

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
Faculty of Law
Department of Public and International Law
ADVANCE CERTIFICATE IN FUNDAMENTALS OF
CRIMINAL LAW (ACFCL) - 2019/2020

1. Introduction

This is an Advanced Certificate Course offered by the Department of Public and International Law, Faculty of Law. It is one of the first external introductory level study programmes initiated by the Department of Public and International Law. The Advanced Certificate Course in Fundamentals of Criminal Law is designed to provide the interested individuals in the country a basic understanding of the principles of Criminal Law as applied in Sri Lanka. Those individuals who have the educational qualification of General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination or above or any other equivalent qualification are eligible to apply for this course of study.

Being one of the major branches of public law, Criminal Law is an important subject basic knowledge of which is essential for all individuals in conducting themselves as law abiding citizens. In order to protect themselves from violation of their physical integrity and breach of peace in the society, familiarity of the procedures involved in enforcing the law is also equally vital for a vibrant society.

By introducing a study programme of this nature, the Department of Public & International Law, Faculty of Law contributes to creating awareness among the cross sections of the society of the need to know the causes for the increased crime rate and the effective means of combating the crimes without compromising on individual liberty.

2. Objectives

This course is designed to enable the participants to understand the basics/fundamentals of Criminal Law provided in simplified terms. Also, it is intended to disseminate knowledge of Criminal Law from practical angles.

3. Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, the participants is expected to:

- Understand the legal framework which is essential in their normal day-to- day life;
- Identify the (proper) jurisdictional issues related to Criminal Law;
- Know the constituting elements of certain crimes;
- Understand the scope of criminal responsibility;
- Know the defenses that can be made by an accused charged with the commission of crime;
- Understand the relevant principles of individual liberty and fundamental rights vis – a- vis Criminal Law.

4. Target Group

This programme of study aimed at attracting those who are directly interested in knowing the fundamentals of Criminal Law such as the law enforcement officers, members of the armed forces, prospective candidates for the Law College/Open University entrance examinations, volunteers working in local or international NGOs, civil society activists, officers in the State Departments etc.

5. Language

This course will be conducted in three languages; **Sinhala, Tamil and English** subject to adequate applications received for each medium as determined by the Department. The participants should have the ability to read and understand the study materials in English.

6. Admission Requirement

The applicants should possess a minimum of five credit passes, in one and the same sitting of the GCE (Ordinary Level) examination or an equivalent qualification. However, the Department of Public & International Law, Faculty of Law reserves the right to interview the applicants, if needed. Knowledge in the subject of law is not essential.

7. Resource Persons

The lectures will be delivered by resource persons drawn from the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo as well as from outside.

8. Teaching & Learning Method

Participant centered teaching and learning methods will be adopted. Students are expected to actively participate in class room discussions and other forms of facilitative instructions conducted by the Department. Their active participation is necessary for meeting the learning objectives set out for the programme. 70% of attendance is mandatory for getting eligibility to sit for the examination.

9. Evaluation

i. Evaluation Structure:

The evaluation will comprise two forms, i.e., Continuous Assessment and End of Course Assessment

A) Continuous Assessment consists of minimum of two components :

- a) 10% for Active Class Participation on continued basis
- b) 20% for Assignment/s which take different forms, including, but not limited to, Take Home Assignments, Field Surveys & Report Presentation, Group work and Oral Presentation, etc.

B) End of Course Assessment – 70% [Course-End Examination (one paper) **OR** Submission of ‘Papers’ **and** viva voce examination]

ii. Achievement Structure:

The achievement structure will be as follows:

- Pass – 50% - 64% of total marks
- Merit pass – 65% - 74% of total marks
- Distinction pass – 75% or above of total marks.

10. Number of Attempts:

A candidate who fails to secure a pass mark in the first attempt will be permitted to undertake additional TWO attempts only. Attendance will not be considered for the 2nd or 3rd attempt. In such an event, the candidate will be marked out of 20% for an assignment component which the candidate has to do afresh and he/she will be marked out of 80% for the Course-End Examination. The pass mark will remain the same as prescribed above.

However, such a repeat candidate will not be eligible for Merit Pass or Distinction Pass even though he/she might have secured marks equivalent to them. A candidate who could not sit for the Course-End Examination due to medical reasons or any other valid reasons, supported by documentary evidence

acceptable to the University, may be excused from sitting the Course-End Examination and that Examination will not be considered as an attempt. However, the candidate shall take the Course-End Examination at the very next attempt when it is held.

11. Location & Duration

The proposed Certificate Course will be conducted in the premises of Faculty of Law, Philip Gunawardene Mawatha, Colombo-07. The duration of the programme of study is 50 hours in total in 16 weeks. Lectures will be conducted from 8.00 a.m. -12.30 p.m. on every Saturday.

12. Fees:

Total fees for this Course is Rs.30,000/-.[Rupees Thirty thousand] which include application fee, registration fee, tuition fee, course material fee and examination fee. It should be once and for all payment and charged as follows:

Application Fees:	Rs. 500/-
Registration Fees:	Rs. 1,000/-
Examination Fees:	Rs. 5,000/-
Tuition Fees :	Rs. 20,000/-
Course Material Fees:	Rs. 3,500/-

13. How to Apply:

Application forms to be obtained from the Department of Public & International Law. Completed applications together with copies of relevant certificates should be posted to reach the Department of Public & International Law by post to the following address within the stipulated time frame. Late applications will not be entertained:

**Department of Public & International Law,
Faculty of Law, University of Colombo,
Philip Gunawardene Mawatha, Colombo 07.**

Telephone No: **011 2585639/ 071-0526944** Fax No: **011 2502001** Email: deptpil@gmail.com