1.5.8 Internal Quality Assurance Unit

The Unit is responsible for monitoring quality performance, through assessment and evaluation of the activities of the Faculty in all academic programmes, centres and units on a regular basis, in order to promote productivity and development. It seeks to establish and safeguard high standards and good practices in teaching, learning and assessment. Further, the Unit facilitates the development of research skills of the academics by providing a platform to discuss their research.

Contact information:

Coordinator:

Dr. Akalanka Thilakarathna Email: akalanka@law.cmb.ac.lk

Assistant Coordinators:

Mr. Asela Dissanayake Email: asela@law.cmb.ac.lk

Mr. Manawa Nanayakkara Email: manawa@law.cmb.ac.lk

Ms. Udani Imesha Wijayarathna Email: imesha@law.cmb.ac.lk

Part II: Academics

2.1 LL.B (Hons.) Degree Programme

The Bachelor of Laws Honours (LL.B (Hons.)) Degree programme is a four-year academic programme. Under the programme, a student reads for forty-five law and law-related course-modules, translating to 123 credits, within a span of eight academic semesters. The four academic years of the LL.B Degree programme are termed the Bachelor of Laws Honours Degree Year I, Year II, Year III, and Year IV respectively. Each year of study is comprised of two semesters each.

2.2. Course-modules

The following law-related course modules are available in the LL.B (Hons.) degree programme.

It is compulsory for students to take course modules labelled 'Core-NGPA'. However, the grade obtained for such course modules will have no bearing on his/her Grade Point Average (GPA).

Table 1: Key abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
CL	Department of Commercial Law
PCL	Department of Private and Comparative Law
PIL	Department of Public and International Law
JO	Jointly Offered

Table 2: Course Modules

Year I All courses are compulsory.

		All courses are compared y.			
Semester	Course	Title	Credits	Department	Lead Department
		Core courses			
	LAW11301	Law and Society	3	JO	PIL
	LAW11302	Legal Method & Legal Writing	3	PCL	
	LAW11303	Legal Systems	3	PCL	
	LAW11404	Constitutional Law I	4	PIL	
		Core – Non GPA courses	;		
	LAW11105	ICT & Soft Skills for Law	1	JO	CL
I	LAW11106	English for Law I	1	JO	CL
	EAP 11101	English for Academic Purposes Elementary Level	1	DELT	DELT
	EAP 11102	English for Academic Purposes Lower Intermediate Level	1	DELT	DELT
	EAP 11103	English for Academic Purposes Upper Intermediate Level	1	DELT	DELT
	EAP 11104	English for Academic Purposes Advanced Level	1	DELT	DELT
	Total credits per semester			15	
	Core courses				
	LAW12301	Criminal Law I	3	PIL	
	LAW12202	Roman Law	2	PCL	
	LAW12303	Family Law I	3	PCL	
	LAW12404	Law of Contract	4	JO	PCL
	LAW12305	Equity & Law of Trusts	3	PCL	
		Core – Non GPA courses	3		
l II	LAW12106	English for Law II	1	JO	CL
	EAP 12101	English for Academic Purposes Lower Intermediate Level	1	DELT	DELT
	EAP 12102	English for Academic Purposes Upper Intermediate Level	1	DELT	DELT
	EAP 12103	English for Academic Purposes Advanced Level	1	DELT	DELT
	Total credits per semester			16	

Year II All courses are compulsory.

_	All courses are compulsory.					
Semester	Course Code	Title	Credits	Department	Lead Department	
		Core courses				
	LAW21301	Criminal Law II	3	PIL		
	LAW21302	Family Law II	3	PCL		
	LAW21403	Law of Property	4	PCL		
	LAW21304	Constitutional Law II	3	PIL		
ı		Core – Non GPA cou	ırses	i		
	LAW21105	Oral Advocacy	1	JO	CL	
	EAP 21101	English for Academic Purposes Upper Intermediate Level	1	DELT	DELT	
	EAP 21102	English for Academic Purposes Advanced Level	1	DELT	DELT	
	Total credits per semester			14		
	Core courses					
	LAW22301	Public International Law	3	PIL		
	LAW22302	Principles of Commercial Law	3	CL		
	LAW22403	Administrative Law	4	PIL		
	LAW22304	Environmental Law & Policy	3	PIL		
II	LAW22305	Interpretation of Statutes & Documents	3	PCL		
	Core - Non GPA courses					
	LAW22106	Aesthetic Appreciation of Law	1	JO	PCL	
	EAP 21101	English for Academic Purposes Advanced Level	1	DELT	DELT	
	Total credits per semester			17		

 $\underline{\underline{Year\;III}}$ Students must study all core courses and choose one elective course per semester.

		study all core courses and choose one elective			
Semester	Course	Title	Credits	Department	Lead Department
		Core courses			
	LAW31301	Intellectual Property Law	3	CL	
	LAW31302	Human Rights Law	3	PIL	
	LAW31303	Company Law	3	CL	
	LAW31304	Law of Delict	3	PCL	
		Core - Non GPA courses			
	LAW31105	Professional Skills	1	JO	PCL
		Elective courses		I	
	LAW31206	Private International Law	2	PCL	
	LAW31207	International Humanitarian Law	2	PIL	
	LAW31208	International Investment Law	2	CL	
	LAW31209	Competition Law	2	CL	
	LAW31210	Alternative Dispute Resolution	2	CL	
	Total credits per semester			15	
		Core courses			I
	LAW32301	Business Law	3	CL	
	LAW32502	Internship	5	JO	CL
	LAW32203	Law Clinics	2	JO	PCL
	LAW32034	ICT Law	3	CL	
		Core – Non GPA courses			
	LAW32105	Ethics of Legal Profession	1	PCL	
Ш	1 414/00000	Elective courses	_	DII	
	LAW32206	Law of Evidence	2	PIL	
	LAW32207	Law and Medicine	2	PCL	
	LAW32208	Law and Literature	2	PIL	
	LAW32209	Insurance Law	2	CL	
	LAW32210	Law of the Sea	2	PIL	
	LAW32211	Artificial Intelligence and Law	2	CL	
	Total credits per semester			16	

Year IV
Students must study all core courses and choose two elective courses per semester.

Students must study an core courses and choose two elective courses per semester.						
Semester	Code	Title	Credits	Department	Lead Department	
		Core courses		•	1	
	LAW41301	Labour Law	3	PCL		
	LAW41302	Jurisprudence	3	PCL		
	LAW41403	Research Methodology	4	JO	PIL	
		Elective courses		•	•	
	LAW41204	Air & Space Law	2	PIL		
l	LAW41205	International Trade Law	2	CL		
	LAW41206	Energy Law	2	JO	CL	
	LAW41207	Criminal Procedure	2	PIL		
	LAW41208	Civil Procedure	2	PCL		
	LAW41209	International Institutions	2	PIL		
	Total credits per semester			14		
	Core courses					
	LAW42301	Legal Theory	3	JO		
	LAW42302	Student-led Legal Seminars	3	JO	PIL	
	LAW42603	Dissertation	6	JO	PIL	
		Elective courses				
Ш	LAW42204	Construction Law	2	PCL		
	LAW42205	Law & Economics	2	CL		
	LAW42206	Media Law	2	PIL		
	LAW42207	Law of Taxation	2	CL		
	LAW42208	International Criminal Law	2	PIL		
	Total credits per semester			16		

The requirement to take English for Academic Purposes (EAP) is based on the performance at the English Placement Test. Kindly note that the Faculty may not offer all the elective course-modules listed in a given year. Students are advised to consult the relevant Heads of Departments about the elective course-modules offered in a given year. Students who find it difficult to choose an elective from the course-modules offered in a given year are strongly advised to consult the relevant lecturers in making a final selection.

Selecting elective course-modules

Students in the third and fourth years of study must register for the electives they wish to offer within the first two weeks of the new academic year by completing the Google Form provided for that purpose by the Academic Coordinator.

Both third-and fourth-year students can, subject to the approval of the Faculty Board, take one additional Elective Course Module in each semester in addition to the stipulated minimum number of Core and Elective Course Modules in the third and fourth years. This too must be registered. The performance at these additional Course Modules will not be taken into consideration in the computation of the final Grade Point Average (GPA).

2.3 Duration of the LL.B. (Hons.) Programme

The minimum period for which an undergraduate should be a registered undergraduate student is four (04) academic years consisting of eight (08) semesters. Undergraduates admitted to the LL.B. (Hons.) programme are required to complete the course before the end of eight (08) academic years from the date of their first registration. The academic year of the Faculty of Law is divided into two semesters. Each semester, under normal circumstances, will be a continuous period of twenty-six (26) weeks including lectures, study leave, the examination period, and the vacation.

2.4 Law Library

The Library of the University of Colombo serves as the central hub for faculty and campus libraries. Located on Reid Avenue, it is situated between the Arts Faculty and Law Faculty buildings. The Law Library occupies the entire second floor of the Library and is recognized as one of the major law collections in Sri Lanka. It supports the research and teaching needs of the Faculty of Law and its students.

The collection includes textbooks, law journals, law reports, Sri Lankan legislation, law dictionaries, and encyclopedias. Of these, only textbooks may be borrowed by law students, and retained for a maximum period of one week. A notable feature of the Law Library is the Nijhoff Collection, comprising Dutch legislative writings dating back to 1750. This collection was acquired by Sir Ivor Jennings in 1946 for the Faculty of Law.

By browsing and searching on the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) of the library, students can identify, select, and retrieve the books of their choice. It helps students identify if a book is available in the library or checked out. Activation of Single Sign-On (SSO) credentials will enable students to have access to a number of databases subscribed by the library. HeinOnline, LexisNexis, Oxford Law Journals, LawLanka, JSTOR are some of the subject-related eresources.

The library is presently open to readers from 8.00 am to 7.00 pm during weekdays and from 8.30 am to 6.00 pm on weekends. The library is closed during public holidays and the holidays declared by the University and/or the Government of Sri Lanka. However, the library is usually kept open on all public holidays that fall on weekends. All students from First, Second, Third and Final years may borrow two (02) Reference Books either from law collection (2nd floor of the library) or from general reference collection (3rd floor). Every student is entitled to borrow three (03) books from the lending collection (5th floor). This means that each student may borrow two reference books and three lending materials at a given time. The loan period is one day for a Reference Book and one-week for a Lending Book. Failure to return the books on or before the due date will result in a fine. Library facilities should be accessed using the student's university identity card, which is non-transferable.

In addition to library resources, there are training sessions offered under different "Information Literacy" topics: "Searching Techniques", "Access to Information", "Literature Review", "Writing and Publishing Research Articles", "Avoiding Plagiarism", "Reference Styles", and "Reference Management". Students are able to obtain online services through the Help-Line via the library website. Other services given by the library include: Plagiarism detection software, inter-library loan services, Smart Classroom facility, Resource Centre for Visually Impaired Students, Learning Commons (ground floor), photocopy services, Library LMS services, WiFi service, and conference hall facility.

General rules on using the Library

- Readers must scan their University Identity Card when entering the library, to mark their attendance and produce the same when borrowing books or any other time when called upon to do so.
- Readers must produce their belongings such as books, notes, etc. to the gatekeepers when they enter the library and go out of the library.
- No bags, cases, parcels, personal copies of books (if you need to bring books, please get permission from the Librarian) and printed materials, umbrellas, etc. should be brought into the library.
- SILENCE should be observed in all public reading areas. When
 discussing or studying in groups students shall keep their voice as
 lower as not disturbing others.
- Seats in the Library shall not be reserved or removed by the readers.
 - Readers are not allowed to do joint work and discussions in the library **except in the Learning Commons**. Learning Commons should be used according to Health Guidelines.
- Consumption of food and drink, smoking and the use of matches or an open flame are forbidden in the library.
- No reader shall enter any part of the Library to which entry is forbidden.
- Any disorderly or improper conduct or breach of regulations will render the reader or borrower concerned liable to suspension from using the library.
- Students should not occupy the reserved places and seats for postgraduate students/research students/university teachers.
- Students with mobility disabilities may use the ground floor entrance to enter the library.

For further information, please contact Senior Assistant Librarian - Mr. T. Ramanan Email: ramanan@lib.cmb.ac.lk

2.5 Teaching Framework

Instruction in each subject takes place in the form of lectures, workshops, discussions. tutorial seminars. sessions. classroom sessions. aroup activities. projects. assignments. internships, legal clinics, moot courts, dissertations, presenting papers, self-study exercises and/or other forms approved by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Law, which is the authority that decides the methods of teaching.

2.6 Medium of Instruction

The medium of instruction for the LL.B programme shall be English.

2.7 Blended Learning

Blended learning is teaching and learning where students have the opportunity to learn online as well as onsite depending on the circumstances. It provides the unique benefit of technological assistance that could result in an overall vibrant session as well as allowing for close contact with the academic staff.

2.7.1. Learning Management System (LMS)

The Learning Management System of the Faculty of Law is a virtual e-learning system that provides remotely accessible learning/study content to individuals. It is also called a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The globally accepted and widely used Moodle software package has been used to develop this facility. This system runs on the World Wide Web, connecting learners from any part of the country. It has tools that allow interaction between learners and teachers, exchange of information and material available for study, creating a digital classroom.

Students registered in the Students' Information System (SIS) of the University of Colombo may access the LMS using their registration number as the username and their NIC as the password. You may access the Learning Management System (LMS) using any standard web browser of your choice. To log in, enter the following URL in your browser's address bar: https://lms.law.cmb.ac.lk/

2.7.2. Email

All students currently registered at the University of Colombo are assigned an email address. Users can access it through a web browser on a PC or using the Gmail app on a mobile device. The University and the Faculty usually send all official emails to this address. Students are expected to check their official email account on a frequent and consistent basis to stay up to date with university-related activities. For all University communications, all students must use only their student email account. The University does not recognize a message sent from a personal email account as official.

Creating email accounts is handled by the Network Operations Centre (NOC), University of Colombo. Student email accounts are created based on the registration number and the students are given an email with the format student_id@stu.cmb.ac.lk (replace 'student_id' with your Student Registration Number). Student email accounts will be suspended two months after the students' convocation.

When a user account is created the user is given a temporary password. You will be prompted to change this password at the first login. In case the user has forgotten or lost the password, he/she should send a request to the NOC through the Faculty IT Coordinator to reset the password.

2.7.3. Computer Facilities

The computer facilities of the Faculty of Law, Colombo are open to all students who are duly registered with the Faculty.

2.8 Attendance and Leave of Absence

The university is a community that is dedicated to developing and disseminating knowledge. Students are an important part of this community and ought to acquire and nurture a habit of mind. Therefore, attendance at lectures, discussion and tutorials and the active participation in the life of the university community is essential. There can be no distance education for students in a traditional university system. Full-time, active and engaged students are essential for a university.

There is a more practical consideration for compulsory attendance. Thousands of students, supported by their parents and families, invest considerable time and money to sit university entrance examinations and qualify for admission. Only a small fraction of those who qualify for admission are successful in obtaining a place in the university. Competition for admission to the Faculty of Law is particularly competitive.

Therefore, a person who obtains a place in the Faculty of Law should be mindful of the fact that he or she is in effect depriving other students from being selected for a place in the Faculty. It is, therefore, unethical and unfair for a student selected to the Faculty to occupy such a sought-after place and not participate as a full-time student. The 'Mahapola' scholarship scheme and other student bursary and loan schemes are specially designed to alleviate the economic pressures of being full-time students.

The Faculty imposes an attendance requirement of 70% at lectures in order to be eligible to register for the examination.

2.9. Medical Certificates

Students who have been absent from lectures and examinations due to medical reasons and who wish to be excused from such are required to obtain a Medical Certificate from the Chief Medical Officer (CMO)/University Medical Officer (UMO) of the University of Colombo. If it is not possible to obtain the certificate from the UMO, students may obtain a Medical Certificate from any other registered medical practitioner, provided such certificate is accepted and certified by the CMO/UMO. In addition, the Medical Submission form, available at the Dean's office, should be filled by the student, certified by the SAR/Law and submitted to the Medical Centre of the University of Colombo, within seven (7) days of the illness. If the student is unfit to travel, arrangements must be made for a family member or representative to fulfil this requirement.

2.10 Other Appeals/ Requests by Students

If you have a question about any academic matter, kindly speak to a lecturer, the relevant Head and/or the Dean to obtain advice. If you wish to appeal against a decision of the Faculty, e.g., regarding the attendance requirement, the inability to meet a deadline for the submission of an assignment or if you wish to make a request for leave of absence from studies, you should write either to the Dean or the relevant Head. Your appeal/request will be studied by the Sub-Committee on Routine Matters and a recommendation will be made to the Faculty Board. Please note that the Routine Matters Sub-Committee meets only once a month. Therefore, such requests should be made well in advance.

2.11 English

2.11.1. Role of English in Learning Law

It is vital that students be proficient in English as approximately 95% of all legal materials – cases, legislation, textbooks and journals - are available only in English.

The Faculty promotes independent study and the ability to think independently and critically. Law students must, therefore, have the capacity to read widely, and understand and reflect upon the prescribed legal materials, which are mostly in English. English is also important for accessing an increasing number of materials available on the Internet and the World Wide Web.

Though in the lower court, proceedings are conducted mainly in Sinhala or Tamil, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal function in English. Submissions and pleadings are tendered in English, arguments are made in English and judgments are also delivered in English.

In addition, those who wish to pursue postgraduate study, either in Sri Lanka or abroad will be required to be proficient in English as these courses are conducted entirely in English. Further, it is necessary to write all dissertations for higher degrees in law in English.

2.12 Examinations and Evaluation

Examinations and evaluation constitute an inseparable part of academic programmes conducted by any university. It is essential that the performance of law students be evaluated as objectively as possible and their level of achievement conveyed to them. The performance of a student shall be evaluated through a system of incourse assessments and/or end-of-course assessment in respect of each Course Module. The relevant rules are reproduced below.

The in-course assessment shall be based on the performance of the students at assignments, classroom tests, seminars, oral presentations, workshops, tutorials, legal clinics, internship programme, individual and group projects, paper-presentations, class participation, dissertation or any other form of assessment approved by the Faculty Board.

Each student shall work on a research study leading to the submission of a Dissertation in Year IV of the Degree Programme.

All rules/By-Laws relating to the Examination Procedure, Offences and Punishment made by the University of Colombo shall apply in relation to the examinations of the Degree Programme.

A student shall not be permitted to take a Semester Examination unless the Dean of the Faculty, in consultation with the respective Head of the Department, has certified that she/he has satisfied the requirements of the relevant Course Modules, including regular attendance at classes and submission of assignments at the appropriate time, as prescribed by the Senate on the recommendation of the Faculty Board.

The Semester Examinations prescribed by these By-Laws shall be conducted by Boards of Examiners appointed by the Senate on the recommendation of the Faculty Board.

A candidate shall present herself/himself for each Semester Examination of Course Modules leading to the Degree on the first occasion on which the examination is held, provided that it shall be within the power of the Senate on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Law to permit her/him to sit on a subsequent occasion if she/he has been prevented from sitting the examination due to illness or any other cause acceptable to the Faculty Board.

A student shall not be eligible to proceed to the next academic year without obtaining a minimum of fifteen (15) credits out of the Course Modules offered in a given academic year.

A candidate who fails to complete any of the Course Module in the first attempt shall be eligible to repeat that/those Course Module/s within a maximum of two (02) other subsequent occasions unless the approval of the Senate is obtained to do otherwise.

The weightage for the end-semester examination and in-course assessment for a Course Module may be sixty percent (60%) and forty percent (40%) respectively for the final mark assigned to a Course Module. There shall be one in-course assessment for each Course Module, provided that the above shall not apply where there is no end-semester examination is conducted for a given Course Module.

All in-course assessments of any Course Module shall be carried out during the semester in which the Course Module is taught unless otherwise decided by the Senate.

In the case of a repeat candidate or absentee of the end-semester examination, the marks already obtained for in-course assessments shall be carried forward for the computation of marks for the next attempt.

If a candidate repeats a Course Module obtaining less than fifty percent (50%) of the allocated marks for the In-course assessment she/he may re-sit the In-course assessment on the next immediate occasion, provided that a repeat candidate shall not be allocated a mark of more than fifty percent (50%) out of the total.

2.12.1. End-Semester Examination

Each registered student shall apply for the examination through the Student Information System (SIS), which is described elsewhere in this Handbook.

No application for a Semester Examination made by any student shall be entertained by the Examination Branch unless the Heads of each Department have certified that the student has satisfied the minimum required percentage of attendance for each Course Module taught in that Semester. A student shall not take any of the Semester Examinations on more than three occasions and in computing the total number of occasions there shall be taken into account any occasion on which she/he is deemed to have taken the Semester Examination in terms of these By-laws.

A student who passes in Course Modules aggregating to not less than fifteen (15) GP credits may proceed to the next academic year and repeat the Course Modules in which she/he had failed while sitting for the Course Modules of the current academic year for which she/he has registered for. Provided that no student will be eligible to proceed to the next academic year when she/he has failed in Course Modules whose credit values aggregate to more than fifteen (15) GP credits.

2.12.2. Computation of Results

For the final evaluation of the performance of a student in a Course Module in any semester of the Degree Programme, that percentage of the marks obtained by her/him at the in-course assessment as well as that percentage of the marks obtained by her/him at the semester examination, as decided by the Senate on the recommendation of the Faculty Board, shall be taken into account.

Each Course Module at every examination of the Degree Programme shall carry a maximum of 100 marks and be assessed or graded with a mark and a grade according to the following scale:

Range of Marks	Grade	Grade Point Value	Pass/Fail
90–100	A+	4.00	Pass
80–89	Α	4.00	
75–79	A-	3.70	1
70–74	B+	3.30	1
65–69	В	3.00	1
60–64	B-	2.70	
55–59	C+	2.30	1
50–54	С	2.00	
45–49	C-	1.70	Fail
40–44	D+	1.30]
30–39	D	1.00]
00–29	E	0.00	1

- i. Each of the Course Module shall carry a maximum Grade Point Value (hereinafter called GPV) of 4.00.
- ii. A candidate is deemed to have failed a Course Module if she/he has obtained a Grade lower than C.
- iii. A candidate shall obtain a GPV of 2.00 or more for each of the Course Modules to pass those particular Course Modules.
- iv. The maximum grade that could be awarded to a repeat candidate is C.

Cut-off points of the Grade Point Average

1st Class = GPA > 3.70

2nd Upper = 3.3< GPA < 3.69

2nd Lower = 3.0 < GPA < 3.29

Pass = 2.00 < GPA < 2.99

A student who absents herself/himself from the examination in a Course Module without a valid excuse acceptable to the Senate, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board, shall be deemed to have failed in the Course Module and, for the purpose of computation of results, she/he shall be deemed to have received zero marks (GPV 0.00) for the Course Module.

2.12.3. Student Information System

The Student Information System (SIS) (https://sis.cmb.ac.lk/law/) handles all the examination related matters of the students including registration for the academic year, academic course registration, and semester-end examination registration. It also processes examination marks. Students may view their examinations results via SIS and may apply for the academic transcript/results sheets. Registration to the General Convocation too is enabled via SIS.

SIS is administered by the Examination and Registration Branch of the University of Colombo. Students are strictly advised to use the email address issued to them by the University in all university communications

Students may report any issues they encounter with the SIS to the Examinations Branch of the University of Colombo.

2.12.4. Examination Rules and Offences

Please refer to Annexure 1 for the rules relating to Examination Offences and their punishments. It is very important that you familiarize yourself with these rules.

2.13 Prizes and Awards

2.13.1. Granted by the Faculty of Law

Several prizes are awarded to students who excel in their academic work at the Faculty. For more details, please refer to the website of the Examinations Branch of the University.

(https://cmb.ac.lk/examinations)

2.13.2. Granted by the University

The Student of the Year Award

The award is granted to a student who shows excellence in his or her academic studies and also someone with sportsmanship, an interest in aesthetic and cultural activities, with proven leadership and exemplary conduct and character.

The D.P.P. Samarasekera Peace Prize

The prize is given to a student who worked to foster social harmony either within the University Community or outside it through diverse activities and/or to a student who assisted those in need in a courteous, considerate, kind and understanding manner.

• The Canekeratne Prize for General Merit

This prize is limited to the student who receives First or Second Class Upper Division in a Special Degree from any Faculty. This student should show considerable achievements in extracurricular activities, such as holding the captaincy or getting colours in a University 'A' team; having achievements in Debating or Oratory Competitions; producing or acting as lead in plays for recognized University Societies; or winning Gold, Silver or a Bronze Medal at University cultural or similar activity. The eligible student must also have a positive academic record with good attendance and excellent conduct throughout the entire period spent at the

University. The student must provide documentary evidence to prove his/her eligibility.

Professor Thilak Hettiarachchi Award for Academic Excellence

This award is granted to a student who secures a First Class in a Special or General Degree Programme of any Faculty in the University. Consideration is given to publications and research carried out during his/her career, prizes and medals won, scholarships/studentships obtained at the Year I examination and any other scholarships/bursaries, including the Commonwealth Elective Bursary obtained for academic performance during the student career.

2.14 Generic Graduate Attributes

Upon completion of the LL.B degree, the Faculty expects all graduates to demonstrate the following attributes.

1. Access, interpret and apply the law in a given context

A graduate will be able to offer an assessment of the applicable law in relation to an appropriate situation.

2. Develop and effectively articulate legal arguments

A graduate will be able to advance arguments for legal interpretation based on current research and evaluation of the findings of such research.

3. Critique the law and propose law reform where relevant based on respect for human dignity and its diversity, the natural environment, and the rule of law

A graduate will be able to evaluate the normative and practical impact of the law and suggest innovative means of reform for improving respect for human rights and human diversity, the protection of the environment and respect for the rule of law.

She will accept responsibility to play a constructive role in the maintenance and reform of the legal system. She will understand, evaluate and critically reflect upon the interaction of law and society.

4. Effective communication

A graduate will be able to communicate with clarity, consideration and conviction in English and in Sinhala or Tamil as appropriate. He will be able to use English to keep abreast of relevant developments in law and communicate in Sinhala/Tamil in fulfilling their professional obligations.

5. Leadership, ethical and professional conduct

In her actions and interactions, a graduate will be ethical and professional. She will be able to collaborate with colleagues and assume positions of leadership. She will provide a quality service to employers, government and individual clients.

6. Engage in life-long learning for professional and personal development

A graduate will be able to continuously advance and update his legal knowledge, improve his legal and general skills and progress in his professional and personal capacity.

Part III: Student Life

3.1. Student Life as an Undergraduate

The Faculty of Law encourages students to engage in academics with gusto and fervour. Student life is much greater than what happens in a classroom and an examination hall. At the Faculty of Law, you will have countless doors open to you. Your challenge is to pick, participate and progress. The wide variety of extra-curricular activities that are available would develop your personality, form bonds of friendship with students within and outside our faculty and teach you to navigate that intricate balance between study and play.

Sir Ivor Jennings (founding Vice Chancellor of the University of Ceylon) in his essay on student life entitled 'The Use of a University Education' (1949) wrote,

"What you must do, then, if you wish to succeed both here and in your careers is to work regularly and consistently at your course-modules, to read as widely as you can, to play games and take part in some other university activities, and to take an interest in the social, political and cultural movements that are going on around you."

Equipped with the understanding that a world of opportunity is open to you, waiting to be pursued at the Faculty of Law, the section that follows gives you an insight into the activities that you can pursue in your four years at Faculty.

3.2 Students' Union and Faculty Board Representation

Elections to the Law Faculty Students' Union are held every year during the first term, after nominations have been received by the Dean. These elections are governed by the Bylaws of the University and students are advised to consult them.

As per the By-Law No. 1 of 1989, every registered undergraduate student of a Faulty is eligible to be nominated as a candidate for election of office-bearer or member of the Faculty Students' Union.

Elections are a democratic process and the Faculty encourages all students to engage in student politics.

3.3 Societies

The following societies provide an opportunity for students to engage in co-curricular and extracurricular activities during their course of study:

- 1) Aesthetic appreciation of Law Society
- 2) Hindu Society
- 3) Moot Court and Debating Society
- 4) Muslim Mujlis
- 5) Rotaract Club
- 6) Students' Union
- 7) Thulawa Association

3.4 Sports

The University of Colombo offers the following sports which are open to all students of the Faculty of Law.

- Badminton Men & Women
- Baseball
- Basketball Men & Women
- Beach Volleyball Men & Women
- Boxing
- Carrom Men & Women
- Cricket
- Elle Men & Women
- Football
- Hockey Men & Women
- Kabaddi Men
- Karate Men & Women
- Netball
- Road Race
- Rowing Men & Women
- Rugby
- Scrabble Men & Women
- Table Tennis Men & Women
- Tennis Men & Women
- Track & Field Men & Women
- Volleyball Men & Women
- Weightlifting Men
- Wrestling

3.5 Counselling Services

The University provides a free counselling service to all undergraduate students with regard to any challenges they may face. The student counsellors, who function under the guidance of the Senior Student Counsellor, provide counselling in relation to academic matters as well as personal matters.

A student may consult either a male Counsellor or a female Counsellor, based on their preference during scheduled consultation hours or at any alternative time by prior appointment. Confidentiality is strictly maintained ensuring a safe and supportive environment to the students. The Student Counsellors' Office is located in the building between the Arts Faculty and the Main Library. Furthermore, the Law Faculty has its own designated Student Counsellors, who are readily available to provide assistance to the students.

The Student Counsellors for the year 2025 from the Faculty of Law are as follows:

Permanent Student Counsellor

• Mr. Isuru Liyanage - isuru@law.cmb.ac.lk

Temporary Student Counsellors

- Ms.Buddhika Munasinghe buddhika@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Mr. Asela Dissanayaka asela@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Ms. Tavini Nanayakkara tavini@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Mr. Kavindu Hewa Geeganage kavindu@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Mr. V. Kamal Ahamed kamal@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Mr. Manawa Nanayakkara manawa@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Mr. Roshel Perera roshel@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Ms. Prineetha Bandaranayake prineetha@law.cmb.ac.lk
- Ms. Udani Imesha imesha@law.cmb.ac.lk

3.6 Student Discipline

Students are expected to behave in a respectful and non-violent manner in order to maintain peace and harmony in the University. Students who act violently or against any rules of the University will be punished according to the gravity of their act. There are several instruments that regulate student conduct, including the By-Laws issued by the University.

Provisions of the Universities Act on Student Discipline

Sections 15(xii) and 135(d) recognize the authority of the University Grants Commission and the governing body of the university to respectively investigate or cause investigation into matters pertaining to discipline of students and to take remedial measures in the event the standards are not being met and enact by-laws in respect of the conditions of resident and the discipline of students.

UGC Circular on Student Discipline

The UGC, in Commission Circular No. 946, has taken action to issue a set of common guidelines on disciplinary procedure and imposing punishments to be adopted by each university.

The list contains offences along with respective punishments which range from severe warning to suspension and withholding of examination results or certificates as appropriate all the way to expulsion depending on the gravity of the offence.

It lists such actions as:

- refusing or neglecting to produce the Student ID when called to do so;
- violation of by-laws;
- destroying, damaging, defacing, alienating, misusing or unlawfully appropriating university property, refusal to carry out lawful orders of the administration;
- furnishing false information;
- being under the influence of or in the possession of an intoxicant, liquor, narcotic or other addictive drug, consuming or supplying liquor, narcotic, addictive drug or gambling within the

precincts of the University/Campus;

- disruption of university activities;
- obstruction or harassment of staff members or any other employees of the university;
- prevents or obstructs any student in carrying out his studies, research or other legitimate activity; or
- abuse/harassment (including any form of ragging/molestation) sexual harassment and/or intimidation whether physical or mental of any student or staff member of the university.

Policy against Sexual Harassment

The University has a policy for the prevention of sexual harassment and provides a complaints mechanism for persons affected by sexual harassment. It applies to persons and places that come under the aegis of the University of Colombo.

This policy displays the commitment of the University of Colombo towards maintaining a learning environment and workplace that are free of sexual harassment to all persons, irrespective of gender. Based on the fundamental values of human dignity, gender equality and respect for due process, this policy describes what sexual harassment means, aims to prevent the occurrence of sexual harassment within the University of Colombo, and provides suitable procedures for inquiring into, and punishing acts of sexual harassment.

The University's 'Policy Against Sexual Harassment and Procedural Steps for Enforcement' can be accessed here:

https://cmb.ac.lk/policy-against-sexual-harassment

3.7 Ragging

The harassment of first year students by senior students has been a serious problem on university campuses in Sri Lanka. Described as "ragging", this unacceptable practice has since become a criminal offence that has no place in an academic setting.

Any student found ragging will be reported to the police and arrest and prosecution will follow. As students of the Faculty of Law, you are expected to neither participate in this illegal activity nor condone it in any form.

i. The Prohibition of Ragging Act

The Prohibition of Ragging and Other Forms of Violence in Educational Institutions Act No. 20 of 1998 makes ragging a distinct and punishable offence. Any act which causes or is likely to cause physical or psychological injury, fear or mental pain in a student or a member of staff is called ragging. Not only a person who commits ragging but also those who participate in ragging are liable under the Act. Ragging can take place within or outside an educational institution.

The punishment for ragging is two years rigorous imprisonment. In addition, the court can award compensation to the victim. Where ragging leads to sexual harassment or grievous hurt, the punishment is increased to ten years imprisonment and an award of compensation. The latter offence is generally non-bailable.

In addition, the court can, depending on the gravity of the offence, order the expulsion of a student from an educational institution if that person is found guilty of any of the offences contained in the Act.

The staff members of the Faculty of Law have taken a unanimous decision to respond strongly against any student who engages in ragging. Please join the staff and the majority of students who reject this criminal conduct and help to eliminate ragging from the Faculty and the University.

Part IV: Becoming a Lawyer

Upon the successful completion of the LL.B (Hons.) degree, several career pathways will be open to you. These include serving in the judiciary, joining the public service, working in a legal firm, engaging in corporate work, becoming a private counsel, or becoming a legal academic.

To represent anyone before a court of law, you ought to be admitted to the Bar. In Sri Lanka, the pathway to admission to the legal profession is through the Sri Lanka Law College. When you are enrolled as an Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka, you become a member of Sri Lanka's legal profession. Many students go through this process and then choose from the different career pathways that are open to an LL.B graduate. Regardless of which career path you choose, once you take oaths as a lawyer, you are expected to respect the ethics of your profession.

4.1. Professional Responsibility

On the professional responsibilities of lawyers, the following extracts from Lord Neuberger's speech at a conference of the Bar Councils of Northern Ireland and Ireland, Belfast 'The Future of the Bar' (20 June 2014) are instructive.

'It is right to begin by reminding ourselves that legal practice has an important context not shared by other occupations. Lawyers have a special position in society not because they are loved or because they are particularly admirable people, but because they are responsible for the rule of law. That is true whether they administer law as judges, advise on law as legal advisers or act as advocates in courts and tribunals, whether independent, or employed. The rule of law is fundamental to a modern democratic society.'

The Supreme Court (Conduct of and Etiquette for Attorneys-at-Law) Rules 1988 apply to all lawyers in Sri Lanka. The Sri Lanka Bar Association is the professional body for Sri Lankan lawyers.

4.2. Attorneys-at-Law Examination

Several exemptions are provided to LL.B graduates and these are determined by the Council of Legal Education and students are encouraged to refer to any amendments made to the relevant exemptions, requirements and procedures.

Once the Final Examination of the Law College is completed, students have to undergo a six-month apprenticeship period with a senior lawyer, in addition to following the practical training programme conducted by the Sri Lanka Law College.

4.3. Alumni Associations

Upon graduation, a graduate becomes an alumnus of that university. An Alumni Association is a way of serving society and the university. At the University of Colombo, many alumni support the University in their individual capacity and also collectively through alumni associations. Students at the Faculty benefit from the support offered by two alumni associations at the University: the Alumni Association of the Law Faculty and the Alumni Association of the University of Colombo.

4.3.1. Alumni Association of the Faculty of Law

Graduates of the Faculty of Law have formed an Association called the Alumni Association of the Faculty of Law (AAFL). This was formed under the leadership of the late Justice Mark Fernando, who was its president for many years.

The AAFL has been actively involved in furthering the interests of the students of the Faculty. Its activities include the organisation of guest lectures, seminars, webinars and discussions on a variety of course-modules, conducting career guidance sessions, implementing a mentorship programme, internship programmes and helping in apprenticeship placements.

Further Information is available at https://alumnilawuoc.lk/

4.3.2. Alumni Association of the University

The Alumni Association of the University of Colombo is the apex body of the alumni of various faculties of the University, forming a link between its membership and the University. Today, the Association continues its role of fostering close ties between the student body, University and its alumni.

The Alumni Association of the University of Colombo not only conducts various programmes and initiatives targeting the development and welfare of students and its members but also conducts public forums to create awareness and discussion in matters of public importance.

(Adapted from https://colomboalumni.org/)

5. Explore the City

Take full advantage of the fact that you are studying at a metropolitan university in the heart of Colombo. If you are up for a little urban adventure, this city has much to offer that will enrich your student experience. There is always something to see and do with your friends when you want some time away from the Faculty and the University.

History/Culture/Science

- National Museum, 53, Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha, Colombo 07
- Sri Lanka Planetarium, Prof Stanley Wijesundera Mawatha, Colombo 07
- JDA Perera Gallery, 46 Horton Place, Colombo 07
- National Art Gallery, 106 Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha, Colombo 07
- The Bawa Space, 42/1, Horton Place, Colombo 07
- Saskia Fernando Paradise Road Gallery, 41, Horton Place, Colombo 07

Nature/Outdoors

- Independence Square Park, Colombo 07
- Viharamahadevi Park, Colombo 07
- Beddagana Wetland Park, 139 Rampart Rd, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
- Bellanwila Park, Boralesgamuwa
- Diyatha Uyana, Battaramulla
- Port City Colombo
- Mt. Lavinia Beach
- Thalangama Wetlands

Entertainment

- Kamatha Theatre, BMICH Complex, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07
- Lionel Wendt Theatre, 18, Guildford Crescent, Colombo 07
- Majestic City, 10 Station Road, Colombo 04
- Havelock City Mall, 324, Havelock Road, Colombo 06
- Arcade Independence Square, Colombo 07
- Saturday Good Market, Nuga Tree Car Park, Colombo Racecourse, Colombo 07

Food and Beverages

- Majestic City Food Arcade, 10, Station Road, Colombo 04
- Raheema Hotel, 44/1, Kumaratunga Munidasa Mw.,Colombo
- Perera and Sons, 31 Havelock Road, Colombo 05
- Sen-Saal, 240, Havelock Road, Colombo 05
- Café on the 5th, 108, 5th Ln, Colombo 03
- Barista, Laksala Building No. 7, Reid Avenue, Colombo 07
- Nelum Kole, 11 Lauries Rd, Colombo 04

Off-Campus Libraries, Information Centres and Study Spaces

- Colombo Public Library, 15 Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha, Colombo 07
- National Library of Sri Lanka, 14, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07
- Sri Lanka National Archives, 7, Philip Gunawardena Mawatha (Reid Avenue), Colombo 07
- Lakmahal Community Library, 8A Alfred House Rd, Colombo 03

- Law and Society Trust, 102/3 Barnes Pl, Colombo 07
- International Centre for Ethnic Studies, 2 Kynsey Rd, Colombo 08
- Centre for Policy Alternatives, 6/5, Layards Road, Colombo 05
- The Asia Foundation, 30/1, Selbourne Rd, Colombo 03
- The Nadesan Centre, Charles Circus, Colombo 03

6. Contact Details

Faculty of Law University of Colombo 94, Cumarathunga Munidasa Mawatha Colombo 03. https://law.cmb.ac.lk/

Telephone Numbers and emails:

Dean	00 94 11 2502001
	dean@law.cmb.ac.lk
Head,	00 94 11 2585638
Department of Private and Comparative Law	head.pcl@law.cmb.ac.lk
Head,	00 94 11 2585639
Department of Public and International Law	head.pil@law.cmb.ac.lk
Head,	00 94 11 2590570
Department of Commercial Law	commercial@law.cmb.ac.lk
Dean's Office	00 94 11 2500942
	0094 11 2502001 (fax)
Senior Assistant	0094 11 2590556
Registrar	sar@law.cmb.ac.lk

Annexure:

Examination Offences and Punishments

Al examination offences are reported to the Examination Committee. The Committee should investigate and make recommendations including punishments. The decision of the Examination Committee is forwarded to the Senate and any appeal against the decision of the Senate shall be made to the Examination Committee which shall then be considered by the Examination Committee and a recommendation, if any, made.

Examination offences may be classified as follows:

	Offences	Punishments
Exa	amination Offences Inside the Exam	Hall
1.	Possession of unauthorized notes/formulas/documents/equipm	nent*
	1.1 Notes/formulas written on University material Admission card/University answer sheets etc. (Answer books/sheets, Admission Cards, Graph Papers, Statistical Paper, Map and any document provided by the University are considered as University Materials)	Minimum of cancellation of the results of that particular paper and a maximum of the cancellation of the results of the Semester / Year End / stream examination, in which the offence occurred.
	1.2 Notes/ formulas written on a non-university Material including paper, pencil case calculator, clothes, own body etc.	
	1.3 Possession of electronic equipment such as mobile phones, tablets, note-books, data processing wristwatches, etc.	

2.	Copy or attempt to copy	
	2.1 Copy or attempt to copy from the script of another candidate.	Results of the paper of that semester/year-end/stream examination, which the offence
	2.2 Facilitating or providing opportunity to others in the hall to copy by keeping his/her answer scripts or any other document in such a way that the other candidate/s can see or by word of mouth or by signs and gestures.	occurred, will be cancelled.
3.	Removing examination stationery or any other materials	Written warning by Vice- Chancellor for the 1 instance,
	provided for the examination out of the examination hall.	Cancellation of the results of the exam paper for repetition of the offence.
4.	Writing name on the answer script	Written warning by the Dean of the Faculty and cancellation of results of the paper on repetition for the following years.
5.	Disorderly Conduct	
	5.1 Not carrying out the instruction of Supervisor/Invigilators (disorderly conduct) during the examination and immediately before and after it inside the exam hall.	Cancellation of the results of the paper or to expel the student from the Hall once he/she refuses to abide by the instructions given by the Supervisor in consultation with
	5.2 Disturbing supervisor or his/her staff, or to other candidates in the examination hall or its precincts.	the Dean of the Faculty.
6.	Impersonation	
	6.1 Impersonating any candidate in the examination hall or attempt to do so before the commencement of the examination	Expel the impersonator from the Examination Halland cancellation of the impersonator's (if impersonator is also a student of the

		university) entire year examination in which the offence occurred and debar the impersonator from sitting any university examination in next three subsequent academic years. If the impersonator is an outsider, the matter requires inquiry and informing appropriate authorities.
	6.2 Allowing himself himself/herself to be impersonated by another person	Cancellation of the candidate's entire year's examinations in which the offence occurred and debar from sitting any university examination in next three subsequent academic years.
Exa	amination Offences Outside the Exa	m Hall
7.	Obtain or attempt to obtain prior k papers / questions	nowledge of Examination
	7.1 Obtain or attempt to obtain prior knowledge of Examination papers/questions	Cancel the results of the entire semester/year/stream examination and to be reported for disciplinary action
	7.2 Aiding and abetting to the above by another candidate	,
8.	Plagiarism (submitting assignmen reports/Extended Essays/ Disserta done wholly or partly by another the someone else's work without giving	tion/Thesis which has been nan the candidates and quoting
	8.1 Assignments/term papers/project reports (considered as an assessment component of the subject/course unit)	Assign zero marks and written warning by the Dean of the Faculty
	8.2 Extended Essays/Dissertation (considered as a subject/course unit)	Cancellation of the results of the extended essays/dissertation and consider it as an exhausted attempt.

	8.3 Thesis /Dissertation/Research paper (partial requirement of Postgraduate Degree)	Cancellation of the results of the thesis/ dissertation/ research paper and suspension from the University for such period as the Senate decides on the recommendation of the Examination Committee.
	8.4 Thesis/Dissertation (Full requirement of the Postgraduate Degree)	Cancellation of his/her candidature and debarment for future registration for any postgraduate programme in the University
	8.5 Aiding and abetting any of the above examination offence shall be deemed to have committee that offence.	If aiding and abetting is done by another candidate of the University, the same punishment as the person committing the offence is applicable.
9	Forging signature of any official of trelated to the Examination process documents	
	9.1 In dissertation/thesis – by students	Cancellation of results of the dissertation/thesis and consider it as an exhausted attempt
	9.2 In other examination or official documents (such as transcript, test amur) by students	Appropriate punishment recommended by the Examination Committee and decided by the Senate
	9.3 In any document (including dissertation/thesis, transcripts, test amur) by Postgraduate Students	Cancellation of candidature in the programme.

Notes:

Those who are punished for an examination offence will not be eligible for a Class or a Merit /Distinction pass. They are not eligible for any awards, prizes or scholarships, which are awarded for academic excellence.

^{*}Where a student has been in possession of unauthorized materials at an examination hall, he/she shall be presumed to have made use of such material until he/she proves the contrary.