

**University of Colombo, Sri Lanka**  
**Faculty of Law**  
**Department of Public and International Law**

**ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (ACEL) -**  
**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 in Environmental Law (ACEL) is designed to provide the interested individuals in the country a basic understanding of the principles of Environmental Law. 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. It would help those who have missed the opportunity of following a formal study programme offered by a University /tertiary academic institution. It is imperative that every person should have a basic understanding of the Environmental Law which has a significant impact on everyone's life nationally as well as internationally. Introducing a study programme of this nature fulfills the aforementioned requirement benefiting the general public at large. The Course curriculum covers the introductory legal principles of environmental protection related issues, policies, and substantive and procedural aspects of Environmental Law.

**2. Objectives**

This course is designed to enable the participants to understand the fundamentals of Environmental Law in simple terms. Also, it is intended to disseminate knowledge of Environmental Law from practical perspective.

**3. Learning Outcomes**

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

- Understand the legal framework in relation to environmental protection which is essential in their normal day-to-day life;
- Identify the proper stakes/stakeholders in environmental issues ;
- Know the key concepts and principles of Environmental Law;
- Understand the scope of environmental responsibility;

- Recognize the known defenses invoked in Environmental Law cases;
- Know the basic procedural aspects of environmental protection mechanisms;
- Understand the relevant human and fundamental rights related issues arising from protection of Environment.

#### **4. Target Group**

This course can be followed by any person who has the senior secondary level educational qualifications or equivalent and who has not obtained basic knowledge in Environmental Law. However, this course would be ideal for the officers who engage in environmental related work but who do not have a (proper) knowledge in legal framework. This course also serves to the personnel who discharge their service in educational sector and non-governmental organizations. This course will certainly provide a basic foundational knowledge for young school leavers who would like to focus on their future career in the field of environmental related national or international sectors.

#### **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](mailto:deptpil@gmail.com)**