

UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (UOK-QF)



MAY, 2023

University Vision

"To become a centre of excellence in creation and dissemination of knowledge for sustainable development."

University Mission

"To nurture intellectual citizens through creativity and innovation, who contribute to the national development."

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Message from the Vice Chancellor

Since the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework was first drawn up in 2012, the University of Kelaniya has been at the forefront of implementing its recommendations and meeting its requirements. The University of Kelaniya Qualifications Framework was drawn up in 2016 in order to ensure that while implementing the SLQF, the standards maintained by the University of Kelaniya were documented and implemented consistently across all the programmes of study offered by the University. Thus both the SLQF and the UKQF have been regular points of reference in the development of new programmes of study and in the revision of previously approved programmes offered by our University.

This current revision of the UKQF addresses a few deficiencies in the original version published six years ago. It also incorporates some recent guidance issued by the UGC in relation to quality assurance in curriculum design and development.

I hope that this revised edition will be used widely across the University of Kelaniya so that our academic activities will meet and exceed national expectations.

Prof Nilanthi de Silva

Vice-Chancellor

15 May 2023

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1. Introduction

These guidelines were first prepared in 2016 by a committee appointed by the Senate of the University of Kelaniya, to ensure that all qualifications awarded by the University are of a consistent quality, and that course curricula are compliant with the requirements stipulated for each Level in the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF). The Senate nominees who comprised the Committee represented all six Faculties of the University: Commerce & Management Studies, Graduate Studies, Humanities, Medicine, Science and Social Sciences. As senior academics they brought many years of experience in undergraduate and postgraduate education to the discussions that lead to the final document that is now published here.

The initial version of these guidelines was developed based on the 10 levels laid out in the First Edition of the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework, published by the Ministry of Higher Education in 2013. During the course of the past year, these guidelines were modified to suit the 12 levels stipulated in the updated SLQF approved by the University Grants Commission in September 2015. Some of the standards laid down in these guidelines are different to those stipulated in the SLQF, but all such differences are because the Committee agreed that the University of Kelaniya should insist on a higher standard than that stipulated as the minimum requirement of the SLQF. So, although the University of Kelaniya Qualifications Framework (UOK-QF) and the SLQF are not identical, the standards stipulated in the UOK-QF are compliant with the SLQF.

For each of the 12 levels, guidance is provided regarding notation of course codes, minimum admission requirements, progression pathway for those who have obtained the qualification, nomenclature of the qualification, and requirements for award of the qualification. Guidance is also provided with regard to fall-back qualifications that may be offered to students who desire early exit.

It is our earnest hope that these guidelines will assist all academic staff members who embark on development of course curricula for new qualifications to be offered by the University of Kelaniya. We also hope that the guidelines will be used whenever amendments are made to existing course curricula. At the same time, they will provide the Curriculum, Learning, Teaching and Evaluation Committee (CULTEC), of the Senate with an instrument to benchmark all qualifications offered by the University of Kelaniya and ensure their quality.

University of Kelaniya Qualification Framework developed in 2016, was subsequently revised in 2022, by Senate nominated committee representing all seven Faculties of the University: Commerce & Management Studies, Computing and Technology, Graduate Studies, Humanities, Medicine, Science and Social Sciences, to include current development and requirements.

2. Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF) attributes

Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF) offers a transparent and coherent framework for the learner to optimize his/her objective of learning throughout life, while at the same time improving many vital aspects of learning and assessing the learning process. The SLQF recognizes qualification types in twelve levels (SLQF Level 1 – 12) and a credit value is allocated to each of its component parts and to the whole qualification.

2.1 Naming of Qualifications

Qualification type is the first name given to a qualification.

Senior Secondary Level: Certificate, and Advanced Certificate

Undergraduate Level: Diploma, Higher Diploma, Bachelors, and Bachelor's Honours

Postgraduate Level: Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate diploma, Masters, and Doctorate

Designator is the second name given to a qualification.

This indicates the broad area of study or discipline.

Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees have designators.

Ex: Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Science

Master of Commerce

However, designators are not used for Diplomas and Certificates.

Qualifier is the third name given to a qualification.

This is used to indicate the field of specialization of a qualification.

Ex: Bachelor of Science Honours in Chemistry,

Postgraduate Certificate in Library Science,

Master of Philosophy in Environmental Science.

2.2 Volume of Learning

The volume of learning at each level is described in terms of credits and in the SLQF the student workload of a study programme is defined as 1500 notional learning hours per academic year. One credit is considered equivalent to 50 notional learning hours for a taught course, laboratory studies course or field studies/clinical work. In the case of industrial training, including time allocated for assessments and in case of research, including time allocated for literature survey, one credit is considered equivalent to a minimum of 100 notional hours.

3.Course Unit System

3.1 Course Units

There are three types of of course units, namely **Compulsory (C)**, **Optional (O)** and **Auxiliary (A)** considered in the qualifications offered by UOK.

All **compulsory course units** of a given subject together form the minimum core subject content required to be learned by a student following those units as the subject.

The **optional course units** are those relevant but outside the core of a particular subject.

Auxiliary course units are, in general, designed to provide fundamental knowledge and to enable students to develop some skills in selected areas of the subject. Auxiliary course units are offered, without any pre-requisites, to students other than those who are registered for that particular subject.

Some course units require courses of study that must be completed before students are allowed to follow them. Such courses of study are called **pre-requisites (PR)**. Some other course units require certain course units, which are called **co-requisites (CR)**, to be taken simultaneously with them.

3.2 Course codes

An alphanumeric code is used to identify a course unit. The code consists of five digits prefixed by a four-letter acronym which refers to the principal discipline of the course content of the unit.

The first digit denotes the University level of the course unit. However, corresponding Sri Lanka Qualification Framework (SLQF) level has been given in each level.

The second digit indicates the semester in which the course unit is offered as well as whether the course unit is for internal or external programmes. Following notation is applicable for identifying them.

Course Unit offered Programme	Semester			
	One	Two	Both One and Two	Either One or Two
Internal	1	2	3	4
External	6	7	8	9

The third and fourth digits together form a number assigned by the Department that conducts it. To identify the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework Level (SLQF L) of a course from the number assigned by the Department, the third and fourth digits are utilised as follows:

SLQF Level	University level (Year of Study)	Qualification awarded	Number(s) assigned by the Department for the third and fourth digits
12	-	Doctoral Degree	01 to 99
11	-	Master of Philosophy Degree	01 to 99
10	-	Masters with course work and a research component	01 to 99
9	-	Masters by course work	01 to 90 (All Faculties except for Medicine) 51 to 90 (Medicine)
8	-	Postgraduate Diploma	
7		Postgraduate Certificate	
6	4 & 5	Bachelors Honours (<i>Medical Degrees</i>)	01 to 99
	4	Bachelors Honours	01 to 99
5	3	Bachelor's Honours (<i>Medical Degrees</i>)	01 to 99
	3	Bachelors Honours	01 to 99
	3	Bachelors, Bachelors Double Major	01 to 99
4	2	Bachelors Honours (<i>Medical Degrees</i>)	21 to 99
	2	Bachelors Honours	21 to 99
	2	Bachelors, Bachelors Double Major	21 to 99
	2	Higher Diploma	01 to 20
3	1	Bachelors Honours (<i>Medical Degrees</i>)	21 to 99
	1	Bachelors Honours	21 to 99
	1	Bachelors, Bachelors Double Major	21 to 99
		Diploma	01 to 20
2		Advanced Certificate	51 to 99
1		Certificate	01 to 50

The fifth digit signifies its credit value as a single digit. Credit value can be any number between 1 to 33 for a given course unit, 60 for Master of Philosophy and 90 for Doctoral programme. The following notation is applicable for converting them to a single digit.

Credit Value	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Corresponding Single Digit	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J

Credit Value	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	60	90
Corresponding Single Digit	K	L	M	N	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	α	β

3.2 Credit requirements for the award of qualifications

The following Table denotes the minimum credit requirement for awards.

SLQF L	Qualification awarded	Minimum Volume of Learning for the Award
SLQF L 12	Doctor of Philosophy/ Doctor of Business Administration / Doctor of Medicine / Doctor of Science	Minimum 3 years of fulltime or equivalent time of original research after SLQF L 6 or above
SLQF L 11	Master of Philosophy/DM	Minimum 2 years of fulltime or equivalent time of original research after SLQF L 6 or above
SLQF L 10	Master's with course work and a research component	60 credits after SLQF L 5 or SLQF L 6 which include a research component of minimum 15 credits
SLQF L 9	Master's by course work	30 credits after SLQF L 5 or SLQF L 6
SLQF L 8	Postgraduate Diploma	25 credits after SLQF L 5 or SLQF L 6
SLQF L 7	Postgraduate Certificate	20 credits after SLQF L 5 or SLQF L 6
SLQF L 6	Bachelor's Honours (Medical Degrees)	150 credits after SLQF L 2 of which 120 credits after SLQF L 3, of which 90 credits after SLQF L 4, of which 60 credits after SLQF L 5
	Bachelor's Honours	120 credits after SLQF L 2 of which 90 credits after SLQF L 3, of which 60 credits after SLQF L 4, of which 30 credits after SLQF L 5
SLQF L 5	Bachelors, Bachelor's Double Major	90 credits after SLQF L 2 of which 60 credits after SLQF L 3, of which 30 credits after SLQF L 4
SLQF L 4	Higher Diploma	60 credits after SLQF L 2 of which 30 credits after SLQF L 3
SLQF L 3	Diploma	30 credits after SLQF L 2
SLQF L 2	Advanced Certificate	
SLQF L 1	Certificate	

Notation for course codes, minimum admission requirements, qualification which will be awarded with abbreviation(s) and eligibility for the award of the qualification are given below for each SLQF Level.

It is noted that SLQF does not deal with short term courses offered by any higher education institution (HEI), that are designed to meet specific learning outcomes. These courses may be of few months duration and a certificate may be awarded on completion of such courses. Those certificates are not in line with the qualifications identified in the SLQF.

3.3 Grading System

Marks obtained in respect of a course unit will be graded according to the following grading system. A grade point value as indicated below is assigned to each grade.

Range of Marks	Grade	Grade Point Value
85- 100	A+	4.0
70-84	A	4.0
65-69	A-	3.7
60-64	B+	3.3
55-59	B	3.0
50-54	B-	2.7
45-49	C+	2.3
40-44	C	2.0
35-39	C-	1.7
30-34	D+	1.3
25-29	D	1.0
00-24	E	0.0

3.4 Grade Point Average

Grade Point Average (GPA) is the credit-weighted arithmetic mean of the Grade Point Values, which is determined by dividing the total number of Grade Points earned, by the total number of GPA credits. GPA shall be computed to the second decimal place. GPA may range from 0.00 to 4.00.

4. Recognition of Prior Learning

Recognition (or Accreditation) of Prior Learning enables the University to offer students an advanced placement on a given course of study, based on evidence of prior learning relevant to the subject area.

Principles adopted by UOK:

1. Decisions on admission and Recognition of Prior Learning are considered separately. Eligibility for admission is decided based on the stipulated minimum admission requirement. A student admitted to a programme after fulfilling the approved admission requirements may be considered for advanced placement on the basis of Recognition of Prior Learning, considering the content mapping and the grades obtained for relevant individual course units/modules.
2. At least 50% of the total volume of credits for the award of a UOK qualification must be earned at UOK. In other words, not more than 50% of the total volume of credits can be earned at other institutions.
3. No exemptions are allowed on the basis of RPL at the highest level of learning applicable to the UOK qualification to be awarded.
4. Prior learning should be within 10 years from the date of application for RPL for it to be formally accepted for advanced placement on a programme of study offered by UOK.
5. The certificate accompanying award of the UOK qualification will clearly state exemptions / advanced placements that have been granted on the basis of Recognition of Prior Learning

5. Admission requirements, Qualification(s) and Eligibility criteria for the Awards

Admission requirements are in compliance with the SLQF.

5.1 Certificate

a. Notation for course codes

University Level (UOK L)	0
SLQF L	1
Semester 1	UNIV 01012
Semester 2	UNIV 02012
Semester 1&2	UNIV 03012
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 04012
Minimum Credits	30

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is completion of junior secondary level, which is Grade 9 or an equivalent. Completion of primary education and certified work experience equivalent to a minimum period of two years in a particular field may also be considered as an equivalent qualification for admission to SLQF L 1 provided that the applicant is at least 16 years of age.

c. Progression:

Completion of SLQF L 1 meets the minimum entry requirement for a qualification in SLQF L 2, in a particular area of specialization.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum one qualifier*)

Example: Certificate in Abcd; [Cert (Abcd)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) For the award of a Certificate, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 1,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and

- (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years.
- (ii) For the award of a Certificate with Merit, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 1
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 1.
- (iii) For the award of a Certificate with Distinction, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 1
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 1.

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade C or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the next available attempt in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be C. In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The valid date for awarding any qualification will be the 1st day of the next month to the month when the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: After awarding a qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.2 Advanced Certificate

a. Notation for course codes

University Level (UOK L)	0
SLQF L	2
Semester 1	UNIV 01512
Semester 2	UNIV 02512
Semester 1&2	UNIV 03512
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 04512
Minimum Credits	30

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) or Completion of SLQF L 1 in the same area of specialization or an equivalent qualification or completion of NVQ level 3.

c. Progression:

Completion of SLQF L 2 meets the minimum entry requirement for a qualification in SLQF L 3 in that particular area of specialization.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum two qualifiers*)

Examples: Advanced Certificate in Abcd; [AdvCert (Abcd)]

Advanced Certificate in Abcd in Efgh; [AdvCert (Abcd-Efgh)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

(i) For the award of an Advanced Certificate, a student must

- (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 2,
- (b) obtain a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
- (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years.

(ii) For the award of an Advanced Certificate with Merit, a student must

- (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 2
- (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and
- (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 2.

- (iii) For the award of an Advanced Certificate with Distinction, a student must
- (a) accumulate grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 2
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 2.

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade C or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the next available attempt in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be C. In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The valid date for awarding any qualification will be the 1st day of the next month to the month when the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: After awarding a qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.3 Diploma

a. Notation for course codes

University Level (UOK L)	1
Year of Study	1
SLQF L	3
Semester 1	UNIV 11012
Semester 2	UNIV 12012
Semester 1&2	UNIV 13012.
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 14012
Minimum Credits	30

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is to obtain at least ‘S’ Grades for all three approved subjects at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) examination in one sitting or an equivalent qualification. A foundation course equivalent to SLQF L 2 after a minimum of 12 years of schooling followed by passing an aptitude test, or completion of NVQ level 4 or accredited work experience or accredited prior learning followed by a corresponding cognitive bridging programme of minimum 30 credits as determined by the Senate may also be considered as equivalent qualification for admission to SLQF L 3 in a particular field of specialization.

c. Progression:

Completion of SLQF L 3 meets the minimum entry requirement for a qualification in SLQF L 4 in that particular field of specialization.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum two qualifiers*)

Examples: Diploma in Abcd; [Dip (Abcd)]

Diploma in Abcd in Efgh; [Dip (Abcd-Efgh)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) For the award of a Diploma, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and

- (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years.
- (ii) For the award of a Diploma with Merit, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 3.
- (iii) For the award of a Diploma with Distinction, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 3.

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade C or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the next available attempt in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be C. In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include additional requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The valid date for awarding any qualification will be the 1st day of the next month to the month when the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: After awarding a qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.4 Higher Diploma

a. Notation for course codes

University Level (UOK L)	1	2
Year of Study		
SLQF L	3	4
Semester 1	UNIV 11012	UNIV 21012
Semester 2	UNIV 12012	UNIV 22012
Semester 1&2	UNIV 13012	UNIV 23012
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 14012	UNIV 24012
Minimum Credits	30	30

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is to obtain at least ‘S’ Grades for all three approved subjects from the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) examination in one sitting or an equivalent qualification and completion of a minimum of 30 credits at SLQF L 3. Completion of NVQ level 5 followed by a corresponding cognitive bridging programme of minimum 30 credits as determined by the Senate may also be considered as an equivalent qualification in that field of specialization.

c. Progression:

Completion of Higher Diploma meets the minimum requirement for admission to SLQF L 5 in the same or a related subject.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum one qualifier*)

Example: Higher Diploma in Abcd; [HDip (Abcd)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) For the award of a Higher Diploma, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQLs 3 and 4, of which at least 30 credits must be from SLQF L 4,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of four consecutive academic years.

- (ii) For the award of a Higher Diploma with Merit, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF Ls 3 and 4, of which at least 30 credits must be from SLQF L 4,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of two consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3 and 4.
- (iii) For the award of a Higher Diploma with Distinction, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF Ls 3 and 4, of which at least 30 credits must be from SLQF L 4,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of two consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3 and 4.

f. Early Exit qualification:

A student registered for a programme of study leading to award of a Higher Diploma, who desires early exit from the programme may be considered for award of a Diploma, provided that the criteria for award of such qualification (with Merit or Distinction, as the case may be), are fulfilled.

g. Award of Fallback Qualification:

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Higher Diploma, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3 and/or 4,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years

may be considered for the award of a Diploma as a fall-back qualification by the Board of Examiners.

h. Lateral Entry

A student who joins SLQF L 4 with a relevant Diploma can be permitted to complete the Higher Diploma of SLQF L 4 within a period of three consecutive academic years. However, credits earned for the SLQF L 3 from a relevant Diploma awarded by any other recognised University or Higher Educational Institute that has been previously approved by the Examination Qualification Reviewing Board, which is a Sub Committee of the University Senate, may be transferred to the relevant subjects with credit values of SLQF L 3 by the Board of Examiners for the evaluation of the qualification up to a maximum of 1/3 from the minimum number of credits required for the qualification awarded. Moreover, up to a maximum of 1/2 from the minimum number of credits required for the qualification awarded may be considered for programmes having mutual agreements with the University of Kelaniya . Additionally, any prior qualifications considered must be clearly spelled out in the certificates of all qualifications awarded under this criterion.

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade C or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the next available attempt in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be C. In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include additional requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The effective date for awarding any qualification (except in the case of a fall-back qualification) will be the 1st day of the next month from the month where the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: The effective date of award of a fall-back qualification shall be the 1st day of the month after which the Senate has approved award of the qualification.

Note 5: After awarding any qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.5 Bachelor's Degree

a. Notation for course codes

University Level (UOK L) Year of Study	1	2	3
SLQF L	3	4	5
Semester 1	UNIV 11212	UNIV 21212	UNIV 31212
Semester 2	UNIV 12212	UNIV 22212	UNIV 32212
Semester 1&2	UNIV 13212.	UNIV 23212	UNIV 33212
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 14212	UNIV 24212	UNIV 34212
Minimum Credits	30	30	30

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is to obtain at least 'S' Grades for all three approved subjects from the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) examination in one sitting or an equivalent qualification and completion of at least 60 credits of SLQF Ls 3 and 4 with a minimum of 30 credits at SLQF L 4 or equivalent. Completion of NVQ level 6 followed by a corresponding cognitive bridging programme of minimum 30 credits as determined by the Senate may also be considered as an equivalent qualification for admission in that field of specialisation.

c. Progression:

Completion of Bachelor's Degree meets the minimum entry requirement for admission to any SLQF Ls from 7 to 10. If the qualification holder obtains a minimum GPA of 3.00 in the scale of 0-4, he/she may be considered for admission to SLQF L 11 on successful completion of an MPhil Qualifying examination which will be conducted after completion of 30 credits equivalent to those of SLQF L 6 in the same or a related subject.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum two qualifiers*)

Examples: Bachelor of Arts; [BA]

Bachelor of Science; [BSc]

Bachelor of Arts in Abcd; [BA (Abcd)]

Bachelor of Science in Abcd; [BSc (Abcd)]

Bachelor of Arts in Abcd and Defg; [BA (Abcd and Defg)]

Bachelor of Science in Abcd and Efgh; [BSc (Abcd and Efgh)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) For the award of a Bachelor's Degree, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 78 credits, **and** grades of D or better in course units aggregating to at least a further 12 credits of SLQF Ls 3, 4 and 5, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of five consecutive academic years.
- (ii) For the award of a Bachelor's Degree with First Class, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 90 credits of SLQF Ls 3, 4 and 5, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater,
 - (c) obtain grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
 - (d) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3, 4 and 5.
- (iii) For the award of a Bachelor's Degree with Second Class (Upper Division), a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 84 credits, **and** grades of D or better in course units aggregating to at least a further 6 credits of SLQLs 3, 4 and 5, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.30 or greater,
 - (c) obtain grades of B or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
 - (d) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3, 4 and 5.
- (iv) For the award of a Bachelor's Degree with Second Class (Lower Division), a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 84 credits, and grades of D or better in course units aggregating to at least a

further 6 credits of SLQF Ls 3, 4 and 5, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,

- (b) obtain a GPA of 3.00 or greater,
- (c) obtain grades of B or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
- (d) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3, 4 and 5.

f. Credit Transfer

Credits earned for course units from any other recognised University or Higher Educational Institute that has been previously approved by the Examination Qualification Reviewing Board, which is a Sub Committee of the University Senate, may be transferred to the relevant subjects with credit values at equivalent levels after mapping of the course contents by the Board of Examiners for the evaluation of the qualification up to a maximum of 1/3 of the minimum number of credits required for the qualification awarded. Moreover, for programmes having mutual agreements with the University of Kelaniya, transfer of up to a maximum of 1/2 of the minimum number of credits required for the qualification awarded may be considered. However, credits considered for awarding similar qualifications cannot be transferred. Additionally, any prior qualifications considered must be clearly spelled out in the certificates of all qualifications awarded under this criterion.

g. Award of Fallback Qualification

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for the award of a Bachelor's Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3, 4 and/or 5,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Diploma.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for the award of a Bachelor's Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 3

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Diploma with Merit.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for the award of a Bachelor's Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 4.00, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 3

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Diploma with Distinction.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for the award of a Bachelor's Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF L 3, 4 and/or 5,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of four consecutive academic years

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Higher Diploma.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Bachelor's Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF L 3 and 4 of which at least 30 credits must be from SLQF L 4,

- (b) obtains a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of two consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3 and 4

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Higher Diploma with Merit.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for the award of a Bachelor's Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF L 3 and 4 of which at least 30 credits must be from SLQF L 4,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 4.00, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of two consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3 and 4

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Higher Diploma with Distinction.

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade of C or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the next available attempt in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be C. In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include additional requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The valid date for awarding any qualification will be the 1st day of the next month from the month when the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: After awarding a qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.6 Bachelor's Honours Degree

a. Notation for course codes

University Level (UOK L)	1	2	3	4
Year of Study				
SLQF L	3	4	5	6
Semester 1	UNIV 11212	UNIV 21212	UNIV 31212	UNIV 41212
Semester 2	UNIV 12212	UNIV 22212	UNIV 32212	UNIV 42212
Semester 1&2	UNIV 13212	UNIV 23212	UNIV 33212	UNIV 43212
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 14212	UNIV 24212	UNIV 34212	UNIV 44212
Minimum Credits	30	30	30	30*

* However, minimum number of credits for research component should be 6.

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is to obtain at least 'S' Grades for all three approved subjects at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) examination in one sitting or an equivalent qualification, or completion of at least one academic year of study in a Bachelor's degree programme and being selected for Bachelor's Honours degree programme, or completion of NVQ level 7 as determined by the Senate may also be considered as an equivalent qualification for admission in that field of specialization.

c. Progression:

Completion of Bachelor's Honours degree meets the minimum entry requirement for admission to any SLQF Ls from 7 to 10, or to SLQF L 11 or 12 after successful completion of a qualifying examination. If the qualification holder possesses a minimum GPA of 3.00 in a scale of 0-4, he/she may be admitted to SLQF L 11 or 12 even without a qualifying examination.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum two qualifiers*)

Examples: Bachelor of Arts Honours; [BAHons]

Bachelor of Science Honours; [BScHons]

Bachelor of Arts Honours in Abcd; [BAHons (Abcd)]

Bachelor of Science Honours in Abcd; [BScHons (Abcd)]

Bachelor of Arts Honours in Abcd and Defg; [BAHons (Abcd and Defg)]

Bachelor of Science Honours in Abcd and Efgh; [BScHons (Abcd and Efgh)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) For the award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 104 credits, **and** grades of D or better in course units aggregating to at least further 16 credits of SLQF Ls 3, 4, 5 and 6, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of six consecutive academic years.
- (ii) For the award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree with First Class, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 120 credits of SLQF Ls 3, 4, 5 and 6, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater,
 - (c) obtain grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
 - (d) complete the relevant requirements within a period of four consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3, 4, 5 and 6.
- (iii) For the award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree with Second Class (Upper Division), a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 112 credits, **and** grades of D or better in course units aggregating to at least a further 8 credits of SLQF Ls 3, 4, 5 and 6, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.30 or greater,
 - (c) obtain grades of B or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
 - (d) complete the relevant requirements within a period of four consecutive academic years of SLQF Ls 3, 4, 5 and 6.
- (iv) For the award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree with Second Class (Lower Division), a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 112 credits, **and** grades of D or better in course units aggregating to at least

further 8 credits of SLQF Ls 3, 4, 5 and 6, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately.

- (b) obtain a GPA of 3.00 or greater,
- (c) obtain grades of B or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
- (d) complete the relevant requirements within a period of four consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3, 4, 5 and 6.

f. Credit Transfer

Credits earned for course units from any other recognised University or Higher Educational Institute that has been previously approved by the Examination Qualification Reviewing Board, which is a Sub Committee of the University Senate, may be transferred to the relevant subjects with credit values at equivalent levels after mapping of course contents by the Board of Examiners for the evaluation of the qualification up to a maximum of 1/3 of the minimum number of credits required for the qualification awarded. Moreover, for the programmes having mutual agreements with the University of Kelaniya transfer of up to a maximum of 1/2 of the minimum number of credits required for the qualification awarded may be considered. However, credits considered for awarding similar qualifications cannot be transferred. Additionally, any prior qualifications considered must be clearly spelled out in the certificates of all qualifications awarded under this criterion.

g. Award of Fallback Qualification

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3, 4, 5 and/or 6,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Diploma.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 3

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Diploma with Merit.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 3,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 4.00, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 3

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Diploma with Distinction.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF L 3, 4, 5 and/or 6,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.00 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of four consecutive academic years

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Higher Diploma.

A student who does not fulfil the requirements for award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of C or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF L 3 and 4 of which at least 30 credits must be from SLQF L 4,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 3.70 or greater, and

- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of two consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3 and 4

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Higher Diploma with Merit.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Bachelor's Honours Degree, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF L 3 and 4 of which at least 30 credits must be from SLQF L 4,

- (b) obtains a GPA of 4.00, and

- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of two consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 3 and 4

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Higher Diploma with Distinction.

A student who is registered for a Bachelor's Honours Degree, during the course of the SLQF L 6 or after the release of results of SLQF L 6 Course Units may request the award of the Bachelor's Degree foregoing the Bachelor's Honours Degree, upon satisfying the requirements for the award of the Bachelor's Degree.

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade of C or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the next available attempt in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be C. In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The valid date for awarding any qualification will be the 1st day of the next month to the month where the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: After awarding a qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.7 Bachelor's Honours Degree (*Medical Degrees*)

a. Notation for course codes

University Level (UOK L) Year of Study	1	2	3	4	5
SLQF L	3	4	5	6	6
Semester 1	UNIV 11212	UNIV 21212	UNIV 31212	UNIV 41212	UNIV 51212
Semester 2	UNIV 12212	UNIV 22212	UNIV 32212	UNIV 42212	UNIV 52212
Semester 1&2	UNIV 13212	UNIV 23212	UNIV 33212	UNIV 43212	UNIV 53212
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 14212	UNIV 24212	UNIV 34212	UNIV 44212	UNIV 54212
Minimum Credits	30	30	30	30	30

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is to obtain at least 'S' Grades for all three approved subjects at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) examination in one sitting or an equivalent qualification. Entry to the degree programme is at SLQF L 3 only.

c. Progression:

Completion of Bachelor's Honours Medical Degree meets the minimum entry requirement for admission to any SLQF Ls from 7 to 10, or to SLQL 11 or 12 after successful completion of a qualifying examination. If the qualification holder possesses a minimum GPA of 3.00 in a scale of 0-4, he/she may be admitted to SLQF L 11 or 12 even without a qualifying examination.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum two qualifiers*)

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery Degree; [MBBS]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) Eligibility for award of the MBBS degree is governed by the MBBS Degree By-Laws approved by the Senate and the Council of the University of Kelaniya.

5.8 Postgraduate Certificate

a. Notation for course codes

All Faculties *except* for Faculty of Medicine

University Level (UOK L)	5
SLQF L	7
Semester 1	UNIV 51012
Semester 2	UNIV 52012
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53012
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54012
Minimum Credits	20

For Faculty of Medicine

University Level (UOK L)	5
SLQF L	7
Semester 1	UNIV 51512
Semester 2	UNIV 52512
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53512
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54512
Minimum Credits	20

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is a Bachelor's degree, (i) including 30 credits in the relevant subject area (to be determined by the Senate, or (ii) with prior learning/work experience equivalent to 30 credits in the relevant subject area, or a qualification in the relevant subject area equivalent to above (i) or (ii), or completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the Senate, may be considered.

c. Progression:

Completion of Postgraduate Certificate meets the entry requirements to Postgraduate Diploma and/or Master's degree of SLQF Ls 8 to 10 in the same field of specialization.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum two qualifiers*)

Examples: Postgraduate Certificate in Abcd; [PGCert (Abcd)]

Postgraduate Certificate in Abcd in Efgh; [PGCert (Abcd)(Efgh)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) For the award of a Postgraduate Certificate, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 20 credits of SLQF L 7,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years.
- (ii) For the award of a Postgraduate Certificate with Merit, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 20 credits of SLQF L 7,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater,
 - (c) obtain grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
 - (d) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 7.
- (iii) For the award of a Postgraduate Certificate with Distinction, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 20 credits of SLQF L 7,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 7

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade B⁻ (B minus) or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the following academic year in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be B⁻ (B minus). In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The valid date for awarding any qualification will be the 1st day of the next month from the month when the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: After awarding a qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.9 Postgraduate Diploma

a. Notation for course codes

All Faculties except for Faculty of Medicine

University Level (UOK L)	5
SLQF L	8
Semester 1	UNIV 51012
Semester 2	UNIV 52012
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53012
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54012
Minimum Credits	25

For Faculty of Medicine

University Level (UOK L)	5
SLQF L	8
Semester 1	UNIV 51512
Semester 2	UNIV 52512
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53512
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54512
Minimum Credits	25

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is a Bachelor's degree, (i) including 30 credits in the relevant subject area (to be determined by the Senate), or (ii) with prior learning/work experience equivalent to 30 credits in the relevant subject area, or a qualification in the relevant subject area equivalent to above (i) or (ii), or completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the Senate, may be considered.

c. Progression:

Completion of Postgraduate Diploma meets the entry requirements to SLQF L 9 and 10 in the same field of specialization.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum two qualifiers*)

Examples: Postgraduate Diploma in Abcd; [PGDip (Abcd)]

Postgraduate Diploma in Abcd in Efgh; [PGDip (Abcd)(Efgh)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) For the award of a Postgraduate Diploma, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 25 credits of SLQF L 8,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years.
- (ii) For the award of a Postgraduate Diploma with Merit, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 25 credits of SLQF L 8,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater,
 - (c) obtain grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
 - (d) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 8.
- (iii) For the award of a Postgraduate Diploma with Distinction, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 25 credits of SLQF L 8,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 8.

f. Award of Fallback Qualification

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Postgraduate Diploma, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 20 credits of SLQL 8,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Postgraduate Diploma, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 20 credits of SLQF L 8,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 3.70 or greater,
- (c) obtain grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
- (d) completes the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 8.

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate with Merit.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Postgraduate Diploma, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 20 credits of SLQF L 8,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 4.00, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 8.

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate with Distinction

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade B⁻ (B minus) or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the following academic year in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be B⁻ (B minus). In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include additional requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The valid date for awarding any qualification will be the 1st day of the next month from the month when the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: After awarding a qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.10 Master's degree by Course Work

a. Notation for course codes

All Faculties *except* for Faculty of Medicine

University Level (UOK L)	5
SLQF L	9
Semester 1	UNIV 51012
Semester 2	UNIV 52012
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53012
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54012
Minimum Credits	30

For Faculty of Medicine

University Level (UoK L)	5
SLQF L	9
Semester 1	UNIV 51512
Semester 2	UNIV 52512
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53512
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54512
Minimum Credits	30

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is a Bachelor's degree, (i) including 30 credits in the relevant subject area (to be determined by the Senate), or (ii) with prior learning/work experience equivalent to 30 credits in the relevant subject area, or a qualification in the relevant subject area equivalent to above (i) or (ii), or completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the Senate, may be considered.

c. Progression:

Completion of Master's degree meets the entry requirement to SLQF L 10 or 11 in the same field of specialization.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s)

Example: Master of Efgh; [MEfgh]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

(i) For the award of a Master's Degree with Course Work, a student must

- (a) accumulate grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 9,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years.
- (ii) For the award of a Master's Degree with Course Work with Merit, a student must
- (a) accumulate grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 9,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater,
 - (c) obtain grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
 - (d) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 9.
- (iii) For the award of a Master's Degree with Course Work with Distinction, a student must
- (a) accumulate grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 9,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within one academic year at SLQF L 9.

f. Early Exit Qualifications:

A student registered for a programme of study leading to award of a Master's degree with course work, who desires early exit from the programme, may be considered for award of a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma, provided that the criteria for award of the Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma (with Merit or Distinction, as the case may be), are fulfilled.

g. Award of Fallback Qualifications:

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Master's Degree with course work, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 20 credits of SLQF L 9,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and

(c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years
may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Master's Degree with Course Work, but who

(a) accumulates grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 25 credits of SLQF L 9,
(b) obtains a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and
(c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years
may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma.

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade B⁻ (B minus) or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the following academic year in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be B⁻ (B minus). In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: Programme of study concerned may include additional requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 3: The valid date for awarding any qualification (except in the case of fall-back qualifications) will be the 1st day of the next month from the month when the requirements were fulfilled to award such qualification.

Note 4: The effective date of award of a fall-back qualification shall be the 1st day of the month after which the Senate has approved award of the qualification.

Note 5: After awarding any qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.11 Master's Degree with course work and a research component

a. Notation for course codes

All Faculties *except* for Faculty of Medicine

University Level (UOK L)	5	6
SLQF L	9	10
Semester 1	UNIV 51012	UNIV 61012
Semester 2	UNIV 52012	UNIV 62012
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53012	UNIV 63012
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54012	UNIV 6499F
Minimum Credits	30	30*

* However, minimum number of credits for research should be 15.

For Faculty of Medicine

University Level (UOK L)	5	6
SLQF L	9	10
Semester 1	UNIV 51512	UNIV 61012
Semester 2	UNIV 52512	UNIV 62012
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53512	UNIV 63012
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54512	UNIV 6499F
Minimum Credits	30	30*

* However, minimum number of credits for research should be 15.

b. Minimum admission requirement

Minimum admission requirement is a Bachelor's degree including 30 credits in the relevant subject area (to be determined by the Senate), or a qualification of SLQF L 6 or above in the relevant area (to be determined by the Senate) of study, or a professional qualification equivalent to SLQF L 6 or above, or completion of NVQ level 7 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 on a scale of 0-4, as determined by the Senate, may be considered for admission in that field of specialization.

c. Progression:

Completion of SLQF L 10 meets the entry requirement to SLQF L 11 in the same field of specialization.

d. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum one qualifier*)

Example: Master of Arts; [MA]

Master of Science; [MSc]

Master of Arts in Xyz; [MA (Xyz)]

Master of Science in Abcd; [MSc (Abcd)]

e. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

- (i) For the award of a Master's Degree with course work and a research component, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF Ls 9 and 10, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of four consecutive academic years.
- (ii) For the award of a Master's Degree with course work and a research component with Merit, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF Ls 9 and 10, of which at least 30 credits must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 3.70 or greater,
 - (c) obtain grades of A or better in course units aggregating to at least 50% of total credits for the course units considered under (a) above, and
 - (d) complete the relevant requirements within a period of two consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 9 and 10.
- (iii) For the award of a Master's Degree with course work and a research component with Distinction, a student must
 - (a) accumulate grades of A or better in course must be from each SLQF L separately,
 - (b) obtain a GPA of 4.00, and
 - (c) complete the relevant requirements within a period of two consecutive academic years at SLQF Ls 9 and 10.

d. Early Exit Qualifications:

A student registered for a programme of study leading to award of a Master's degree with course work and research, who desires early exit from the programme, may be considered for award of a Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, or Master's by course work, provided that the criteria for award of such qualification (with Merit or Distinction, as the case may be), are fulfilled.

e. Award of Fallback Qualifications

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Master's Degree with course work and a research component, but who

- (d) accumulates grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 60 credits of SLQF Ls 9 and 10, of which at least 30 credits
- (a) units aggregating to at least 20 credits of SLQF L 9,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Master's Degree with course work and a research component, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 25 credits of SLQF L 9,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and
- (c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma.

A student who does not fulfil the above requirements for award of a Master's Degree with course work and a research component, but who

- (a) accumulates grades of B⁻ (B minus) or better in course units aggregating to at least 30 credits of SLQF L 9 and/or 10,
- (b) obtains a GPA of 2.70 or greater, and

(c) completes the relevant requirements within a period of three consecutive academic years

may be considered by the Board of Examiners for the award of a Master's Degree by Course Work.

Note 1: A student who does not obtain a grade B⁻ (B minus) or better in a particular course unit may re-sit the examination of that course unit in the following academic year in order to improve the grade. The best grade obtainable by a student in this instance would be B⁻ (B minus). In the event a student obtains a lower grade while attempting to better the grade, he/she will be entitled to the previous grade.

Note 2: When a student does not submit the dissertation for the research project before the deadline, the best grade obtainable for the particular course unit would be B⁻ (B minus).

Note 3: Programme of study concerned may include additional requirements in addition to the minimum eligibility criteria with the approval of the University Senate.

Note 4: The valid date for awarding the qualification will be the date of the submission of the dissertation as the requirement to fulfil the award qualification.

.Note 5: The effective date of award of a fall-back qualification shall be the 1st day of the month after which the Senate has approved award of the qualification.

Note 6: After awarding a qualification it cannot be changed and/or reverted back under any circumstances.

5.12 Master of Philosophy Degree

a. Notation for course codes for pre-requisites

University Level (UOK L)	5
SLQF L	7
Semester 1	UNIV 51912
Semester 2	UNIV 52912
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53912
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54912

b. Notation for course codes for research

University Level (UOK L)	7
SLQF L	11
Semester 1	UNIV 71011
Semester 2	UNIV 72011
Semester 1&2	UNIV 7399 α
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 7402A

c. Minimum admission requirement

- i. A Bachelors Honours degree of SLQF L 6 with a minimum of 30 credits in the relevant field, or
- ii. a Bachelor's Honours degree of SLQF L 6 with a minimum of 30 credits in a related field and successful completion of a qualifying examination, or
- iii. a Bachelor's degree of SLQF L 5 and a qualification of SLQF L 9 or above in the relevant field, or
- iv. a Bachelor's degree of SLQF L 5 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 in the scale of 0-4 and a successful completion of a qualifying examination which will be conducted after completion of 30 credits equivalent to SLQF L 6 in the same or related field, or
- v. completion of NVQ level 7 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 in a scale of 0-4 and successful completion of a qualifying examination equivalent to SLQF L 6 or 7, as determined by the Senate, may also be considered for admission to SLQF level 11 in that field of specialization.

d. Progression:

Completion of an MPhil degree meets the entry requirement to a doctoral degree in the same field of specialization.

e. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum one qualifier*)

Examples: Master of Philosophy; [MPhil]

Master of Philosophy in Abcd; [MPhil (Abcd)]

f. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

Eligibility for award of a Master of Philosophy Degree is governed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies By-Laws approved by the Senate and the Council of the University of Kelaniya.

Note 1: A qualification shall not be awarded for early exit from an MPhil degree.

Note 2: The valid date for awarding the qualification will be the date of the submission of the thesis as the requirement to fulfil the award qualification.

5.13 Doctoral Degree

a. Notation for course codes for pre-requisites

University Level (UOK L)	5
SLQF L	7
Semester 1	UNIV 51912
Semester 2	UNIV 52912
Semester 1&2	UNIV 53912
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 54912

b. Notation for course codes for research

University Level (UOK L)	8
SLQF L	12
Semester 1	UNIV 81011
Semester 2	UNIV 82011
Semester 1&2	UNIV 8399β
Semester 1 or 2	UNIV 8402A

c. Minimum admission requirement

- i. Master of Philosophy degree, or
- ii. Master's degree with course work and a research component of SLQF L 10, or
- iii. a Bachelors Honours degree of SLQF L 6 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 at a scale of 0-4, who has registered to follow MPhil degree may be upgraded to PhD level after a minimum period of one year provided that his/her research competencies are of exceptional merit, or
- iv. a Bachelor's degree of SLQF L 5 and a qualification of SLQF L 9 or above in the relevant field, and registered to follow an MPhil degree may be upgraded to PhD level after a minimum period of one year, provided that his/her research competencies are of exceptional merit.
- v. a Bachelor's degree of SLQF L 5 with a minimum GPA of 3.00 in the scale of 0-4, who has successfully completed a qualifying examination conducted after completion of 30 credits equivalent to SLQF L 6 in the same or related field and registered to follow an MPhil degree, may be upgraded to PhD level after a minimum period of one year provided that his/her research competencies are of exceptional merit.

d. Progression:

Doctoral degree is the highest qualification awarded within the SLQF.

e. Qualification awarded with abbreviation(s) (*maximum one qualifier*)

Examples: Doctor of Philosophy; [PhD]

Doctor of Philosophy in Abcd; [PhD (Abcd)]

Doctor of Business Administration; (DBA)

Doctor of Medicine; (DM)

Doctor of Science; [DSc]

f. Eligibility for the award of a qualification

Eligibility for award of a Doctor of Philosophy Degree is governed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies By-Laws approved by the Senate and the Council of the University of Kelaniya.

g. Early exit Qualification

Early exit from a doctoral degree with research not reaching the standards required for a doctoral degree may be considered for the award of MPhil degree.

Note 1: A student who is registered for a doctoral degree may request the award of an MPhil Degree of SLQL 11 foregoing the doctoral degree, upon satisfying the requirements for the award of the MPhil Degree.

Note 2: The valid date for awarding the qualification will be the date of the submission of the thesis as the requirement to fulfil the award qualification.

References

- Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework handbook, 2013
- Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework handbook, Updated Version – September 2015
- UGC Circular No 04/2021, Introduction of Early Exit or Fallback Qualifications for an Existing undergraduate/Postgraduate programme of Study
- UGC Circular No 05/2021, Recognition of Prior Learning, Credit Transfer and Lateral Entry in the context of SLQF 2015

List of the Committee Members

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