

CALLING FOR APPLICATIONS - BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE PROGRAMME- 2023/2024

Dear student,

The Faculty of Natural Sciences is pleased to announce the offering of the BSc Honours Degree Programme for the Academic Year, 2023/2024. The Honours Degree will be offered in the following subjects of specialization:

- ✓ Botany
- ✓ Chemistry
- ✓ Mathematics
- ✓ Physics
- ✓ Zoology

This programme aims to provide opportunities to develop scientific skills and knowledge application with emphasis on practical work that develop technical and analytical skills, develop positive attitude, values and transferable skills such as communication and ICT, team work and problem-solving skills required of professional scientists, to develop a pool of future scientists to give leadership in research and innovation, academics with the additional advantage of having experience in open and distance learning and enhance the potential in our undergraduates to pursue postgraduate studies here and abroad.

As outcomes of this programme, a graduate is expected to have acquired, upon completion of the honours degree, a sound knowledge and skills to understand and make informed judgement about contemporary issues, trends and developments in the area of specialization, developed critical and analytical thinking and acquired problem-solving skills and developed transferable skills and acquired practical, technical and research skills in the area of specialization in order to be able to undertake research that has relevance to the country.

We have witnessed a continued demand for honours degree graduates both in Sri Lanka and abroad and this programme is expected to offer better employment opportunities and postgraduate study prospects for students.

The curriculum of the BSc honours Degree is designed to give students an in-depth knowledge of the subject of specialization and the courses have been specially selected to cater to the contemporary needs of the society. The credit value of courses, level-wise, in the subject of specialization offered at Levels 5 and 6 are in line with the credit requirement as stipulated by the Sri Lanka Qualification Framework (SLQF).

The courses for the honours Degree will be delivered via a hybrid mode of study with a considerable component of face-to-face teaching and practical sessions, field visits and a research project. Therefore, attendance is compulsory for all academic activities at Levels 5 and 6 of this programme. Please note that this programme will be conducted at CRC only.

The essential preliminary details about eligibility criteria for admission, criteria for the award of the BSc honours Degree in the relevant subject of specialization and the method of selection are given below:

Eligibility criteria for admission to the Bachelor of Science Honours Degree

The BSc Honours Degree Programme is a four-year programme, comprising courses, adding up to a total of one hundred and twenty (120) credits from Levels 3, 4, 5 and 6. Students will be selected for the Special Degree on the completion of Level 3 and Level 4. To be eligible to register for the BSc Honours Degree Programme leading to the BSc honours in a particular subject, a student should fulfill the following criteria, within four (04) consecutive academic years from initial registration in B.Sc. Programme.

- (a) A minimum of C grades for thirty (30) course credits of regular courses at Level 3, **AND**,
- (b) A minimum of C grades for twenty-four (24) course credits at Level 4, including twelve (12) course credits from the subject of specialization and, at least eligibility for sitting final examination for the other six (06) course credits, **AND**
- (c) A minimum GPA of 3.00 in course credits adding up to twenty (20) course credits of Levels 3 and 4, from the subject of specialization, **AND**,
- (d) At least a Pass grade or Exemption for each of the continuing education courses CYE3200, LEE3410/LTE3401/LTE3406 and CSE3213/CSE3214.

Award of the Degree of Bachelor of Science Honours Degree

The Programme of Study leading to the award of the Bachelor of Science Honours Degree comprises courses adding up to a total of one hundred and twenty (120) credits of regular courses and continuing education courses.

To be considered for the award of the Bachelor of Science Special Degree, a student shall require to successfully complete:

- (a) thirty (30) credits at **Level 3 comprising eight (08) credits** each from any three chosen disciplines and six (06) credits from among specified open elective courses at Level 3, **AND**,
- (b) thirty (30) credits at **Level 4 comprising twelve (12) credits** each from any two disciplines offered at Level 3 and six (06) credits from the remaining discipline chosen at Level 3, **AND**,
- (c) a minimum of C grades for thirty (30) course credits at the **Level 5** of the Programme of Study; comprising **twenty-four (24) course credits from the subject of specialization**, including all the compulsory courses specified by the respective Department, and remaining six (06) course credits from any subjects and/or open elective courses at the Level 5, **AND**,
- (d) a minimum of C grades for **thirty (30) course credits from the Subject of specialization at the Level 6** of the Programme of Study, including all the compulsory courses specified the respective Department include a minimum of six (06) course credits of research component, **AND**,
- (e) a minimum **GPA of 2.00** in course credits adding up to one hundred and twenty (120) course credits at Levels 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Programme of Study **AND**,
- (f) a minimum **C grade** or exemption for the courses CYE3200, LEE3410/LTE3401/LTE3406 and CSE3213/CSE3214.

For the award of the Bachelor of Science Special Degree, a student shall require to complete the above requirements within eight (08) academic years from his/her initial registration to the BSc Degree Programme. For the award of the **classes** of the Bachelor of Science Honours Degree, a student shall

require to complete the above requirements within six (06) academic years from his/her initial registration to the BSc Degree Programme.

Those who do not complete within the stipulated period may exit at level 5 to be considered for the Degree of Bachelor of Science or at Level 4 to be considered for Higher Diploma in Science.

Method of Selection

Those interested in following the B.Sc. Honours Degree Programme and have acquired the necessary eligibility criteria for admission as specified in this document, are required to submit the duly completed application form to Assistant Registrar/Faculty of Natural Sciences, The Open University of Sri Lanka, P.O. Box 21, Nawala, Nugegoda on or before **19th May 2023**.

Please note that only those who satisfy the above criteria, based on academic performance at Levels 3 and 4 and the interview conducted by the respective Department concerned will be selected for the Honours Degree in a particular subject. In case you are planning to apply more than one subject please indicate your order of subject preference for specialization in your application. If and when an applicant is not selected to follow the Honours Degree in the subject of his/her first choice, he/she will be considered for the Honours degree in the subject of his/her second choice, if any.

The Registration for the BSc Honours degree will be held on **26th May 2023 at CRC only**. The fees for Levels 5 and 6 will be Rs. 3,270.00 per credit for the academic year 2023/2024. This fee will be revised periodically. An additional payment will be required as Laboratory fee for practical sessions for certain courses with practical components.

Please contact the relevant Heads of the Departments on or before re-registration for more details and information regarding final selection for registration for the Special degree programme.

The Application Form will be available at the Dean's Office or in the Faculty website.

With Best Wishes



Prof. G.W.A. Rohan Fernando

Dean/Faculty of Natural Sciences

06.05.2023

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
Faculty of Natural Sciences
Application for B.Sc. Honours Degree Programme

1. Choice

(a) Academic Year for which application is made:	2	0	2	3	/	2	0	2	4
(b) Indicate as 1 & 2 the order of preference of subjects for specialization (if any).									
<input type="checkbox"/> Botany <input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics <input type="checkbox"/> Physics <input type="checkbox"/> Zoology									

2. Personal Information

Full Name:									
NIC Number									
Permanent Address									
Details of Employment (if any)									
Place of Employment									
Post:									
Address									
Contact details									
Telephone		Home:				Mobile:			
Email:									

3. Results at Level 3 and Level 4. (place a \surd in the appropriate box)

Year of Registration to Level 3					Registration No:										
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Attach a result sheet with grades of the courses offered at Level 3 & Level 4 in the B.Sc. Degree Tick (\surd) the box if you fulfill the following criteria, within 3 years from the initial registration to Level 3:

- I have obtained minimum of C grades for thirty (30) course credits of regular courses at Level 3
- I have obtained minimum of C grades for twenty-four (24) course credits at Level 4, including twelve (12) course credits from the subject of specialization and, at least eligibility for sitting final examination for the other six (06) course credits
- I have obtained minimum GPA of 3.00 in course credits adding up to twenty (20) course credits of Levels 3 and 4, from the subject of specialization

I have obtained at least C grades or exemptions for the courses LEE3410/LTE3401/LTE3406, CYE3200 and CSE3213/CSE3214

I have obtained the above requirements within the four (04) academic years of the initial registration initial registration must be the academic year 2017/18 or after (2017/18, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22).

I certify that the above details are true and correct. I understand that if any of the above information is inaccurate/ incorrect, my application will be rejected without any consideration.

Signature:

Date:.....

The duly completed application form should be handed over personally or sent by registered post not later than **19th May 2023** to:

Assistant Registrar/Faculty of Natural Sciences
The Open University of Sri Lanka
P.O. Box 21
Nawala, Nugegoda

.....
OFFICIAL USE

Name of Applicant:
.....

The applicant is

Eligible

Selected

Subject of specialization

Botany

Chemistry

Mathematics

Physics

Zoology