

Coordinator - MPhil/PhD Program
Department of International Relations
Faculty of Arts
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Colombo – 07

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**UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO
SRI LANKA**

**Master of Philosophy (MPhil) leading to
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in
International Relations**

2026

SLQF: Level 11 leading to level 12

Department of International Relations

<p>INTRODUCTION</p> <p>The Department of International Relations, the premier department in the University sector in Sri Lanka, has been the home to International Relations luminaries. The department is the pioneer in introducing International Relations to undergraduates and the Masters of Arts in International Relations (MAIR) to Sri Lanka. The department continues this role through the MPhil/PhD program.</p> <p>MPHIL/PHD PROGRAMME</p> <p>The MPhil/PhD is a three-year degree program.</p> <p>All who are selected to enter the program are taken in at the MPhil level, with the provision of upgrading to PhD level once all the requirements are completed. The upgrading is depended on the progress made during the first 15 months of the program. If a student who already has an MPhil and/or PhD, they will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis for direct entry into the PhD program.</p> <p>PROGRAM STRUCTURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Once selected, a seminar series will be conducted by the Department of International Relations onsite to introduce the students to deep research, conducting a literature review, research ethics, methodology training, data collection and management, epistemology and ontology, academic writing, referencing, theories and concepts of International Relations among others – At the end of the training, the student will be guided by one or more Supervisors, who he/she must consult for a minimum six times per year. – Once the student begins the MPhil/PhD program, he/she must submit bi-annual Progress Reports, Paper Submissions and face two viva voce panels. – Selected candidates are required to attend five workshops. Concurrently, the students must, in consultation with their Supervisors, develop his/her research. 	<p><u>YEAR I: MPhil Candidate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online seminars - Workshops: 3 workshops (Method and Methodology; Research Design; Literature Survey) <p><i>*A student can obtain exemption if she/he can provide documented proof of taking a similar course from a different university.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supervision by specialist/s - Submission of proposal <p><u>YEAR 2: MPhil to PhD Candidate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshops: 2 workshops (Application of Research Methods; Entering the Research Field) - Progress Presentations - Upgrading Seminar: Viva Voce <p><u>YEAR 3: Doctoral Candidate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress Presentations - Pre-Submission Defence - Defence: Viva Voce <p>MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: English</p>	<p>ENTRY REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>(i) A two-year Master’s degree with either coursework and research or by research from a recognized university/institution in a discipline relevant/related to the proposed research (an entry-level qualification equivalent to SLQF 10 Level);</p> <p>Or</p> <p>(ii) A one-year Master’s degree from a recognized university/institution, with experience and/or research in the relevant field (an entry-level qualification equivalent to SLQF Level 9 plus experience and/or research in the relevant field);</p> <p>Or</p> <p>(iii) A Bachelor’s Honours degree in the relevant field or related subject with a First Class pass from a recognized university/institution, with experience and/or research in the relevant field (an entry-level qualification equivalent to SLQF Level 6)</p> <p>Admission to the course will be made after an interview conducted by a Selection Committee. Candidates are required to submit duly completed application form, two (02) page research summary and photocopies of the degree and other relevant certificates along with the payment slip.</p> <p>FEES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Rs. LKR 850,000/= for MPhil Programme (local students) – Rs. LKR 1,000,000/= for PhD Programme (local students) – Further breakdown of fee is attached.
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Year	Programme fee	MPhil Programme		PhD Programme	
		Local Student	Foreign Students	Local Students	Foreign Students
1st Year	Application fee	LKR 8,000/=	50 USD	LKR 8,000/=	50 USD
	Registration Fee	LKR 7,500/=	75 USD	LKR 7,500/=	75 USD
	Course Fee	LKR 416,000/=	1800USD	LKR 324,333/=	1800 USD
	Library Fee	LKR 1,500/=	20 USD	LKR 1,500/=	20 USD
	Refundable-Library Deposit	LKR 5,000/=	LKR 5000/=	LKR 5000/=	LKR 5000/=
2nd Year	Registration Fee	LKR 7,500/=	75 USD	LKR 7,500/=	75 USD
	Course Fee	LKR 416,000/=	1800 USD	LKR 324,333/=	1800 USD
	Library Fee	LKR 1,500/=	20 USD	LKR 1,500/=	20 USD
3rd Year	Registration Fee			LKR 7,500/=	75 USD
	Course Fee			LKR 324,333/=	1800 USD
	Library Fee			LKR 1,500/=	20 USD
	Total Fee	LKR 850,000/=	3790 USD	LKR 1,000,000/=	5685 USD
	Exclude Refundable Library Deposit and application fee				