

Concept Paper  
Post-Graduate Diploma in History (PGDHIS)

### Introduction

### Rationale

From 2007, History has been taught in Sri Lankan government schools as a separate subject from year 6 to year 11 onwards. Furthermore, English medium private schools that follow the national curriculum have proliferated throughout the island and have become the main provider of employment for our recently passed out History graduates. Most of them, however, are recruited immediately after graduating without any prior experience in teaching. The University of Colombo is the principal national university in the country and is committed to producing graduates with a Special Degree or General Degree in History. The Department of History, building on its existing strengths has a critical role to play through the creation of the following two programs:

### Post-Graduate Diploma in History

The Post-Graduate Diploma in History will help university graduates – especially those who want to specialize in teaching history at secondary schools – learn about new trends in the discipline and give them a deeper understanding of subjects related to the school history curriculum.

### Objectives:

- i. To provide candidates with sound theoretical knowledge in the practice and discipline of History.
- ii. To equip candidates with research skills relevant to the practice of history.
- iii. To provide clear and in-depth empirical knowledge about historical phenomena, and debates and discussions related to them.
- iv. To develop candidates who are capable of engaging effectively and participating in the dissemination of knowledge as a scientific discipline.
- v. To develop critical ability skills.

### Admission Criteria for Post Graduate Diploma in History

- i. A relevant Degree from a recognized University/Institution  
OR
- ii. A Post-Graduate Diploma from a recognized University/Institution  
OR
- iii. An equivalent academic qualification recommended by the Senate with two year work experience.

### Course Structure for Post-Graduate Diploma in History

Within the period of one year a candidate should earn 30 credits by successfully completing in-course assessment processes including term paper, seminars, reports, presentations, etc., and semester end examination for each module and an extended essay. Save in exceptional cases, the Programme will be offered in two Semesters each Semester having four Course Modules.

A detailed description of the credits and their required hours is given in the following table for PGDHIS

Course Module Name	Notional Hours	Credits for Course Modules
PGDHIS 5101: Introduction to Historical Knowledge	200	4
PGDHIS 5102: Issues and Themes in Sri Lankan History	150	3
PGDHIS 5103: Asia in Historical Perspective	150	3
PGDHIS 5104: Research Methodology	150	3
PGDHIS 5205: Issues in World History	150	3
PGDHIS 5206: European Expansion in Historical Perspective	150	3
PGDHIS 5207: A History of Economic Life	150	3
PGDHIS 5208: Extended Essay	400	8
<b>Total Credits for PGDHIS</b>		<b>30</b>

Duration of the Programme: One Year

Medium of Instruction and Examination: Tri-Lingual

Assessment System: Continuous Assessment (CA) and End-of-Course Assessment (EC)

#### Semester I

Subject Code	Course Module Name	Credits Value	% Continuous Assessment	% End of Course Assessment
PGDHIS 5101	Introduction to Historical Knowledge	4	40%	60%
PGDHIS 5102	Issues and Themes in Sri Lankan History	3	40%	60%
PGDHIS 5103	Asia in Historical Perspective	3	40%	60%
PGDHIS 5104	Research Methodology	3	40%	60%

## Semester II

Subject Code	Course Module Name	Credits Value	% Continuous Assessment	% End of Course Assessment
PGDHIS 5205	Issues in World History	3	40%	60%
PGDHIS 5206	European Expansion in Historical Perspective	3	40%	60%
PGDHIS 5207	A History of Economic Life	3	40%	60%
PGDHIS 5208	Extended Essay	8	40%	60%

Total Credits: 30

Total Notional Hours: 1500 hours

Numbers of Attempts at Examination: 02



FACULTY OF ARTS- UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Postgraduate Diploma in History (PGDIHS)

*By-Laws made by the Council of the University of Colombo under section 135 of the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978 and its subsequent amendments.*

**By Laws**

**Part -I**

1. These By-Laws may be cited as the Postgraduate Diploma in History By- Laws No...of 2017.
2. Subject to these By-Laws a person may be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in History(hereinafter referred to as the Diploma) if he/she has:
  - (a) been a registered student of the University for this Diploma for the period prescribed by these By-Laws;
  - (b) thereafter pursued the programme of study at the University to the satisfaction of the Vice- Chancellor as prescribed by these By- Laws, and other Regulations and Rules of the University;
  - (c) satisfied the examiners for the Diploma at the take-home assignments, class room tests and/or presentations, course work as well as the semester end examinations in prescribed courses, and the Extended Essay submitted on a subject approved by the Faculty Board;
  - (d) paid such registration, tuition, supervision, examination and other fees as may be payable by her/him to the University;
  - and
  - (e) fulfilled all other requirements prescribed by these By-Laws and the Regulations and Rules of the University
3.
  - 3.1 Applications for registration for the Diploma shall be invited by Notice in the newspapers and/or on the University notice board and/or on the web site of the University of Colombo.
  - 3.2 A person who wishes to become a candidate for the Diploma shall make an application to the Registrar or Senior Assistant Registrar, as indicated in the Notice when the said programme is advertised.
  - 3.3 The application shall be on the prescribed form providing the information as he/she may be required to submit, including his/her qualifications for undertaking the programme of study.

4. There shall be a Co-ordinator for the programme who shall be engaged by the Dean, Faculty of Arts in consultation with the Head of the Department of History.
5. Applications received by the Registrar or the Senior Assistant Registrar, as the case may be, shall be referred to the Co-ordinator of the programme. The Co-ordinator, having examined the applications for necessary initial qualifications, shall call the qualified candidates for an interview, on which selections may be made in consultation with the Head of the Department. An entrance test may be held, if necessary, prior to the interview, if the number of applicants is very much in excess of the number of candidates that can be accommodated in the given year. The final list of candidates to be enrolled shall be recommended by the Head of the Department and the Co-ordinator, to the Higher Degree Committee (HDC) and the Faculty Board for their approval and recommendation to the Senate whose approval is necessary for enrolment.

6. **Admission Criteria for Post Graduate Diploma in History**

- I. A relevant Degree from a recognized University/Institution  
OR
- II. A relevant Post-Graduate Diploma from a recognized University/Institution.  
OR
- III. An equivalent academic qualification with two-year post-qualification work experience acceptable to the Senate as recommended by the Faculty Board.

The qualification under sub-paragraph III above shall be considered on a case by case basis.

7.
  - 7.1 On acceptance by the Faculty Board and the Senate a person shall forthwith pay the prescribed fees to the University in order to register for the Diploma.
  - 7.2 The period of validity of registration for the Diploma shall be one academic year.
  - 7.3 The registration for the Diploma shall be deemed to have lapsed at the expiry of its period of validity. A candidate, whose registration has so lapsed may re-new the registration for a further period, provided the Faculty Board considers him/her eligible for such registration. However, no registration shall be renewed after the expiry of two academic years from the end of the first period of registration.
  - 7.4 If the number of persons who have applied and/or who are registered for the programme in any given year is not sufficient, in the opinion of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts, to make the conducting of the programme financially viable, the Faculty Board reserves the right not to conduct the programme, subject to the



University refunding any fees except the application fees, that may have been received.

- 7.5 Notwithstanding anything stated to the contrary, the University shall have the right to cancel the registration of a candidate at any time for cause assigned.
8. No student shall keep away from classes or withdraw from the semester end examinations or continuous assessment without prior approval from the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts unless on medical grounds.

**Part II**  
**Course Details**

- 9.
- 9.1 The Diploma programme shall consist of the following, the details of which are prescribed in the table under 24.1
- (i) Seven course modules; and  
(ii) An Extended Essay
- 9.2 The title of course modules of the programme taught shall be those set out in 24.1 and the Senate shall have power, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board, to amend the schedule.
10. The Senate shall have power, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board, to amend the number of course modules, the course structure, the syllabi and the scheme of evaluation.
- 11.
- 11.1 The Senate, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts shall appoint a Board of Examiners to conduct the examinations leading to the conferment of the Diploma.
- 11.2 The performance in the seven course modules shall be subjected to continuous assessment as well as the end of semester examinations by teachers/examiners, who will also be members of the Board of Examiners. The performance in the extended essay shall be assessed at the end of the second semester.
12. The scheme of evaluation shall be as laid down in sections 16, 17 and 18 of these By-Laws.
13. The mediums of instruction and examination shall be Sinhala, Tamil and English.

- 14.
- 14.1 Each course module shall carry a maximum of 100 marks. The evaluation of a candidate's performance at each of the taught courses shall take the form of continuous assessment and end-of-semester written examination. While the continuous assessment of each course module shall carry a maximum of 40% of the total marks, the end-of-semester written examination of each course module shall carry a maximum of 60% of the total marks.
- 14.2 Both the continuous assessment component and end-of-semester written examination component shall evaluate a candidate's level of knowledge, competence in skills, attitudes and behaviour.
- 14.3 The Continuous Assessment component shall take different forms of assessment including, but not restricted to, take-home-assignment, field study reports, literature survey/review, conduct of focus-group-discussions, seminar presentations, oral examinations, class participation, conduct of exhibitions, mock sessions etc.,
- 14.4 The Continuous Assessment component shall have a minimum of two evaluations in a course module. When the form of evaluation takes oral examinations, mock sessions, seminar presentations etc., a minimum of two examiners must be present to evaluate the component.
- 14.5 The allocation of percentage of marks for different components of continuous assessment shall be decided by the Dean on the recommendation of the Coordinator in consultation with the Head of Department. This could vary from year to year.
- 15.
- 15.1 A candidate may not be evaluated unless he/she has been duly registered as a Diploma candidate from the commencement of the academic year, as well as satisfied the attendance requirements at lectures, seminars etc., as prescribed by the Faculty Board from time to time.
- 15.2 All rules relating to the Examination Procedures, Offences and Punishment Regulation No.1 of 1986 shall, mutatis mutandis, apply to, or in relation to, all assessments/examinations of the Diploma.
- 15.3 Without prejudice to the generality of the Regulation No.1 of 1986, rules relating to assignments/examinations shall be formulated and implemented by the Coordinator with the approval of the Higher Degrees Committee and the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts, and any matter relating to them shall be decided by the Faculty Board on the recommendation of the Coordinator, Head of the Department and the Dean of the Faculty.



- 15.4 Rules relating to assignments/tests and the extended essay shall be announced with the concurrence of the Higher Degree Committee and the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts from time to time, by the Coordinator in consultation with the teachers and such rules shall not be changed or revoked unless otherwise so decided by the Higher Degree Committee and the Faculty Board.

**Part III**  
**Scheme of Evaluation**

- 16.
- 16.1 Each of the seven course modules and the extended essay shall carry a maximum of 100 marks.
- 16.2 A candidate's performance in the course modules and the extended essay shall be graded according to the following scheme and the computation of Grade Point Average (GPA) is carried out considering the grade point value for each course module, extended essay and credit points allocated to the course modules and extended essay.

Range of Marks	Grade	Grade Point Value
90-100	A+	4.00
80-89	A	4.00
75-79	A-	3.70
70-74	B+	3.30
65-69	B	3.00
60-64	B-	2.70
55-59	C+	2.30
50-54	C	2.00
45-49	C-	1.70
40-44	D+	1.30
30-39	D	1.00
0-29	E	0.00

During the study period, a candidate accumulates Grade Point Values through continuous assessment and end of semester examination for the Course Modules and the Extended Essay. These Course Modules carry varying Credit Points. From the Grade Point Values accumulated, a Grade Point Average (GPA) will be calculated taking the Credit Points of each module into consideration and using the following formula



$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^n c_n g_n}{\sum_{n=1}^n c_n}$$

Where  $c_n$  and  $g_n$  are the Credit Points and the Grade Point Values obtained respectively for the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Course Module.

Any calculated GPA shall be rounded to the second decimal place.

- 16.3 A candidate who satisfies the necessary minimum conditions for the Diploma shall be deemed to have passed the examination leading to the Diploma. The necessary minimum conditions for a candidate to pass the Diploma examination shall be as follows:
- A minimum grade point of 2.00 in each course module and the Extended Essay.
- 16.4 A candidate shall be deemed to have been unsuccessful in a course module and/or extended essay if he/she does not obtain a Grade Point Value of 2.00 or more.
- 16.5 A candidate who is unsuccessful in a course module/s shall take that course module/s on the very next occasion when the examination is held.
- 16.6 Where a candidate is unsuccessful at the extended essay, he/she shall re-submit the extended essay after rewriting it or correcting it, as the case may be and submit within the time specified but not later than three months. The extended essay shall be reevaluated by the same examiners as far as possible.
- 16.7 A candidate who has not obtained a GPA of 2.00 or above shall take the Examination at the next subsequent examination provided he/she has a valid registration.
- 16.8 At the end of the first semester the grades of course modules will be provided and at the end of the second semester the grade of course modules and extended essay as well as the GPA will be provided.
17. A candidate who has been successful at the examination leading to the award of the Diploma may be awarded a distinction pass at the examination if he/she obtains a G.P.A of 3.70 or more in the first period of registration.

18. A candidate who has been successful at the examination leading to the award of the Diploma may be awarded a merit pass at the examination if he/she obtains a Grade Point Average of 3.30 or more in the first period of registration.
19.
  - 19.1 Candidates who are so re-assessed in terms of 16.5 shall be deemed to have passed the examination if they receive GPV of 2.00 or more in each course module. However, if a candidate obtains more than a GPV of 2.00 he/she will be credited with a GPV 2.00 only for the purpose of calculating the Grade Point Average.
  - 19.2 A Candidate who re-submits the extended essay under 16. 6 shall be deemed to have passed in the extended essay, if he/she receives a GPV of 2.00 for it. A candidate who obtains more than a GPV of 2.00 for the extended essay at the re-submit attempt will be given a maximum of GPV 2.00 only for the purpose of calculating the Grade Point Average.
20. A candidate who fails to satisfy the conditions in 16.3, 17, 18 or 19 shall be deemed to have failed the examination.
21. A candidate who fails shall be eligible for two further attempts provided he/she has a valid registration.
22. The University shall announce through individual notification the names of candidates who have passed the Diploma examination and those who have obtained the Diploma after completing the whole examination. All candidates shall be informed individually of the results of their examinations and in case of failure, they shall be informed of subjects in which they failed.
23.
  - 23.1 The fees for application, registration, examination and library facilities shall be determined from time to time by the Council of the University. The fees paid shall under no circumstances be refunded after commencement of the programme.
  - 23.2 There will be additional fees charged from failed candidates as determined by the Council on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts, depending on the expenses to be incurred by the University to service their repeat attempts in the Diploma examination process.



24.

24.1 The PGDHIS Programme shall include the following table under Two Semesters:

Course Module Name	Credits for Course Modules
<b>First Semester</b>	
PGDHIS 5101: Introduction to Historical Knowledge	4
PGDHIS 5102: Issues and Themes in Sri Lankan History	3
PGDHIS 5103: Asia in Historical Perspective	3
PGDHIS 5104: Research Methodology	3
<b>Second Semester</b>	
PGDHIS 5205: Issues in World History	3
PGDHIS 5206: European Expansion in Historical Perspective	3
PGDHIS 5207: A History of Economic Life	3
PGDHIS 5208: Extended Essay	8
<b>Total Credits for PGDHIS</b>	<b>30</b>

- (a) An Extended Essay of 6000 - 7000 words based on a field investigation, case study or desk research carried out during the course. The extended essay should be submitted within one month from the last date of the final examination.
- (b) Title for **Extended Essay** should be approved by the Senate on the recommendation of the Higher Degrees Committee and the Faculty Board and be written under the guidance of a supervisor recommended by the Higher Degrees Committee.

24.2

The Senate, on the recommendation of the Higher Degrees, Committee and Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts, shall appoint a supervisor to guide each registered student in **Extended Essays** writing. In the appointment of the supervisor, the Faculty Board may be guided by the tentative subject area of research suggested by the student. The supervisor shall keep the Head and the Coordinator informed about the work of his/her student periodically, every month.

- 24.3 If a student, in the opinion of the Supervisor, Higher Degrees Committee and the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts, is not making satisfactory progress, the Senate may cancel the registration of the student and such student shall thereupon cease to be a registered postgraduate student of the university.
- 24.4 The Senate, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts and the Higher Degrees Committee, shall appoint two examiners to examine the **Answer Scripts and Extended Essay**.

**Part IV**  
**Interpretations**

25. In these By-Laws unless the context otherwise requires

“Council” means the Council of the University of Colombo constituted by the University Act. No. 16 of 1978. (as amended subsequently).

“Senate” means the Senate of the University of Colombo constituted by the University Act. No. 16 of 1978 (as amended subsequently).

“Faculty Board” means the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts.

“Higher Degrees Committee” means the Higher Degrees Committee of the Faculty of Arts.



Department of History, Faculty of Arts  
University of Colombo

Concept Paper  
Masters in History (MAHIS)

**Vision**

The Department of History, University of Colombo, strives to provide a motivating intellectual setting with well trained, committed academic support and excellent learning materials. This will create a space for debate and discussion while problematizing the existing body of knowledge about the past in order to understand the objective and subjective nature of history, its nexus with demographic, economic, political, cultural and social dynamic of past human societies.

**Mission**

The Department of History accomplishes its mission through

- Engaging students in current and local debates in history and historiography.
- Providing post-graduate students of history with skills in historical research, writing, and argumentation.
- Arming students with the capacity to articulate new ideas, ask questions and plan strategies and analytical frameworks for seeking answers.
- Training students to balance intellectual curiosity and history with a multidisciplinary approach.

**Admission Criteria for a Masters in History**

- I. No person shall be considered for admission to the **Master Degree** unless he/she has satisfied the following qualifications.
  - (i) A relevant Degree from a recognized University/Institution with a First or Second class  
OR
  - (ii) Having passed the Master Qualifying (MAQ) Examination in History offered by the University of Colombo.  
OR

(iii) A relevant qualification from a recognized professional body recommended by the University Grants Commission with three years of post-qualifications experience.

OR

(iv) Either a Postgraduate Diploma in History from the Faculty of Arts University of Colombo or a SLQF Level 08 Postgraduate Diploma in History.

Administration/Coordination of the Programme will be undertaken by the Department of History. There shall be a Co-ordinator for the programme who shall be engaged by the Dean, Faculty of Arts in consultation with the Head of the Department.

Course Module Name	Notional Hours	Credits for Course Modules
MAHIS 6101: Historiography: Conceptual and Technical Issues	200	4
MAHIS 6102: New Trends in History Writing	150	3
MAHIS 6103: Selected Texts in World History	150	3
MAHIS6104: Introduction to Documents	150	3
MAHIS 6205: History of Diplomacy	150	3
MAHIS 6206: Teaching History: Skills, and Methods	150	3
MAHIS 6207: Gender and History	150	3
MAHIS 6208: Dissertation by Research (8000-10000 Words) and Methodology	400	8
<b>Total Credits for MAHIS</b>		<b>30</b>

Duration of the Programme: One Year

Medium of Instruction and Examination: Tri-Lingual

Assessment System: Continuous Assessment (CA) and End-of-Course Assessment (EC)



## Semester I

Subject Code	Course Module Name	Credit Value	% Continuous Assessment	% End-of-Course Assessment
MAHIS 6101	Historiography: Conceptual and Technical Issues	4	40%	60%
MAHIS 6102	New Trends in History Writing	3	40%	60%
MAHIS 6103	Selected Texts in World History	3	40%	60%
MAHIS 6104	Introduction to Documents	3	40%	60%

## Semester II

Subject Code	Course Module Name	Credit Value	% Continuous Assessment	% End-of-Course Assessment
MAHIS 6205	History of Diplomacy	3	40%	60%
MAHIS 6206	Teaching History: Skills and Methods	3	40%	60%
MAHIS 6207	Gender and History	3	40%	60%
MAHIS 6208	Minor Dissertation by Research (8000-10000 Words) and Methodology	8	--	100%

Total Credits: 30

Total Notional Hours: 1500 hours

Number of Attempts at Examination: 02

## FACULTY OF ARTS- UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

## Master in History (MAHIS)

*By-Laws made by the Council of the University of Colombo under section 135 of the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978 and its subsequent amendments.*

## By Laws

Part -I

1. These By-Laws may be cited as the Master in History By- Laws No...of 2017.
2. Subject to these By-Laws a person may be awarded the Degree of Master in History (hereinafter sometimes referred to as 'MAHIS' or 'this Degree') if he/she has:
  - (a) been a registered student of the University for this Degree for the period prescribed by these By-Laws;
  - (b) thereafter pursued the programme of study at the University to the satisfaction of the Vice-Chancellor as prescribed by these By- Laws, and other Regulations and Rules of the University;
  - (c) satisfied the examiners for MAHIS at the take-home assignments, class room tests and/or presentations, course work as well as semester end examinations in prescribed courses, and the Minor Dissertation submitted on a subject approved by the Faculty Board;
  - (d) paid such registration, tuition, supervision, examination and other fees as may be payable by him/her to the University; and
  - (e) fulfilled all other requirements prescribed by these By-Laws and the Regulations and Rules of the University.
3.
  - 3.1 Applications for registration for MAHIS shall be invited by Notice in the newspapers and/or on the University notice board and/or on the web site of the University of Colombo.
  - 3.2 A person who wishes to become a candidate for MAHIS shall make an application to the Registrar or Senior Assistant Registrar, as indicated in the Notice when the said programme is advertised.
  - 3.3 The application shall be on the prescribed form providing the information as he/she may be required to submit, including his/her qualifications for undertaking the programme of study.



4. There shall be a Co-ordinator for the programme who shall be engaged by the Dean, Faculty of Arts in consultation with the Head of the Department of History.
5. Applications received by the Registrar of the Senior Assistant Registrar, as the case may be, shall be referred to the Co-ordinator of the programme. The Co-ordinator, having examined the applications for necessary initial qualifications, shall call the qualified candidates for an interview, on which selections may be made in consultation with the Head of the Department. An entrance test may be held, if necessary, prior to the interview, if the number of applicants is very much in excess of the number of candidates that can be accommodated in the given year. The final list of candidates to be enrolled shall be recommended, by the Head of the Department and the Coordinator to the Higher Degrees Committee (HDC) and the Faculty Board for their approval and recommendation to the Senate whose approval is necessary for enrolment.

#### 6. Admission Criteria for MAHIS

6.1 No person shall be considered for admission to the programme leading to MAHIS unless he/she possesses the following qualifications:

- (i) A relevant Degree from a recognized University/Institution with a First or Second Class Honours.  
OR
- (ii) Passed the Master of Arts Qualifying (MAQ) Examination in History conducted by the University of Colombo.  
OR
- (iii) Professional qualification from a recognized professional body recommended by the University Grants Commission with three years of experience.  
OR
- (iv) Either a Postgraduate Diploma in History from the Faculty of Arts University of Colombo or an SLQF Level 08 or equivalent Postgraduate Diploma in History.

6.2 A candidate may be considered to have satisfied the admission requirements if he/she comes under the provisions of section 24 of these by-laws.

7.
  - 7.1 On acceptance by the Faculty Board and the Senate an applicant shall forthwith pay the prescribed fees to the University in order to register for MAHIS.
  - 7.2 The period of validity of registration for MAHIS shall be one academic year.
  - 7.3 The registration for MAHIS shall be deemed to have lapsed at the expiry of its period of validity. A candidate, whose registration has so lapsed may re-new the registration for a further period, provided the Faculty Board considers him/her eligible for such registration. However, no registration shall be renewed after the expiry of two academic years from the end of the first period of registration.
  - 7.4 If the number of persons who have applied and/or who are registered for the course in any given year is not sufficient, in the opinion of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts to make the conducting of the course financially viable, the Faculty Board reserves the right not to conduct the course, subject to the University refunding any fees except the application fees, that may have been received.
  - 7.5 Notwithstanding anything stated to the contrary, the University shall have the right to cancel the registration of a candidate at any time for cause assigned.
8. No student shall keep away from classes or withdraw from the semester end examinations and/or continuous assessment without prior approval from the Faculty Board unless on medical grounds.

**Part II**  
**Course Details**

9.
  - 9.1 The MAHIS programme shall consist of the following, the details of which are prescribed in the table under 25.1:
    - (i) Seven course modules; and
    - (ii) A Minor Dissertation
  - 9.2 The title of course modules of the programme shall be those set out in 25.1 and the Senate shall have power, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board, to amend the schedule.



10. The Senate shall have power, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts, to amend the number of course modules, the course structure, the syllabi and the scheme of evaluation.
11.
  - 11.1 The Senate, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts shall appoint a Board of Examiners to conduct the examinations leading to the conferment of MAHIS.
  - 11.2 The performance in the seven course modules and the minor dissertation shall be assessed through the means of continuous assessment and at the end of the course by teachers, who will also be members of the Board of Examiners.
12. The scheme of evaluation shall be as laid down in sections 16, 17, 18 or 19 of these By-Laws.
13. The mediums of instruction and examination shall be Sinhala, Tamil and English -.
14.
  - 14.1 Each course module shall carry a maximum of 100 marks. The evaluation of a candidate's performance at each of the taught courses shall take the form of continuous assessment and end-of-semester written examination. While the continuous assessment of each course module shall carry a maximum of 40% of the total marks, the end-of-semester written examination of each course module shall carry a maximum of 60% of the total marks.
  - 14.2 Both the continuous assessment component and end-of-semester written examination component shall evaluate a candidate's level of knowledge, competence in skills, attitudes and behavior.
  - 14.3 The Continuous Assessment component shall take different forms of assessment including, but not restricted to, take-home-assignment, field study reports, literature survey/review, conduct of focus-group-discussions, seminar presentations, oral examinations, class participation, conduct of exhibitions, mock sessions etc.
  - 14.4 The Continuous Assessment component shall have a minimum of two evaluations in a course module. When the form of evaluation takes oral examinations, mock sessions, seminar presentation etc, a minimum of two examiners must be present to evaluate the component.
  - 14.5 The allocation of percentage of marks for different components of continuous assessment shall be decided by the Dean on the recommendation of the

Coordinator in consultation with the Head of Department. This could vary from year to year.

15.

15.1 A candidate may not be evaluated unless he/she has duly been registered as a Masters candidate from the commencement of the academic year, as well as satisfied the attendance requirements at lectures, seminars etc. as prescribed by the Faculty Board from time to time.

15.2 All rules relating to the Examination Procedures, Offences and Punishment Regulation No.1 of 1986, mutatis mutandis, shall apply to, or in relation to, all assessments/examinations of MAHIS.

15.3 Without prejudice to the generality of the Regulation No.1 of 1986, rules relating to assignments/tests shall be formulated and implemented by the Coordinator with the approval of the Higher Degrees Committee and the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts, and any matter relating to them shall be decided by the Faculty Board on the recommendation of the Coordinator, Head of the Department and the Dean of the Faculty.

15.4 Rules relating to assignments/tests and the minor dissertation shall be announced with the concurrence of the Higher Degrees Committee and the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts from time to time, by the Coordinator in consultation with the teachers and such rules shall not be changed or revoked unless otherwise so decided by the Higher Degrees Committee and the Faculty Board.

### Part III Scheme of Evaluation

16.

16.1 Each of the seven course modules, the Minor Dissertation shall carry a maximum of 100 marks

16.2 A candidate's performance in the course modules and the minor dissertation shall be graded according to the following scheme and the computation of Grade Point Average (GPA) is carried out considering the grade point value for each course module, minor dissertation and credits points allocated to the course modules and minor dissertation.



Range of Marks	Grade	Grade Point Average
90-100	A+	4.00
80-89	A	4.00
75-79	A-	3.70
70-74	B+	3.30
65-69	B	3.00
60-64	B-	2.70
55-59	C+	2.30
50-54	C	2.00
45-49	C-	1.70
40-44	D+	1.30
30-39	D	1.00
0-29	E	0.00

During the study period, a candidate accumulates Grade Point Values through continuous assessment and end of semester examination for the Course Modules and the Minor Dissertation. These Course Modules carry varying Credit Points. From the Grade Point Values accumulated, a Grade Point Average (GPA) will be calculated taking the Credit Points of each module into consideration and using the following formula.

$$GPA = \frac{\sum c_n g_n}{\sum c_n}$$

Where  $c_n$  and  $g_n$  are the Credit Points and the Grade Point Values obtained respectively for the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Course Module.

Any calculated GPA shall be rounded to the second decimal place.

- 16.3 A candidate who satisfies the necessary minimum conditions for this Degree shall be deemed to have passed the examination leading to MAHIS. The necessary minimum conditions for a candidate to pass this Degree examination shall be as follows:  
A minimum grade point of 2.00 in the each of the course modules and the Minor dissertation.

- 16.4 A candidate shall be deemed to have been unsuccessful in a course module And/or minor dissertation if he/she does not obtain a Grade Point Value of 2.00 or more.
- 16.5 A candidate who is unsuccessful in a course module/s shall take that course module/s on the very next occasion when the examination is held.
- 16.6 Where a candidate is unsuccessful at the Minor Dissertation, he/she shall re-submit the minor dissertation after rewriting it or correcting it, as the case may be and submit within the time specified but not later than six months. The minor dissertation shall be reevaluated by the same examiners as far as possible.
- 16.7 At the end of the first semester the grades of course modules will be provided and at the end of the second semester the grade of course modules and minor dissertation as well as the GPA will be provided.
17. A candidate who has been successful at the examination leading to the award of MAHIS may be awarded a distinction pass at the examination if he/she obtains a GPA of 3.70 or more in the first period of registration.
18. A candidate who has been successful at the examination leading to the award of MAHIS may be awarded a merit pass at the examination if he/she obtains a Grade Point Average of 3.30 or more in the first period of registration.
- 19
- 19.1 Candidates referred in course modules may repeat the examinations in the very next occasion the examinations are held, provided they have valid registration. If such candidates obtain a minimum of GPV 2.00 for each course module the candidates shall be deemed to have completed those course modules.
- 19.2 A candidate who re-submits the minor dissertation under 16. 6 shall be deemed to have passed in the minor dissertation, if he/she receives a GPV of at least 2.00 for it. Although a candidate who obtains more than a GPV of 2.00 for the minor dissertation at the re-submit attempt will be credited with a GPV of 2.00 in calculating his/her GPA at the repeat attempt.
- 19.3 Notwithstanding anything contained in other sections, a candidate who fails to obtain at least a GPV of 2.00 in the minor dissertation shall be considered as referred in the minor dissertation, and shall be required to resubmit the minor dissertation within a period of six months from the date of release of the results, provided he/she is eligible and have his/her registration intact. The minor dissertation to be newly written or re-written shall be done under the guidance of a supervisor approved by the HDC and



the resubmission should be done within the time specified but not later than six months.

- 19.4 The minor dissertation will be evaluated under the following criteria:
- Grade C** - Signs of some research but at a basic level with a small element of analysis. Heavily based on Secondary sources, few references and rudimentary presentation.
- Grade B**-Well-argued and clearly focused, based on wide reading of both primary and secondary source material; well structured, but may lack creativity; Evidence must be analysed and evaluated along with the identification of key issues. A "B" grade will be awarded for well written and well-articulated assessments with few technical errors.
- Grade A**-Shows a clear awareness of the relevant points and an ability to discuss them analytically and creatively. The assessments must be well argued while making excellent use of an appropriate body of primary source and secondary source material; showing independence of thought, as well as an ability to locate a topic within historiography; An "A" grade will be awarded for well written and well-articulated assessments, with style and fluency; developing and articulating a clear thesis.
20. A candidate who fails to satisfy the conditions in 16.3 and/or 19.1 and/or 19.2 whichever is applicable shall be deemed to have failed the examination.
21. A candidate who fails shall be eligible for two further attempts provided he/she has a valid registration. A candidate shall not have more than three attempts in total, including those which he/she is deemed to have exhausted attempts.
22. The University shall announce through individual notification the names of candidates who have passed the MAHIS examination and those who have obtained MAHIS after completing the whole examination and of those who have been referred. All candidates shall be informed individually of the results of their examinations and in case of failure, they shall be informed of subjects in which they failed.
- 23.
- 23.1 The fees for application, registration, examination and library facilities shall be determined from time to time by the Council of the University. The fees paid shall under no circumstance be refunded after commencement of the course.
- 23.2 There will be additional fees charged from failed candidates as determined by the Council on the recommendation of the Faculty Eoard of the Faculty of Arts, depending on the expenses to be incurred by the University to service their repeat attempts in the MAHIS examination process.

24.

- 24.1 Candidates who successfully complete the Postgraduate Diploma or have Master Degree in any other related field or Postgraduate Diploma in a related field or First or Second Class Degree in a related field or Degree in a related field with three years' post-qualification experience in the field are eligible to apply for admission to the MAHIS programme provided they have offered and passed the following course modules:

PGDHIS 5101: Introduction to Historical Knowledge  
PGDHIS 5104: Research Methodology

- 24.2 If a candidate has not offered and passed the course module/course modules specified in 24.1 he/she shall follow the course module/course modules in Masters in History offered at the Faculty of Arts and shall have to obtain a pass grade in the continuous assessments for the course module/course modules. For the purpose of pass grade, total marks allocated for continuous assessments will be taken into consideration.
- 24.3 A candidate who follows the course module/course modules as required by sections 24.1 and 24.2 shall make the payments as prescribed by the Council on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts.

25.

- 25.1 (a) The MAHIS Programme shall include the following:

Course Module Name	Credits for Course Modules
<b>First Semester</b>	
MAHIS 6101 Historiography: Conceptual and Technical Issues	4
MAHIS 6102 New Trends in History Writing	3
MAHIS 6103 Selected Texts in World History	3
MAHIS 6104 Introduction to Documents	3
<b>Second Semester</b>	
MAHIS 6205 History of Diplomacy	3
MAHIS 6206 Teaching History: Skills and Methods	3
MAHIS 6207 Gender and History	3
MAHIS6208 Minor Dissertation by Research (8000-10000 Words) and Methodology The minor dissertation should be submitted within three months from the last date of the final examination	8
<b>Total Credits for MAHIS</b>	<b>30</b>



- 25.2 A student is required to give at least two seminar presentations before he/she may submit the minor dissertation. First shall be the proposal and the other shall be the findings.
- 25.3 The Senate, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts and the HDC shall appoint a supervisor to guide each registered student in minor dissertation writing. In the appointment of the supervisor, the Faculty Board may be guided by the tentative subject area of research suggested by the student. The supervisor shall keep the Dean, the Head of the Department and the Coordinator informed about the work of his/her student periodically, at least every two months.
- 25.4 If a student, in the opinion of the supervisor, the HDC and the Faculty Board, is not making satisfactory progress, the Senate may cancel registration of the student and such student shall thereupon cease to be a registered postgraduate student of the university.

**Part IV**  
**Interpretations**

26. In these By-Laws unless the context otherwise requires

“Council” means the Council of the University of Colombo constituted by the University Act. No. 16 of 1978. (as amended subsequently).

“Senate” means the Senate of the University of Colombo constituted by the University Act. No. 16 of 1978 (as amended subsequently).

“Faculty Board” means the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Arts

“Higher Degrees Committee” means the Higher Degree Committee of the Faculty of Arts.