2026

STUDENT HANDBOOK

PGIS

Postgraduate Institute of Science
University of Peradeniya

PGIS HANDBOOK 2026

ISBN 955 – 8787 – 00 – 0

Published by the Postgraduate Institute of Science,

University of Peradeniya, P.O. Box 25,

Peradeniya 20400, Sri Lanka

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

HANDBOOK 2026

Celebrating 30 Years of Excellence in Postgraduate Education

(1996–2026)

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

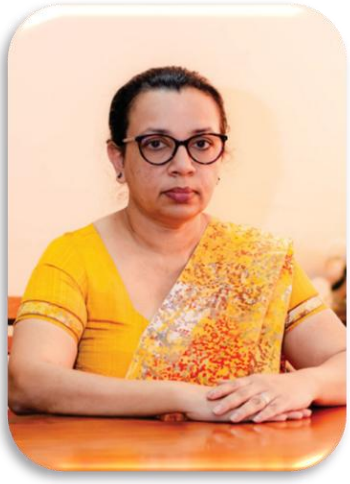
POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
University of Peradeniya
P.O. Box 25, Peradeniya 20400
Sri Lanka

PGIS Office
Administration Division
081-2385660/7; 081-2394788/91
Accounts Division
081-2385670; 2394796
Fax: 081-2389026 (Local)
+94-81-2389026 (International)

Website: http://www.pgis.lk

Director
Prof. B.M.N.W.B. Balasooriya
081-2387218; 081-2394781
Email: director@pgis.lk

Deputy Registrar
Mrs. A. A. S. Priyadarshanee
081-2387542; 0812394782
Email: dr@pgis.lk



Assistant Registrar
Mrs. S. G. Rajapura
081-2385665; 081-2394793
Email: ar@pgis.lk

Acting Deputy Bursar
Mr. U. W. Rajmal
081-2389027; 081-2394783
Email: db@pgis.lk

VISION

To be an internationally renowned centre of excellence for Postgraduate Training, Innovative Research & Development in Sciences.

MISSION

To contribute to the development of a globally recognized society with social sensitivity, ethical rectitude and economic prosperity to promote innovative research and outreach activities in an intellectually stimulating and a conducive academic environment

VALUES

The PGIS is guided by the following core institutional values in fulfilling its mandate in postgraduate education, research, and service to society:

1. Academic Excellence

The Institute is committed to maintaining the highest standards in postgraduate teaching, learning, research, and scholarly practice, fostering critical inquiry, innovation, and intellectual rigor across all scientific disciplines.

2. Integrity and Ethical Conduct

PGIS upholds integrity, honesty, transparency, and ethical responsibility in all academic, research, administrative, and financial activities, ensuring compliance with national regulations and international best practices.

3. Research and Innovation

The Institute promotes a strong research culture that encourages creativity, interdisciplinary collaboration, knowledge generation, and the application of scientific research for national development and global advancement.

4. Social Responsibility and Sustainability

PGIS is dedicated to addressing societal needs through science, promoting environmental sustainability, social sensitivity, and responsible use of knowledge for the benefit of communities and future generations.

5. Inclusiveness and Equity

The Institute values diversity, equity, and inclusiveness, ensuring fair access to postgraduate education and research opportunities and fostering a respectful, supportive, and collegial academic environment.

6. Accountability and Good Governance

PGIS is committed to accountability, transparency, and sound governance, ensuring responsible decision-making, efficient use of resources, and continuous institutional improvement.

7. Collaboration and Partnership

The Institute encourages collaboration and partnerships with national and international universities, research institutions, industry, and other stakeholders to enhance academic quality, research impact, and knowledge exchange.

8. Student-Centredness and Professional Development

PGIS prioritizes student development by providing a supportive academic environment that nurtures independent thinking, professional competence, ethical awareness, and lifelong learning.

CONTENTS

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

INTRODUCTION

01

1 INTRODUCTION

Celebrating 30 Years of Excellence in Postgraduate Education (1996–2026)

The Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS) is a national institute established in 1996 by a Gazette Ordinance issued by the Minister of Higher Education, with the mandate to strengthen and promote postgraduate education, research, and development (R&D) in diverse scientific disciplines in Sri Lanka. The establishment of PGIS fulfilled a long-felt national need for a dedicated institution to advance postgraduate training and high-quality research in science and technology, contributing directly to national development, innovation, and human capital formation.

As a national institute attached to the University of Peradeniya, PGIS is located within the University premises and benefits from its rich academic environment, multidisciplinary expertise, and well-established academic traditions. This close association provides an ideal setting for interdisciplinary teaching, learning, and research, while enabling PGIS to operate with a distinct postgraduate-focused mandate and institutional autonomy.

Academic programmes of PGIS are conducted through eleven Boards of Study, in close collaboration with the Faculty of Science of the University of Peradeniya. Teaching and research supervision are provided by highly qualified and experienced academics and researchers drawn primarily from the University of Peradeniya, as well as from other nationally and internationally recognised universities and research institutions. Research training is supported by well-established laboratory and research facilities within the Faculty of Science, other faculties of the University, national research institutes, and PGIS-managed facilities

At present, PGIS offers PhD, MPhil, MSc, Postgraduate Diploma programmes, and Certificate Courses across a broad range of scientific disciplines, aligned with the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF Levels 9–12). To attract and support students with high academic potential, the Institute offers a limited number of postgraduate scholarships and research support mechanisms.

In addition to formal degree programmes, PGIS addresses the growing national demand for highly trained science and technology manpower through in-service training programmes, short courses, workshops, outreach activities, and consultancy services for public and private sector organisations. The Institute also conducts sandwich and collaborative postgraduate programmes in partnership with reputed international institutions, thereby enhancing global exposure and academic mobility for its students.

Over the past three decades, PGIS has emerged as the leading institution in Sri Lanka in terms of the number of PhD, MPhil, and MSc graduates produced in the sciences, while consistently maintaining high academic standards and robust quality assurance mechanisms. The Institute has demonstrated sustained growth in research output, including publications in indexed journals, patents, consultancies, and research grants secured from both local and international funding agencies. These outcomes reflect PGIS's role as a public institution generating long-term socio-economic value through advanced human capital development, research innovation, and national capacity building.

PGIS has earned wide national and international recognition, attracting postgraduate students from across Sri Lanka and overseas. Its alumni serve with distinction in academia, research and development, industry, banking and finance, policy institutions, and numerous other sectors, both locally and internationally, contributing significantly to the nation's scientific and technological advancement.The Institute regularly organises national and international conferences, workshops, and short-term training programmes on scientific issues of national and global relevance. The annual PGIS Research Congress serves as a flagship platform for postgraduate students and researchers to present and disseminate their research findings to local and international audiences, fostering scholarly exchange and innovation.

As PGIS celebrates 30 years of excellence in postgraduate education (1996–2026), the Institute reaffirms its commitment to quality, relevance, sustainability, and global competitiveness. Looking ahead, PGIS will continue to consolidate and strengthen its academic and research activities, enhance international engagement, support national development priorities, and fulfil the country's evolving needs for advanced scientific and technological expertise.

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

ORGANIZATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE

02

2 ORGANIZATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE

2.1 Organizational Structure

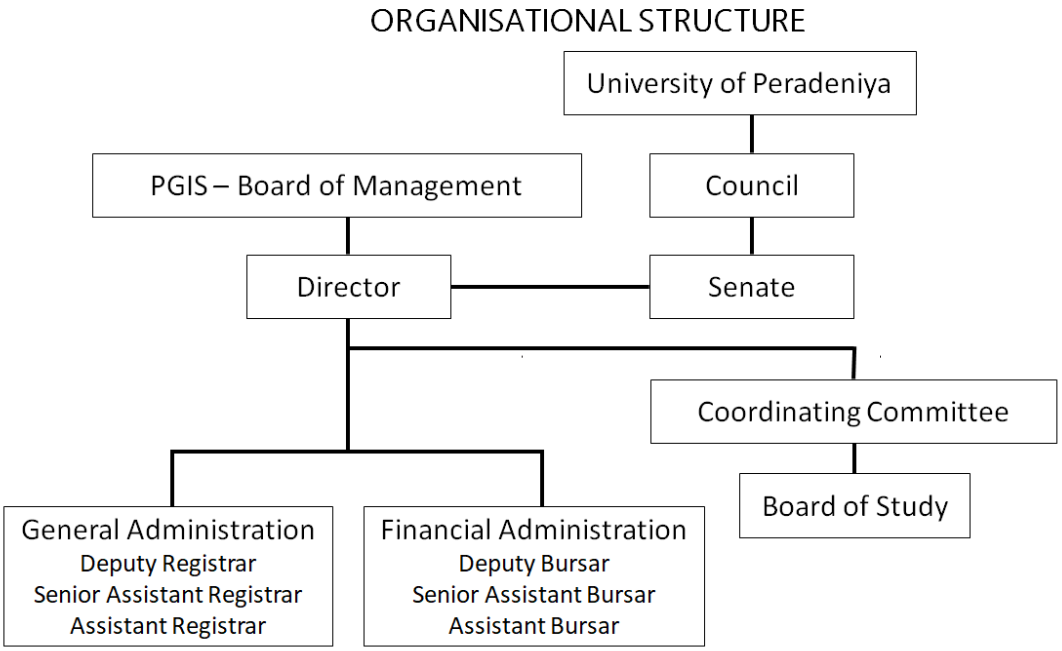


Figure 2.1. Organizational structure

The PGIS operates under a Director with its administration governed by a Board of Management. Approval for academic programmes and award of degrees are administered by the Senate and Council of the University of Peradeniya. The PGIS consists of two major divisions as General Administration Division and Finance Administration Division. Academic guidance is provided by the Coordinating Committee and the Boards of Study.

2.2 Board of Management

The Board of Management is ch ired by the Director and includes members appointed by the Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education, University Grants Commission, Chairpersons or nominees of Boards of Study, Deputy Registrar/Senior Assistant Registrar or Assistant Registrar of the PGIS as secretary to the Board, Coordinator of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (http://www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk/qac. php) and the Legal Advisor of the PGIS on invitation. Given below is the list of members in the Board of Management.

- Director, Postgraduate Institute of Science
- Secretary, Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education (or nominee)
- Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (or nominee)
- Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology (or nominee)
- Director-General, National Science Foundation (or nominee)
- President, Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka (or nominee)
- Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya (Ex-officio)

- One other Dean to represent the Faculties of Science of all Universities, nominated by the Standing Committee in Science of the UGC
- Two Members appointed by the University Grants Commission
- Chairpersons or nominated members of the Boards of Study

2.3 Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee, chaired by the Director, is responsible for approving matters related to programme development, overseeing the conduct of courses, and managing examination related matters. The Coordinating Committee consists of following members.

- Director
- Dean, Faculty of Science of the University of Peradeniya
- Chairpersons of the Boards of Study
- Heads of Departments of Faculty of Science who are not Chairpersons
- Secretaries of the Boards of Study
- Librarian, University of Peradeniya or his/her nominee
- Programme Coordinators (by invitation)

2.4 Boards of Study

Postgraduate (PG) programmes are managed by the following Boards of Study.

- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Biomedical Sciences
- Chemical Sciences
- Earth Sciences
- Environmental Science
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Plant Sciences
- Science Education
- Statistics and Computer Science
- Zoological Sciences

Each Board of Study is chaired by the Chairperson of the Board of Study and consists of nine members as given below:

- Director
- Chairperson of the Board of Study
- Head of the relevant Department of the Faculty of Science of the University
- Four members appointed by the Board of Management from among the teachers in the University specialized in the relevant field of study, on the recommendation of the university

- Three members appointed by the Board of Management from among persons of eminence in the appropriate specialty in science

2.5 Officers of the Institute

The Director, Deputy Registrar/Senior Assistant Registrar/ Assistant Registrar and the Deputy Bursar/ Senior Assistant Bursar/ Assistant Bursar are the principal officers of the PGIS. The Director is the chief administrative and financial officer of the Institute.

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

ADMINISTRATION OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

03

3 ADMINISTRATION OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

3.1 Introduction

Programme administrators and support staff at PGIS assist students at every stage of their academic journey, from enrolment to graduation and beyond. They are committed to ensuring that students have access to the necessary resources, guidance, and support to succeed both academically and personally.

Postgraduate students are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the information provided in this section, which outlines key aspects of programme administration. A clear understanding of these processes will enable students to engage effectively with the programme administration team, make informed decisions throughout their studies, and enhance their overall educational experience.

3.2 Programme Management

Each study programme at PGIS is administered by a Board of Study. The Boards of Study offer Certificate, Diploma, Master's, MSc, MPhil, and PhD programmes, as outlined in Chapters 5–7.
With the exception of MPhil and PhD programmes, each programme is coordinated by one or more Programme Coordinators. Upon registration, the Programme Coordinator will communicate with students regarding class schedules, assessments, and other relevant academic and administrative matters until completion of the programme.

3.3 Management Information System

The Management Information System (MIS) is a crucial tool designed to enhance your academic experience and streamline administrative functions. MIS serves as a centralized hub for accessing vital information related to your studies, campus activities, and more.

3.3.1 Accessing MIS

To access the MIS, simply log in using student credentials provided by the PGIS through the Institute's official portal (https://mis.pgis.lk/MIS_PGIS/#/examples/login). You will find a user-friendly interface that provides a wide range of features and functions.

3.3.2 Academic records

Allows to access class schedules, grades, transcripts, and academic progress reports. MIS assists to keep track of registration status and degree requirements effortlessly.

3.3.3 Financial information

Facilitates to review billing statements, view account balances, and make payments securely.

3.3.4 Course management

Allows to enroll in courses, view syllabi, and access digital course materials, submit assignments, participate in discussion forums, and connect with professors and classmates.

3.3.5 Campus resources

Provides information on important campus resources such as the library catalog, career services, and student organizations. Stay informed about campus events and announcements.

3.3.6 Personal profile

Facilitates updating contact information, emergency contacts, and communication preferences. Ensure that your profile is current for university notifications.

3.3.7 Benefits of MIS

Use of the MIS can greatly enhance your academic and extracurricular experience. It provides real-time access to critical information, reducing administrative hassles and enhancing your ability to stay organized and informed throughout your academic journey.

3.3.8 Support and assistance

If you encounter any issues or have questions regarding the MIS, our IT support team is readily available to assist you. Feel free to reach out for technical assistance, user guidance, or troubleshooting

3.4 Payment of fees

Timely payment of tuition fees is a necessity to ensure access to educational resources, services, and other academic related information. All students are required to adhere to the following guidelines:

Payment deadlines: Deadlines for payment of tuition fees for each semester or term are outlined in the letter of registration. It is your responsibility to make payments on or before these deadlines to avoid late fees and potential enrollment holds.

Payment methods: Various payment methods are offered, including online payments through secure portal, in-person payments at the finance office, and other approved methods as specified. Please refer to the Institute's official website or contact the student finance office for detailed payment instructions.

For online payment, please visit the PGIS website for payment details (https://ipg.pgis.lk/)
For cash payment, pay at the Shroff Counter of the PGIS.

Deposits in Foreign Currency: Payments in foreign currency shall be deposited to the PGIS Account No. 2233593 at the Bank of Ceylon, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. For deposits made from outside Sri Lanka, the following SWIFT code shall be used: BCEYLKLX.

After bank deposit, you should attach a scanned copy of the Bank Slip with the applicant's name

The payment details (applicant's full name, Student ID number, amount deposited, purpose of payment, date of deposit, etc.) should also be sent to the PGIS office.

Payments by other methods are acceptable only if prior arrangements have been made with the Institute. A receipt for payment of the prescribed fee should be annexed to the applications for registration, obtaining transcript, certificate, etc.

Continuation of payment: Continued non-payment may lead to the cancellation of your programme registration or other academic services.

Revision of fees: The fees are revised from time to time by the Board of Management of the PGIS. Please see the PGIS website: http://www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk/ for updated fees of relevant Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma and Masters/MSc Degree programme.

3.5 Application Procedure

Applicants should refer to advertisements published in the print or electronic media, or the PGIS website (http://www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk), for details regarding the commencement of Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma Programmes.

Applications for enrolment must be submitted online using the prescribed application form available through the PGIS portal (https://mis.pgis.lk/MIS_PGIS/#/examples/login). A non-refundable processing fee is payable at the time of submission.

Applicants are required to upload certified copies of all relevant academic and/or professional qualifications, including academic transcripts and degree or diploma certificates. In addition, official transcript(s) must be sent directly by the respective awarding institution(s) to the Deputy Registrar / Senior Assistant Registrar / Assistant Registrar of PGIS.

Applicants must also ensure that two letters of recommendation, at least one of which should be from an academic referee, are submitted confidentially to PGIS by the referees concerned.

The submission of a duly completed online application together with all required supporting documents is the sole responsibility of the applicant. In addition, a printed and duly signed copy of the completed application must be sent by post to PGIS on or before the stipulated deadline.

3.6 Processing of Application

Applications are initially screened by the relevant Board of Study. Applications that are incomplete or contain false or misleading information shall be rejected at the screening stage. Eligible applicants will be required to sit for an Aptitude Test and, where applicable, an additional subject-based test relevant to the programme.

Selection for admission shall be based on academic merit, performance at the prescribed test(s), and an interview conducted by PGIS. The decision of PGIS regarding admission to any postgraduate programme shall be final.

3.7 Registration and Related Matters

Applicants selected for admission as postgraduate students are required to register with PGIS to follow the approved postgraduate programme. At the time of registration, students shall produce the original certificates submitted with the application, along with a certified English translation of the birth certificate.

The date of registration shall be the commencement of the academic program. Registration shall be valid for a period of one year and must be renewed annually in accordance with PGIS regulations. At the time of registration, students are required to make the prescribed payments.

3.8 Renewal of Registration

A student should maintain the annual registration continuously throughout the all programme by paying the appropriate fees on time as stipulated by the PGIS.
https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/cfees.pdf

3.9 Concurrent Registration

A student registered for a postgraduate programme at PGIS shall not be permitted to register concurrently for another postgraduate programme at any other PGIs.

3.10 Withdrawal from a Programme

A postgraduate student who wishes to withdraw from the programme for which he or she is registered shall submit a written request addressed to the Director, PGIS, through the Programme Coordinator and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study.

The following refund policy shall apply:

- 5% of the programme fee shall be retained by PGIS if the request for withdrawal is submitted before the commencement of the programme.

- 15% of the programme fee shall be retained by PGIS if the request for withdrawal is submitted within three (03) weeks of the commencement of the programme.
- No refund shall be made if the request for withdrawal is submitted after three (03) weeks from the commencement of the programme.

3.11 Change of the Programme Registration

Students may request to change the registration from one programme to another programme with the approval of the relevant Board of Study within a specific period approved by both Board of study. The student must meet the fee requirement of the new programme.

3.12 Amendments to Registration

A student who wishes to make amendments to his or her registration, including changes to personal information, project topic, or project title, shall submit a written request addressed to the Director, PGIS, through the Programme Coordinator and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study.

3.13 Deferment of Registration

A student who wishes to defer registration for a programme shall submit a written request to the Director, PGIS, through the Programme Coordinator and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study. The request must clearly state the valid reasons for deferment and the proposed duration.

In cases where the duration of deferment is one year or more, the programme fee applicable at the time of re-registration shall be payable. The period of deferment shall be added to the maximum permissible duration of the programme.

3.14 Cancellation of Registration

Registration of a student may be cancelled by the PGIS on the recommendation of the relevant Board of Study for poor academic progress, violation of rules and regulations of the PGIS, plagiarism, failure to pay prescribed fees on schedule, or any other reasons as decided by the PGIS.

3.15 Leave of Absence

Leave of absence from a programme may be granted to a student only on medical grounds or any other valid reasons acceptable to the PGIS. Requests for such leave should be made in writing to the Director, PGIS, through the Programme Coordinator and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study.

3.16 Re-admission to Postgraduate Programmes

Guidelines for Re-admission to Postgraduate Programmes

These Guidelines shall apply to all postgraduate programmes conducted by PGIS, including Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, Master's degree, Master of Science Degree, MPhil, and PhD programmes.

3.16.1 Eligibility for Re-admission

A postgraduate candidate whose registration has expired and who has not completed the requirements of the programme may apply for re-admission subject to the provisions of these Guidelines.

a) The application for re-admission must be submitted within three (03) months from the date of expiry of registration.

b) Applications submitted after the stipulated period shall normally not be considered, except under exceptional circumstances with strong justification and the approval of the relevant Board of Study.

3.16.2 Re-admission Procedure

a) The candidate shall submit a written request for re-admission through:
   - Supervisor(s),
   - Programme Coordinator (where applicable),

b) The complete application shall be forwarded for consideration by the relevant Board of Study of PGIS and thereafter to the Board of Management for final approval.

c) Re-admission shall take effect only after formal approval and payment of the prescribed fees.

3.16.3 General Conditions Applicable after Re-admission

Credit Transfer

Credits already earned for taught courses and/or research components prior to the expiry of registration may be carried forward in accordance with the prevailing PGIS General Regulations.

Duration after Re-admission

a) The minimum remaining duration of study after re-admission shall be determined based on the recommendation of the supervisor(s)/Programme Coordinator and approved by the relevant Board of Study.

b) The candidate must complete all remaining requirements within the **maximum duration** permitted for the programme under PGIS regulations, calculated from the original date of registration unless otherwise specified.

Course and Re-registration Fees

Upon re-admission, the candidate shall pay a re-registration fee as follows.

a) Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, Master's degree, Master of Science Degree: Re-registration fee is 20% of the existing course fee for the first year or part of it. The candidates should pay 10% of the course fee for every additional year beyond the 1st year after re-registration up to a maximum of 50% of the course fee (See the Table below for details).

Year No. (from the date of re-admission)	Course Fee
1st year	20% of the course fee
2nd year	10% of the course fee
3rd year	10% of the course fee
Any additional time (up to the maximum duration)	10% of the course fee

b) For Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy Degree programmes:

Degree	Course Fee per annum (up to the maximum duration)
MPhil (Full-time)	50,000.00
MPhil (Part-time)	30,000.00
PhD (Full-time)	50,000.00
PhD (Part-time)	30,000.00

Any additional tuition, examination, repeat-credit, or registration fees, etc… shall be payable in accordance with PGIS guideline/regulations in force at the time of re-admission.

3.16.5 Academic Requirements

The candidate shall comply with the curriculum, regulations, and course structure in force at the time of re-admission, unless otherwise approved.

The academic committee may require the candidate to:

- Repeat certain courses,
- Register for additional modules, or
- Revise the research proposal,
  if deemed necessary to maintain academic standards.

3.16.6 Effect of Re-admission

Re-admission does not automatically guarantee award of the degree.
All remaining academic, administrative, and financial requirements must be fulfilled within the approved period

3.17 Programme Guide for MPhil and PhD Degrees

The Programme Guide for MPhil and PhD Degrees of the PGIS serves as a key reference document outlining the academic structure, eligibility requirements, and administrative procedures governing the Institute's higher research degree programmes. The Guide is designed to ensure clarity, consistency, and transparency for research students, supervisors, and administrators.

The updated Guide clarifies eligibility and admission criteria for both MPhil and PhD programmes, including provisions for direct admission to the PhD from Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF) Level 6,7 or 8. It details the registration process, distinguishing between initial and confirmed registration stages, and formally introduces the PhD Qualifier Review for specified categories of candidates. The guide also redefines progress reviews and research milestones to support timely monitoring of candidate performance.

In addition, the Guide emphasizes research ethics and plagiarism policies, elaborates procedures for thesis evaluation, viva voce examinations, and the appointment of examiners, and formalizes degree completion timelines and extension provisions for both full-time and part-time candidates. Standardized templates and clearly defined responsibilities of supervisors, co-supervisors, and research committees are included to ensure effective supervision and quality assurance throughout the research process.

3.18 Issuance of Transcripts/Grade Reports

Transcripts/Grade report provide a comprehensive record of your academic achievements during your academic journey at the institute. PGIS will issue transcripts whenever requested.

3.18.1 Transcript/Grade report requests

To request an official transcript/Grade report, the transcript/Grade report request form should be filled out. It is available on the PGIS's website (http://www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk/downloads/students.php) or visit the Registrar's office in person. Ensure that all outstanding financial obligations to the PGIS have been settled before making a request.

3.18.2 Processing time

Transcript/Grade report requests are typically processed within [3-5 business days] from the date of request. Please plan your transcript requests accordingly, especially when applying to external institutions or employers with specific deadlines.

3.18.3 Fees

There is a nominal fee associated with each Transcript/Grade report request. Please consult the PGIS's official fee schedule or contact the Registrar's office for the current Transcript/Grade report issuance fee. Payment can be made through credit card, check, or cash.

3.18.4 Transcript/Grade Report Delivery Options

a) **Electronic transcripts**
   As many institutions and organizations accept electronic transcripts, you may specify the recipient's email address on your request form, and the transcript will be sent securely to that address.
b) **Mailed transcripts**
   If a physical transcript is required, you may choose to have it mailed to the recipient's address or your own. Be sure to provide accurate mailing information.
c) **In-Person pickup**
   For local students or those who prefer a physical copy, transcripts may be picked up in person at the Registrar's office during regular business hours.

3.18.5 Transcript requests for alumni

Even after graduation, you may request transcripts as needed. Follow the same process outlined above to obtain your transcripts

3.19 Code of Conduct

The PGIS recognizes the importance of upholding the highest standards of academic and personal conduct. The code of conduct serves as a guide to ensure that you contribute positively to the academic community and uphold the reputation of the Institute.

3.19.1 Academic integrity

It is required to uphold the principles of academic integrity and honesty in academic work, including research, coursework, exams, and publications.

Properly cite and give credit to all sources of information, ideas, and contributions used in your work, in accordance with established citation and referencing guidelines.

Do not engage in plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty.

3.19.2 Respect and professionalism

Treat all members of the academic community including fellow students, faculty, staff, and researchers with respect, courtesy, and professionalism.

Engage in constructive and open dialogue, valuing diverse perspectives and ideas while respecting differences of opinion.

Maintain a professional demeanor in all academic and research settings, both on and off campus.

3.19.3 Research ethics

Conduct research with the highest ethical standards, ensuring the welfare of participants and the responsible use of research funds and resources.

Adhere to all ethical guidelines and regulations relevant to the field of study, including obtaining proper approvals for research involving human subjects, animals, or sensitive data.

Do not engage in any form of research misconduct, including fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in research work.

3.19.4 Responsible use of resources

Use resources, facilities, and equipment responsibly and in accordance with institutional policies and guidelines. Do not engage in the unauthorized use or distribution of university resources or materials.

3.19.5 Respect for privacy

Respect the privacy and confidentiality of personal and academic information, as well as sensitive data of fellow students, faculty, staff, and research participants.

3.19.6 Community engagement

Actively engage in the academic and local communities, contributing positively to the PGIS's and university's mission and the broader society.

3.19.7 Reporting violations

Promptly report any violations of this code of conduct to the appropriate university authorities.

3.19.8 Consequences of violations

Violations of this code of conduct may result in disciplinary actions, as determined by the university's policies and procedures.

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

OVERVIEW OF POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

[SLQF LEVELS 7 – 12]

04

4 OVERVIEW OF POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES [SLQF LEVELS 7 –12]

4.1 Introduction

The PGIS offers study programmes leading to Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, and Masters (by course work), MSc (course work with a research component), MPhil (by research) and PhD (by research) Degrees in the respective discipline of science. The medium of instruction of all the programmes shall be English.

Sri Lanka Qualification Framework (SLQF) (https://www.eugc.ac.lk/qac/) is a national framework designed for improving the quality and relevance of higher education and training through recognizing and accrediting qualifications offered by different higher educational institutions. This framework identifies different levels to which the qualifications offered by different institutions match. Therefore, the SLQF combines diverse qualifications and training provided by educational institutions in the country under one system so that the educational level of various academic programmes can easily be identified and compared.

The PGIS has adopted SLQF for all its academic programmes. According to SLQF, each programme is assigned a level for easy identification of the respective qualifications. The qualification at exit (SLQF level) for each programme of study, entry requirement, credit/GPA requirements to be fulfilled to obtain the relevant qualification, and other information are given in the table below. Progressive pathways within SLQF are illustrated in Figure 4.1, and details are given in Chapters 5 to 7.

Table 4.1. Postgraduate Programmes – Entry, Requirements & Duration

Programme of Study (Exit Qualification)	SLQF Level	Minimum Entry Requirement	Minimum Credit Requirement	Minimum GPA / Result required for successful completion	Minimum Duration	Maximum Duration
Postgraduate Certificate	L7	SLQF L5/ SLQF L6	20 (Coursework)	2.50	1 year	2 years
Postgraduate Diploma	L8	SLQF L5/ SLQF L6/ SLQF L7	25 (Coursework)	2.75	1 year	2 years
Master's Degree (Coursework only)	L9	SLQF L5/ SLQF L6/ SLQF L7/ SLQF L8	30 (Coursework)	3.00	1 year	4 years
Master of Science (MSc)	L10	SLQF L9	30 Coursework + 30 Research	3.00	2 years	5 years
Master of Philosophy (MPhil)	L11	SLQF L6 / SLQF L7–8 / SLQF L9 / SLQF L10	60 Research *(Coursework where applicable)*	Pass	Full-time FT): 2 yrs Part-time (PT): 3 yrs	Full-time: 4 yrs Part-time: 6 yrs
MPhil (Upgrade from MSc)	L11	MSc (SLQF L10)	60 Research	Pass	FT: 1.5 yrs PT: 2.5 yrs (From date of review)	FT: 4 yrs PT: 6 yrs
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	L12	SLQF L6 / SLQF L7–8 / SLQF L9 / SLQF L10	90 Research *(Coursework where applicable)*	Pass	FT: 3 yrs PT: 4.5 yrs	FT: 6 yrs PT: 9 yrs

PhD (Upgrade from MSc)	L12	MSc (SLQF L10)	90 Research	Pass	FT: 3 yrs (from MSc registration)	FT: 6 yrs PT: 9 yrs
PhD (Upgrade from MPhil)	L12	MPhil (SLQF L11)	90 Research	Pass	FT: 3 yrs (from MPhil registration)	FT: 6 yrs PT: 9 yrs

4.2 Possible Educational Progression Pathways within Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework

The Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF) (https://www.eugc.ac.lk/qac/) is a nationally recognized framework that plays a pivotal role in structuring and harmonizing Sri Lanka's educational and professional qualification system. It provides a clear, coherent, and standardized pathway through which individuals can plan and progress in their educational and career journeys.

Within the SLQF, multiple progression pathways are available, offering flexible opportunities for academic advancement and professional development. These pathways are designed to accommodate diverse learner profiles and learning experiences.

Vertical progression across SLQF levels is clearly defined and can be achieved by successfully completing the minimum stipulated academic and training requirements at each level. In addition, lateral progression between certain levels is also permitted, provided that candidates meet the specified entry requirements for the intended qualification level.

Illustrations of possible pathways to obtain different qualifications are presented below. Detailed information on approved lateral progression routes is provided in Chapters 6 and 7 of this Handbook.

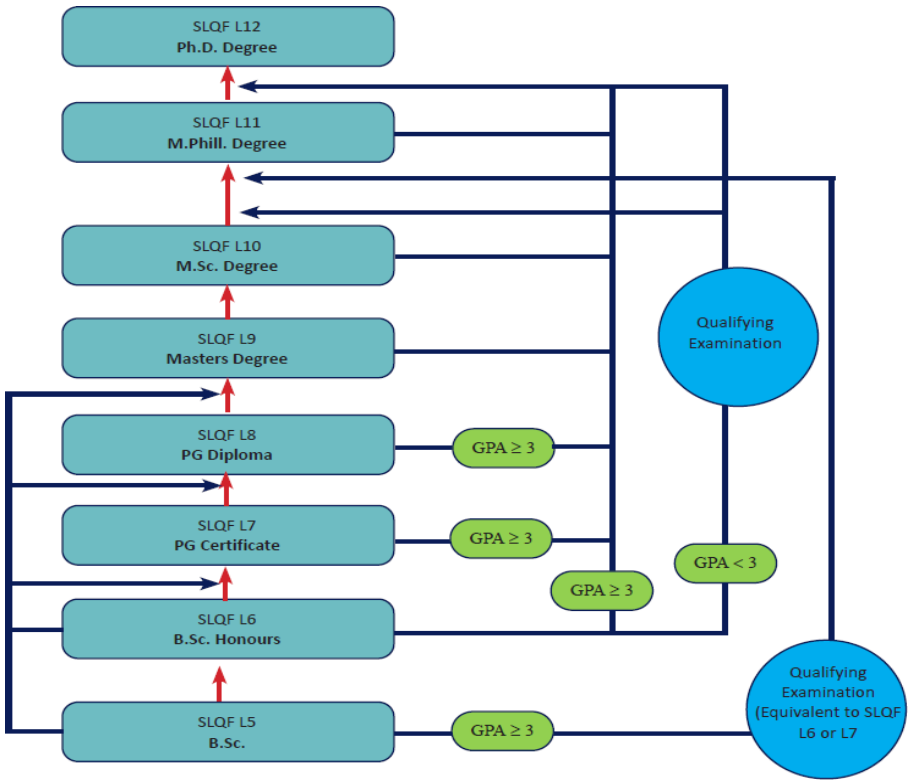


Figure 4.1: Progression pathways within Sri Lanka qualifications framework

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE AND DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

[SLQF LEVELS 7,8]

05

5 POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE AND DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES [SLQF LEVELS 7, 8]

5.1 Introduction

The PGIS offers study programmes leading to Postgraduate Certificate (SLQF level 7) and Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF level 8) programmes in the respective disciplines of science. A candidate may register for a Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma in a chosen field of study with the recommendation of the relevant Board of Study.

5.2 Postgraduate Certificate (SLQF Level 7)

The Postgraduate Certificate (SLQF Level 7) may be awarded as either a Fall-Back Qualification or a Nested Exit Qualification to candidates who have registered for a Master's Degree Programme (SLQF Level 9) and who satisfy all of the following requirements:

a) Successfully completed a minimum of twenty (20) credits of prescribed coursework;

b) Obtained not less than a Grade C in each course; and

c) Achieved a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.50, calculated on the minimum required twenty (20) credits.

The minimum duration of the Postgraduate Certificate programme shall be twelve (12) months.

5.3 Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF Level 8)

The Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF Level 8) may be awarded as either a Fall-Back Qualification or a Nested Exit Qualification to candidates who have registered for a Master's Degree Programme (SLQF Level 9) and who satisfy all of the following requirements:

a) Successfully completed a minimum of twenty-five (25) credits of prescribed coursework;
b) Obtained not less than a Grade C in each course; and
c) Achieved a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.75, calculated on the minimum required twenty-five (25) credits. The minimum duration of the Postgraduate Diploma programme shall be twelve (12) months.

5.4 Admission Requirements

A. The applicant should possess at least one of the following qualifications in the relevant subject area:

(i) a BSc Honours/Special Degree (SLQF Level 6) from a university/institution recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC)

or

(ii) a BSc General Degree (SLQF Level 5) from a university/institution recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC)

or

(iii) any other equivalent qualifications acceptable to the PGIS with minimum of 30 credits in the relevant subject area acceptable to the Board of Study

and

B. Any other requirement/s as stipulated in the relevant, Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate programme

5.5 Application Procedure

Please refer the section 3.5

5.6 Processing of Applications

Please refer the section 3.6

5.7 Registration and Related Matters

Please refer the section 3.7 – 3.15

5.8 Renewal of Registration

A student should maintain the annual registration continuously throughout the all programme by paying the appropriate fees on time as stipulated by the PGIS.
https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/cfees.pdf

5.9 Concurrent Registration

A student registered for a postgraduate programme at PGIS shall not be permitted to register concurrently for another postgraduate programme at PGIs.

5.10 Withdrawal from a Programme

Please refer to the Section 3.10 .

5.11 Change of the Programme Registration

Students may request to change the registration from one programme to another programme with the approval of the relevant Board of Study within a specific period approved by both Board of study. The student must meet the fee requirement of the new programme.

5.12 Amendments to Registration

A student who wishes to make amendments to his or her registration, including changes to personal information, project topic, or project title, shall submit a written request addressed to the Director, PGIS, through the Programme Coordinator and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study.

5.13 Deferment of Registration

A student who wishes to defer registration for a programme shall submit a written request to the Director, PGIS, through the Programme Coordinator and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study. The request must clearly state the valid reasons for deferment and the proposed duration.

In cases where the duration of deferment is one year or more, the programme fee applicable at the time of re-registration shall be payable. The period of deferment shall be added to the maximum permissible duration of the programme.

5.14 Cancellation of Registration

Registration of a student may be cancelled by the PGIS on the recommendation of the relevant Board of Study for poor academic progress, violation of rules and regulations of the PGIS, plagiarism, failure to pay prescribed fees on schedule, or any other reasons as decided by the PGIS.

5.15 Leave of Absence

Leave of absence from a programme may be granted to a student only on medical grounds or any other valid reasons acceptable to the PGIS. Requests for such leave should be made in writing to the Director, PGIS, through the Programme Coordinator and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study.

5.16 Re-admission to Postgraduate Programmes

Guidelines for Re-admission to Postgraduate Programmes, PGIS, University of Peradeniya. Shall apply to all postgraduate programmes conducted by PGIS, including Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, Master's degree, Master of Science Degree, MPhil, and PhD programmes.

Please refer to the Section 3.16.

5.17 Criteria for the Effective Date of the Certificate and Diploma Programme

The effective date of the qualification should be a date after the expiry of the minimum duration of a given programme. The effective date of the Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma shall be the date on which the last examination of the programme is held.

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

MASTERS AND MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSc) DEGREE PROGRAMMES

[SLQF LEVELS 9,10]

06

6 MASTERS AND MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSc) DEGREE PROGRAMMES [SLQF LEVELS 9, 10]

6.1 Introduction

The PGIS offers programmes leading to the Master's Degree by coursework (SLQF Level 9) and the Master of Science (MSc) Degree (SLQF Level 10) in a wide range of scientific disciplines. Admission to a Master's Degree programme is subject to registration in a selected field of study with the approval of the relevant Board of Study. Upon the successful completion of all prescribed requirements of the Master's Degree programme, eligible candidates may opt to progress to the MSc Degree, in accordance with the regulations of the respective programme and the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework.

6.2 Masters Degree (SLQF Level 9)

The Masters Degree is awarded upon successful completion of at least 30 credits of required course work with at least a C grade in each course, and a minimum GPA of 3.00 for all the courses taken for credit. The minimum duration of the Masters Degree programme is 12 months. Course work of each Masters Degree programme consists of compulsory course units including a five-credit independent study guided by a supervisor, and optional course units.

6.3 Master of Science (MSc) Degree (SLQF Level 10)

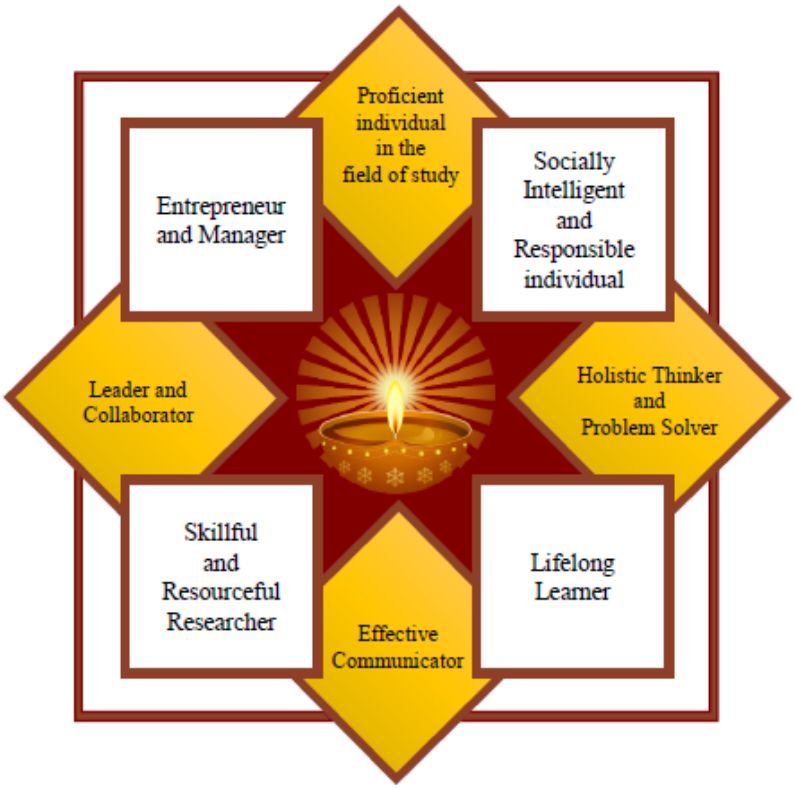
In addition to the successful completion of the course work requirement for the Masters Degree (SLQF Level 9), the Master of Science Degree (SLQF Level 10) requires successful completion of a research project of minimum 12 month duration and worth 30 credits (3000 notional hours). Thus, the minimum duration of the programme is two years.

Note: A postgraduate candidate who wishes to exit the programme with a lower qualification/SLQF Level may apply for the desired qualification after successful completion of the requirements of the relevant qualification. The same coursework/research shall not be considered for more than one qualification.

6.3.1 Official Commencement Date for SLQF Level 10 Programme

The official commencement date of the SLQF Level 10 programme shall be the date of completion of the final examination of the SLQF Level 9 programme, subject to the candidate having satisfied all eligibility requirements for progression to SLQF Level 10.

6.4 Graduate Profile of Masters (SLQF Level 9) and Master of Science (MSc) Degree (SLQF Level 10)



PGIS graduate is symbolized by oil lamp and the qualities of a graduate through its radiant flame, illuminating knowledge, perseverance, and enlightenment in their journey of education.

- **Illumination:** Just like an oil lamp casts light in darkness, a graduate enlightens others with their acquired knowledge and expertise.
- **Rays:** The rays of an oil lamp represent the graduate's ability to shine and spread their knowledge and skills to others, through their work, communication, and leadership.
- **Endurance:** Similar to how an oil lamp burns steadily, a graduate demonstrates resilience, determination, and the ability to persevere through challenges.
- **Light:** The light of an oil lamp represents the graduate's impact on the world, through their contributions, innovations, and positive influence on others.
- **Guidance:** Just as an oil lamp provides guidance in the dark, a graduate serves as a beacon of inspiration, guiding and mentoring others in their pursuit of success.
- The Yellow boxes represent the bright and positive attitude of the graduate, while the white boxes represent their ethical and moral values. Together, these features make the graduate a well-rounded and responsible professional, who contributes to society and makes a positive impact on the world.
- Maroon color box around to represent the affiliation of the graduate with the mother university (University of Peradeniya), which is the institution that has recognized and supported the postgraduate institute where the graduate has completed their advanced studies. The use of maroon color signifies

the strong connection and appreciation that the graduate has for the mother university and acknowledges the pivotal role that the university has played in enabling their academic and professional growth.

6.4.1 Graduate Profile Attributes (SLQF L9/10)

a) The graduate is a Proficient individual who has in-depth knowledge in the field of study.

b) The graduate is a Socially Intelligent and Responsible individual who thinks and behaves in a way that spans beyond what's culturally and ethically acceptable.

c) The graduate is a Holistic Thinker and Problem Solver who thinks critically and creatively and is capable of taking evidence-based decisions.

d) The graduate is a Lifelong Learner who is keen, curious, dedicated, and autonomous.

e) The graduate is an Effective Communicator who conveys clearly and competently, and debates in ways that are informative, accessible, and empowering.

f) The graduate is a Skillful & Resourceful Researcher who pursues knowledge competently and philosophically and seeks solutions with an open mind. (L10)

g) The graduate is a Leader and a Collaborator who is skillful in delegating, corporation, and facilitating conflict resolutions at the workplace. (L9)

h) The graduate is a Leader and a Collaborator who is skillful in delegating, corporation, and facilitating conflict resolutions in professional, technical, and academic settings. (L10)

i) The graduate is an Entrepreneur and a Manager who initiates, innovates, negotiates, and is able to network well to maximize opportunities mobilizing and allocating resources.

6.5 Admission Requirements

A. The applicant should possess at least one of the following qualifications in the relevant subject area:

(i) a BSc Honours/Special Degree (SLQF Level 6) from a university/institution recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC)

or

(ii) a BSc Degree (SLQF Level 5) from a university/institution recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC)

or

(iii) any other equivalent qualifications acceptable to the PGIS with minimum of 30 credits in the relevant subject area acceptable to the Board of Study

or

(iv) any other requirement/s as stipulated in the relevant Masters Degree/ M Sc Degree Programme

and

B. Achieving the required level of proficiency in either an Aptitude test or an interview or both

6.6 Application Procedure

Please refer the section 3.5

6.7 Processing of Applications

Please refer the section 3.6

6.8 Offering Scholarships to Exceptional Postgraduate Students for the Masters Degree (SLQF Level 9)

Recognizing the importance of attracting and retaining high-calibre postgraduate students, PGIS encourages the provision of scholarships on a merit-based, transparent, and equitable basis.
While financial and budgetary constraints may limit the ability of all PGIS study programmes to offer scholarships uniformly, it is both desirable and institutionally prudent for PGIS to adopt standardized guidelines for the award of scholarships to exceptional postgraduate students enrolled in Masters Degree programmes (SLQF Level 9). Such guidelines ensure fairness, accountability, and consistency across programmes, while enabling available resources to be strategically directed toward students who demonstrate outstanding academic performance and research promise.
Accordingly, PGIS seeks to foster a competitive and supportive academic environment by recognizing excellence through clearly defined scholarship criteria and procedures, thereby strengthening postgraduate quality, motivation, and national human capital development.

6.9 Registration and Related Matters

Please refer the section 3.7 – 3.15

6.10 Phasing out of study programme

From time to time, the PGIS may phase out certain Masters and MSc study programmes due to academic, administrative, or other institutional reasons. In such instances, PGIS shall continue to conduct the programme for the final cohort of registered students until the scheduled completion of the programme.

Students affected by the phasing out of a programme shall be permitted to complete all academic and examination requirements of the respective degree within the stipulated maximum duration prescribed for the programme. Students who fail to fulfil the requirements of the intended degree within this period may, subject to eligibility, be awarded the next appropriate exit qualification, provided that the requirements for such qualification have been satisfactorily completed, without any additional payments.

6.11 Discontinuation of a study programme and grant of an additional year beyond the maximum duration

From time to time, the PGIS may discontinue certain Master's or Master of Science (MSc) study programmes due to academic, administrative, or other institutional considerations. In such instances, PGIS shall make appropriate arrangements to ensure that the programme continues for the final cohort of registered students until its formal conclusion.

PGIS shall take all reasonable and necessary measures to facilitate the timely completion of outstanding coursework, assessments, and other academic obligations of affected students, ensuring fairness, academic integrity, and compliance with institutional standards, without any additional payments

6.12 Course Work and MSc Research Component

6.12.1 Course work

The course work includes compulsory and optional courses, and consists of theory courses, laboratory and/ or field work and/or clinical work. For a theory course, one credit is equivalent to 15 hours of instruction. For laboratory work, field work and clinical work, where applicable, 30 - 45 hours of instruction is considered as one credit. One credit of independent study requires engagement for 100 notional hours while one credit of course work requires 50 notional hours.

Some programmes may require completion of preliminary courses, which are not considered for credit requirement of the programme and computation of GPA. Students may also take extra courses after paying the course fees to advance their knowledge with the consent of the relevant Board of Study.

In addition, students should attend the Scientific Writing Workshop conducted by PGIS.

6.12.2 Independent study

Masters Degrees offered by the PGIS requires completion of a compulsory Independent Study worth of 5 credits. The Independent Study should be carried out in consultation with a supervisor appointed by the relevant Board of Study on the recommendation of the Programme Coordinator.

The Independent Study consists of 3 major components:

1. A project proposal/ review, which includes an extensive literature review
2. Completion of a mini research project, which may include a laboratory component
3. A project report and an oral presentation on the mini research project/ review

Check the "Standard Operating Procedure for the Independent Study" available on the IQAC/PGIS webpage (http://www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk/qac.php) for more details.

6.12.3 Research component of MSc Degree

Candidates registered for the Master's Degree (SLQF Level 9) who obtain a minimum GPA of 3.00 for the required 30 credits of coursework are eligible to upgrade their registration to the Master of Science (MSc) Degree (SLQF Level 10).

Potential candidates may commence their research immediately after the final date of the Master's degree examinations. The effective date of registration for the MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10) shall be the final date of the Master's degree examination, provided that the candidate has fulfilled the minimum GPA requirement of 3.00 for 30 credits Master's degree programme. Candidates who do not wish to continue in the MSc programme (SLQF Level 10) may exit with the appropriate nested qualifications.

MSc candidates are required to undertake a research project equivalent to 30 credits, where one research credit corresponds to 100 notional hours of work. The research may be carried out at a recognized academic, research, or industrial institution with adequate facilities.

The title of the research project, place of work, and supervisor(s) must be approved by the PGIS prior to the commencement of research. At least one supervisor shall be affiliated with the institution where the major part of the research is conducted, and at least one supervisor shall be affiliated with the PGIS.

Candidates must obtain formal approval to commence the research project by submitting the duly completed "MSc Research Proposal Submission Form" (Form 4.7.2A), which is downloadable from the PGIS website, within two months from the date of release of the GPA.

6.12.4 Mid-term progress review of research work

After six months, the candidate shall present the progress of the research, which shall be reviewed by a panel appointed by the relevant Board of Study.

Composition of progress review panel:

1. Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study or his/her nominee (Chairperson of the panel)

(In the event that the Chairperson of the Board of Study is a supervisor or is not available, the Director or his nominee shall serve as the Chairperson of the panel)

2. Coordinator of the relevant MSc programme

3. Two reviewers nominated by the relevant Board of Study

4. Supervisor(s) [as observer(s)]

Recommendation given at the mid-term progress review should be favorable in order to continue research.

The Panel may recommend, based on the progress of research, upgrading the registration to MPhil degree.

If the candidate and the supervisor(s) wish to proceed with an upgrade (see section 6.12), the completed application for upgrade (Form 4.7.2.1A) should be submitted within one month from the date of the Mid-term Progress Review.

6.13 Examinations and Evaluation Procedure

The examination and evaluation procedures are detailed in Chapter 8.

In addition, the MSc candidate is required to submit a thesis based on the research conducted, which is evaluated by two thesis examiners appointed by the relevant Board of Study. If the examiners are satisfied with the standard of research, the candidate defends the thesis in an oral examination before a panel.

Composition of panel of examiners:

1. Chairman of the relevant Board of Study (Chairman)

(If the Chairman of the Board of Study is a supervisor, the Director or his nominee shall be the Chairman)

2. Three examiners including the two thesis examiners

(If the thesis examiner/s is/are not available, the relevant Board of Study shall nominate suitable person/s)

3. The Supervisor/s shall be present as observer/s

The panel of examiners will submit a report on the suitability of the candidate for the award of the degree. A candidate whose thesis is recommended for the award of the degree is required to make all corrections, revisions etc. as required by the Panel, if any, and resubmit the thesis to the PGIS. as stipulated in Section
6.11.A. If the oral exam is not defended satisfactorily, the candidate is allowed only one more attempt to repeat the oral examination (see section 6.11.B).

Finally, the candidate should submit to the PGIS the hard bound copy of the thesis corrected by incorporating any suggestions and recommendations of examiners.

If a thesis is evaluated as major revision for two times, the Board of Study shall accept the evaluation or send the thesis for a 3rd examiner for evaluation.

6.14 Requirements for the Award of the Masters Degree/ MSc Degree

The Masters Degree may be awarded to a candidate who has satisfied the following requirements:

(i) admission requirements as set out in Section 6.4,

(ii) accepted by the PGIS as a candidate for the relevant programme,

(iii) duly registered and paid fees for the prescribed duration of the programme,

(iv) obtained at least a C in each course taken for credit and attained a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher for 30 credits of required course work and

(v) attended the Scientific Writing Workshop conducted by the PGIS.

However, a candidate who does not satisfy requirement (iv) stated above, but who has successfully completed a minimum of 25 credits of prescribed coursework and obtained a cumulative GPA in the range of 2.75 to 2.99, calculated on the completed 25 credits, shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirements for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF 8).

Candidates who do not meet the above requirements for the Postgraduate Diploma, but who has successfully completed a minimum of 20 credits of prescribed coursework, and have obtained a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50, calculated on the completed credits, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate (SLQF Level 7).

The Master of Science Degree may be awarded to a candidate who has satisfied the following requirements:

(i) admission requirements as set out in Section 6.4

(i) accepted by the PGIS as a candidate for the relevant programme

(ii) duly registered and paid fees for the prescribed duration of the programme

(iii) obtained at least a C in each course taken for credit and attained a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher for 30 credits of required course work

(iv) successfully completed Scientific Writing Workshop conducted by the PGIS and

(v) satisfactorily completed the research component, defend it an oral examination and submit a final hard- bound copy of the thesis and any other requirements, as specified by the PGIS.

However, students who reach a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher for 30 credits of required course work but fail the research project are eligible for the Masters degree and will be awarded accordingly.

6.15 The Effective Date of the Masters Degree/ MSc Degree

The effective date of the degree should be a date after the expiry of the minimum duration of a given programme. The effective date of the Masters Degree shall be the date on which the last examination of the programme is held. The effective date of the MSc Degree shall be determined as shown below.

If the Panel of Examiners determines that both the thesis submitted is of acceptable standard, and it was successfully defended in the oral examination, the effective date shall be determined as follows:

A. The oral examination is held within three months from the date of initial submission of the thesis

(i) If the thesis is accepted without corrections and handed over in hard-bound form to the PGIS office within one month of the oral examination, the effective date shall be the date of the oral examination.

(ii) If the thesis is accepted without corrections and handed over in hard-bound form to the PGIS office one month after the oral examination, the effective date shall be the date of the final submission of the hard- bound thesis.

(iii) If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in hard-bound form to the PGIS office within one month of the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the Panel of Examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date of the oral examination.

(iv) If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in hard-bound form to the PGIS office one month after the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the Panel of Examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date of the final submission of the hard-bound thesis.

B. The oral examination is held after three months from the date of initial submission of the thesis due to no fault of the candidate

(i) If the thesis is accepted without corrections and handed over in hard-bound form to the PGIS office within one month of the oral examination, the effective date shall be the date on which three months have elapsed since the initial submission of the thesis.

(ii) If the thesis is accepted without corrections and handed over in hard-bound form to the PGIS office one month after the oral examination, the effective date shall be the date of the final submission of the hard- bound thesis .

(iii) If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in hard-bound form to the PGIS office within one month of the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the Panel of Examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date on which three months have elapsed since the initial submission of the thesis.

(iv) If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in hard-bound form to the PGIS office one month after the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the Panel of Examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date of the final submission of the hard-bound thesis.

If the Panel of Examiners determines that the thesis submitted is acceptable with major corrections, then the candidate is required to resubmit the thesis to the PGIS office with all the required corrections made and go through the examination process again. The effective date shall be determined, after the evaluation of the resubmitted thesis, according to 6.11 (A) or 6.11 (B).

If the Panel of Examiners determines that the thesis submitted is of acceptable standards, but the oral examination must be repeated due to unsatisfactory defense, then the effective date will be determined by 6.11 (A) or 6.11 (B), based on the repeated oral examination. However, a candidate is allowed only one such attempt to repeat the oral examination for the same qualification (MSc degree). The candidate who fails both attempts are eligible for the Master's Degree (SLQF Level 9).

6.16 Upgrade from MSc to MPhil Degree Programme(SLQF Level 11)

A student registered for the MSc Degree Programme (SLQF Level 10) who has completed a minimum of six (06) months of research and has demonstrated excellent research progress may apply, through the Supervisor, for an upgrade of registration to the MPhil Degree Programme (SLQF Level 11).
The Application for Upgrade (Form 4.7.2.1A) shall be submitted after the Mid-term Progress Review, together with the recommendation of the relevant review panel.
The MPhil Degree requires a total of sixty (60) research credits, equivalent to 6,000 notional hours, to be completed over a minimum period of two (02) years from the date of initial MSc registration.
For full-time students, upon approval of the upgrade from MSc to MPhil, the remaining duration of registration under the MPhil programme shall be one and a half (1.5) years, with the initial six (06) months

of research completed under the MSc programme being credited toward the MPhil research requirement. For part-time students, upon approval of the upgrade from MSc to MPhil, the remaining duration of registration under the MPhil programme shall be two and a half (2.5) years, with the initial six (06) months of research completed under the MSc programme being credited toward the MPhil research requirement.

6.17 Upgrade from MSc to PhD Degree Programme (SLQF Level 12)

A student registered for the MSc Degree Programme (SLQF Level 10) who has completed a minimum of six (06) months of research and has demonstrated excellent research progress may apply, through the Supervisor, for an upgrade of registration to the PhD Degree Programme (SLQF Level 12).Ðhe Application for Upgrade (Form 4.7.2.1A) shall be submitted after the Mid-term Progress Review, together with the recommendation of the relevant review panel.Ðhe PhD Degree requires a total of ninety (90) research credits, equivalent to 9,000 notional hours, to be completed over a minimum period of three (03) years from the date of initial MSc registration.ßor full-time students, upon approval of the upgrade from MSc to PhD, the remaining duration of registration under the PhD programme shall be two and a half (2.5) years, with the initial six (06) months of research completed under the MSc programme being credited toward the PhD research requirement.

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (MPhil) AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD) DEGREE PROGRAMMES

[SLQF LEVELS 11, 12]

07

7 MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE PROGRAMME [SLQF LEVELS 11, 12]

7.1 Introduction

A student registering for a degree of Master of Philosophy (MPhill)/ or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the PGIS shall be required to pursue his/her studies at the PGIS or at a university, research institute or any other recognized institution under the guidance of a supervisor/s appointed by the PGIS (see Sections 7 & 8).

Process Flowchart

The process flowchart for the completion of degrees is illustrated in **7.1**. Please refer to Sections 7 and 8 for details.

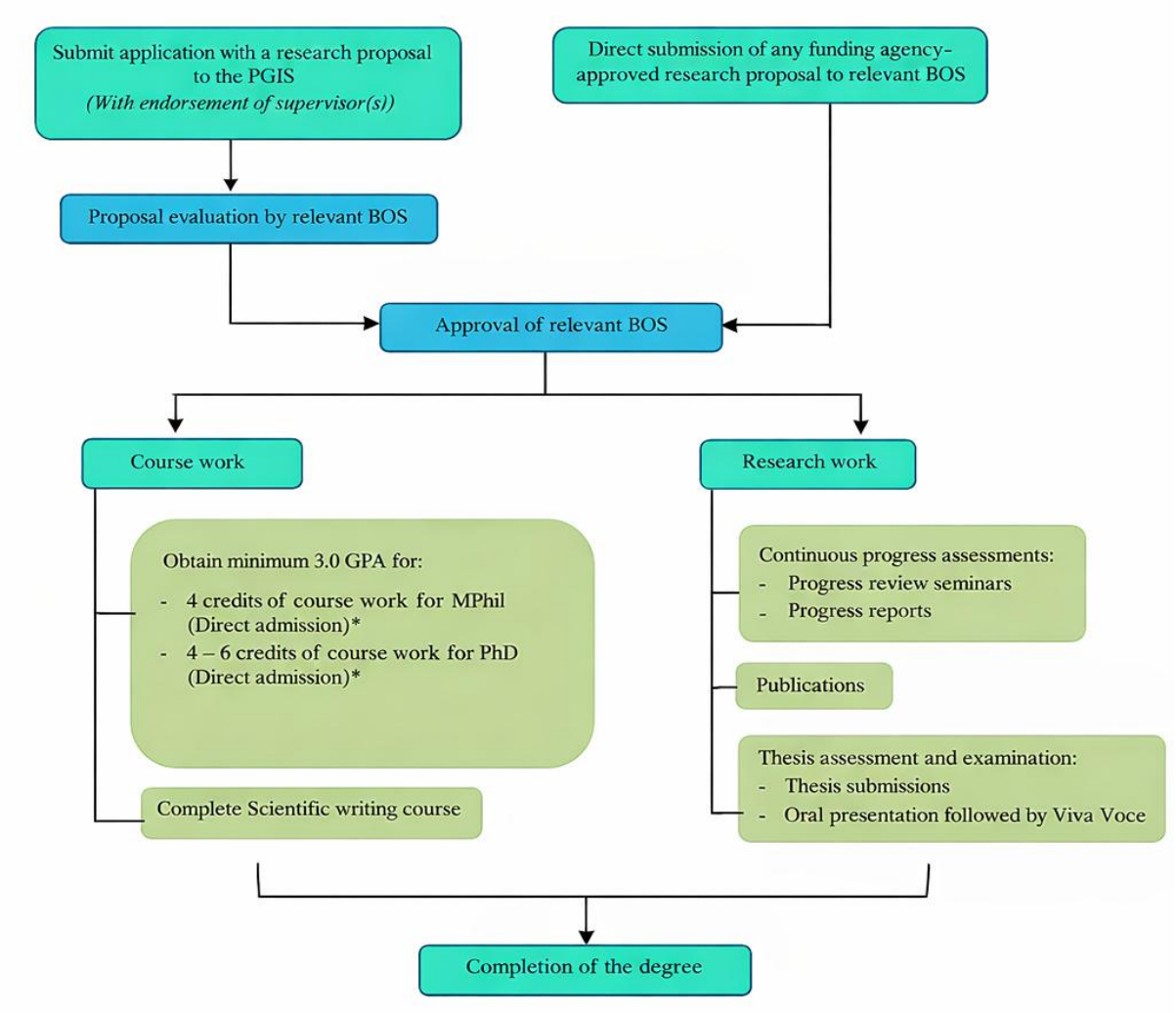


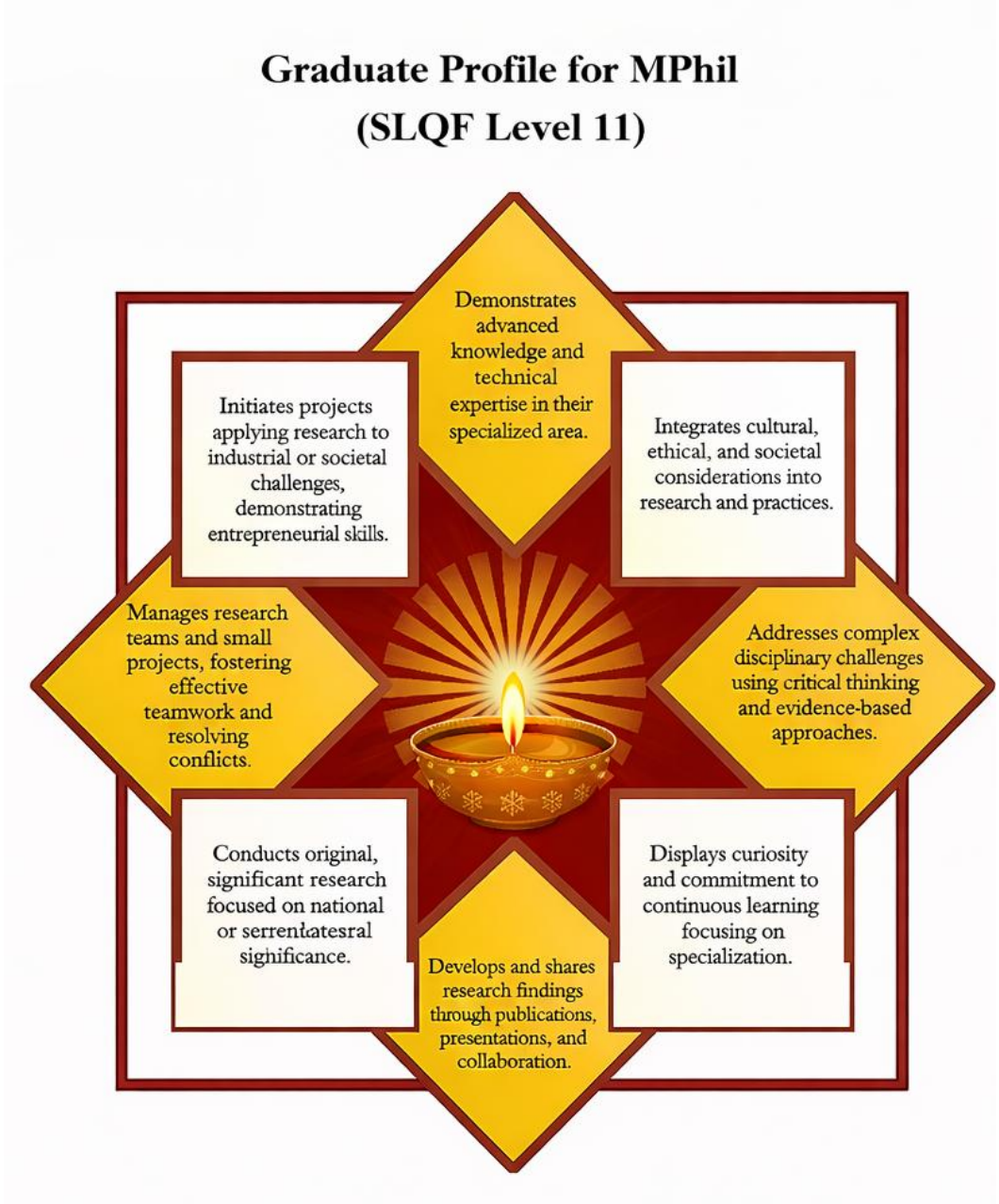
Figure 7.1: Process flowchart for the completion of degrees

*Non direct admissions as decided by relevant BOS

In compliance with the SLQF requirements for higher education, MPhil and PhD, the degrees offered by the PGIS have the following credit requirements for full-time registrants.

7.2 Master of Philosophy (MPhil)

7.2.1 Graduate Profile for MPhil (SLQF Level 11)



PGIS graduate is symbolized by the oil lamp and the qualities of a graduate through its radiant flame, illuminating knowledge, perseverance, and enlightenment in their journey of education.

- **Illumination:** Just like an oil lamp casts light in darkness, a graduate enlightens others with their acquired knowledge and expertise.
- **Rays:** The rays of the oil lamp represent the graduate's ability to shine and spread their knowledge and skills to others, through their work, communication, and leadership.
- **Endurance:** Similar to how an oil lamp burns steadily, a graduate demonstrates resilience,

determination, and the ability to persevere through challenges.

- **Light:** The light of the oil lamp represents the graduate's impact on the world, through their contributions, innovations, and positive influence on others.
- **Guidance:** Just as an oil lamp provides guidance in the dark, a graduate serves as a

beacon of inspiration, guiding and mentoring others in their pursuit of success.

The Yellow boxes represent the bright and positive attitude of the graduate, while the white boxes represent their ethical and moral values. Together, these features make the graduate a well-rounded and responsible professional, who contributes to society and makes a positive impact on the world.

Maroon color box is around to represent the affiliation of the graduate with the mother university (University of Peradeniya), which is the institution that has recognized and supported the postgraduate institute where the graduate has completed their advanced studies. The use of maroon color signifies the strong connection and appreciation that the graduate has for the mother university and acknowledges the pivotal role that the university has played in enabling their academic and professional growth.

7.2.2 Graduate Attributes

Graduate attributes are designed in-line with the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF).

Graduate Profile Attributes for MPhil (SLQF Level 11)

MPhil graduates exhibit the following attributes, building upon SLQF Level 10 competencies to achieve advanced proficiency in research, problem-solving, and leadership:

1. **Proficient Expertise and Entrepreneurial Vision:**
   a) Demonstrates advanced theoretical and practical knowledge in their respective fields, contributing innovative insights and advancements.
   b) Possesses the technical and methodological expertise necessary for pioneering research.
   c) Identifies and develops innovative solutions that create value in academic, industrial, or societal contexts.
2. **Advanced Researcher and Adaptable Problem Solver:**
   a) Designs and executes significant research projects using robust methodologies, making
   b) Meaningful contributions to their discipline.
   c) Excels in analyzing, synthesizing, and presenting complex information.
   d) Demonstrates adaptability and resilience in navigating evolving research environments and challenges.
3. **Effective Communicator and Knowledge Sharer:**
   a) Clearly conveys complex ideas to academic and non-academic audiences.
   b) Produces high-quality publications and delivers impactful presentations.
   c) Engages in mentorship and technological empowerment by sharing knowledge and fostering collaboration.

4. **Lifelong Learner and Sustainability Advocate:**
    a) Engages in self-directed learning and stays updated with field developments.
    b) Reflects on and refines practices for continuous professional growth.
    c) Integrate sustainable practices into research and decision-making processes.
5. **Leader and Global Collaborator:**
    a) Leads small research teams and fosters a collaborative environment.
    b) Develops networking skills and establishes early international research connections.
    c) Actively engages in global and cross-disciplinary collaborations.
6. **Ethically Responsible and Socially Engaged Individual:**
    a) Upholds high ethical standards in research and professional conduct.
    b) Actively contributes to societal well-being through responsible research practices and community involvement.
7. **Policy and Industry Engagement:**
    a) Begins applying research findings to address societal, industrial, or policy challenges.
    b) Engages with industries and policymakers to translate research into practice.
8. **Holistic and Strategic Problem Solver:**
    a) Addresses complex problems with critical, evidence-based thinking to develop practical solutions.
    b) Makes strategic decisions that align with long-term sustainable goals.

7.2.3 Programme Learning Outcomes

The PGIS has adopted SLQF to set out the programme learning outcomes.

MPhil Programme Learning Outcomes Mapped Against SLQF Competencies

S.No	Programme Learning Outcomes	SLQF Competencies
1	Enhance research and methodology skills by critically analyzing specialized research.	1, 2
2	Efficiently apply practical skills in problem-solving with creativity.	2, 5
3	Publish and communicate findings effectively to diverse audiences.	3, 4
4	Demonstrate leadership and teamwork skills in professional and academic contexts.	4, 5
5	Conduct scientific hypothesis testing with self-direction and originality.	1, 2
6	Guide and supervise research and make effective decisions.	4, 6
7	Excel in transferable skills and information literacy for data management and digital tools.	6, 7
8	Adapt to changing environments with strategic judgment, positive attitudes, and social responsibility.	9, 10
9	Set long-term goals in personal and societal contexts.	8, 9,11,12
10	Pursue continuous professional development through independent learning.	6, 9, 11,12
1. *Subject / Theoretical Knowledge, 2. Practical Knowledge and Application, 3. Communication, 4. Teamwork and Leadership, 5. Creativity and Problem Solving, 6. Managerial and Entrepreneurship, 7. Information Usage and Management, 8. Networking and Social Skills, 9. Adaptability and Flexibility, 10. Attitudes, Values and Professionalism, 11. Vision for Life, 12. Updating Self / Lifelong Learning*		

7.2.4 MPhil Degree Programme Qualifiers by Board of Study

MPhil Degree Programme Qualifiers by Board of Study			
	Board of Study / Department	**Offered Degree Programme (Qualification Title)**	**Approved Abbreviation**
1	Board of Study in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	MPhil in **Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**	**MPhil (Biochem Mol Biol)**
2	Board of Study in Biomedical Science	MPhil in **Biomedical Biology**	**MPhil (Biomed Sc)**
3	Board of Study in Chemical Sciences	MPhil in **Chemical Science**	**MPhil (Chem Sc)**
4	Board of Study in Earth Sciences	MPhil in **Earth Science**	**MPhil (Earth Sc)**
5	Board of Study in Environmental Science	MPhil in **Environmental Science**	**MPhil (Env Sc)**
6	Board of Study in Mathematics	MPhil in **Mathematics**	**MPhil (Math)**
7	Board of Study in Physics	MPhil in **Physics**	**MPhil (Phys)**
8	Board of Study in Plant Sciences	MPhil in **Plant Science**	**MPhil (Plant Sc)**
9	Board of Study in Science Education	MPhil in **Science Education**	**MPhil (Sc Ed)**
10	Board of Study in Statistics and Computer Science	MPhil in **Statistics and Computer Science**	**MPhil (Stats Comp Sc)**
11	Board of Study in Zoological Sciences	MPhil in **Zoological Science**	**MPhil (Zoo Sc)**

7.2.5 Admission Requirements

The applicant shall possess at least one of the following qualifications in the relevant subject area, as specified in Table 4.1.

Full Time and Part Time Students

A full-time student shall be a person duly registered for an MPhil/PhD degree programme and engaged in research and related activities at least during the normal working hours of the week. According to SLQF guidelines, a full-time research student should spend 3000 notional hours per year for research and related activities. Therefore, those who are employed are required to obtain leave of absence from their workplaces to be eligible for registration under this category. Those who are unable to fulfil the above requirement are advised to register as a part-time student.

A part-time student shall be a person duly registered for an MPhil/PhD degree programme who should spend at least 1500 notional hours per year for research and related activities.

A) Full-Time Registration

1. Direct Registration (SLQF Level 5 / 6 / 7 / 8/ 9 & 10)

Eligible qualifications include:

a) BSc Degree (SLQF Level 5) with GPA ≥ 3.0
(Applicants with GPA < 3.0 must pass a qualifying examination)
b) BSc Degree (SLQF Level 5) with GPA < 3.0
(*Completion of 20 credits or equivalent of postgraduate courses and/or assignments)*
c) BSc Honours Degree (SLQF Level 6) with GPA ≥ 3.0
(Applicants with GPA < 3.0 must pass a qualifying examination)
d) Postgraduate Certificate (SLQF Level 7) and Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF Level 8)
Selection may include a qualifying examination and/or interview as determined by PGIS.

Duration

- Minimum: 2 years
- Maximum: 4 years

2. Upgrade from MSc (SLQF Level 10) to MPhil

a) Applicable to full-time MSc students
b) Upgrade after Mid-Year Progress Review, subject to supervisory approval

Duration:

- Minimum: 1.5 years (from date of review)
- Maximum: 4 years

B) Part-Time Registration

Part-Time Registration (MPhil)

Eligible entry routes include:

a) Direct registration (SLQF Level 5/ 6 / 7 / 8 / 9 & 10)
b) Transfer from full-time MSc (SLQF Level 10) to MPhil

Duration:

- Minimum: 2.5 – 3 years (depending on entry route)
- Maximum: 6 years

Additional requirements may be imposed by the relevant Board of Study.

7.2.6 Nested Exit and Fall-Back Qualifications for MPhil

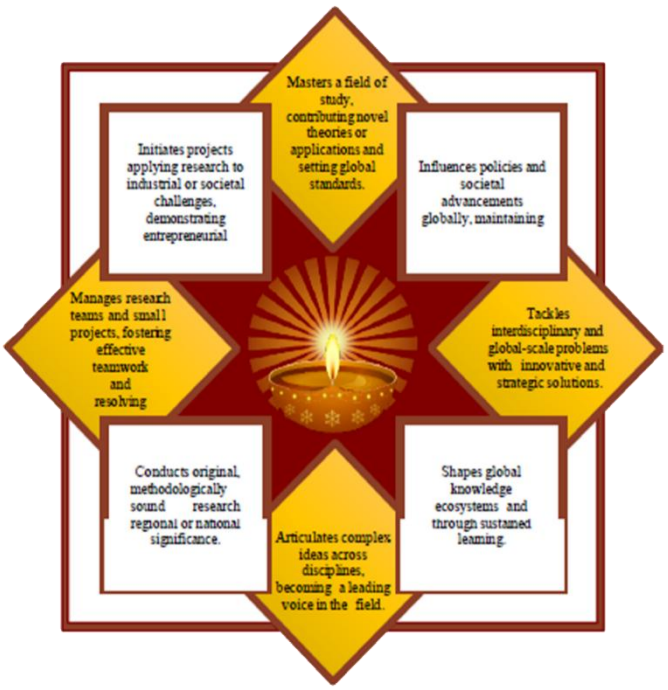
To introduce **Nested Exit Qualifications** (voluntary early exit) and **Fall-Back Qualifications** (applicable upon completion of the maximum permitted registration period) for different MPhil registration and exit pathways, including upgrades from an MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10), in line with QA and SLQF requirements.

Pathway to MPhil Registration	Entry Requirements	Nested Exit Qualification (Voluntary Early Exit)	Fall-Back Qualification (After Maximum Duration)	Eligibility Conditions / Restrictions	Notes / QA Compliance
Upgrade from MSc (SLQF Level 10)	A full-time MSc candidate may apply for an upgrade to the MPhil programme after a satisfactory mid-year progress review and recommendation of the relevant academic review panel.	If a candidate voluntarily exits before confirmation of MPhil registration, an award may be granted based on the level of research completed: **Master's Degree (SLQF Level 9) or MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10).**	If the candidate reaches the **maximum duration of the MPhil programme without completion**, the Institute may recommend the award of a **Master's Degree (SLQF Level 9) or MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10)**, subject to satisfactory evaluation of the completed research work.	Candidates must maintain satisfactory progress reports and research performance throughout the registration period.	This pathway ensures transparent academic progression, defined exit options, student mobility, and compliance with SLQF and quality assurance standards.

7.3 Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

7.3.1 Graduate profile - Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Graduate Profile for PhD
(SLQF Level 12)



7.3.2 Graduate Attributes

Graduate attributes are designed in-line with the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF).

PhD Graduate Profile Attributes (SLQF Level 12)

PhD graduates exemplify the highest level of academic and research expertise, surpassing MPhil expectations to lead global initiatives and make significant field advancements:

1. **Research Leadership and Entrepreneurial Innovation:**
    a) Leads groundbreaking interdisciplinary research projects with global impact.
    b) Pioneers innovative solutions, shaping global research trends.
    c) Demonstrates entrepreneurial vision by identifying opportunities for research commercialization and societal impact.
2. **Global Networking and Strategic Influence:**
    a) Establishes and sustains extensive international research collaborations.
    b) Influences global research agendas and contributes to scientific policy development.
    c) Leads initiatives that align research outputs with sustainable and strategic goals.
3. **Academic and Strategic Leadership:**
    a) Leads academic departments, directs research funding priorities, and formulates national/global research strategies.
    b) Provides policy advice to governments, NGOs, and industries based on research insights.
4. **Mentorship and Educational Impact:**
    a) Mentors emerging researchers and junior faculty, nurturing future scholars.
    b) Designs and enhances academic curricula at national and international levels.
    c) Promotes technological empowerment and knowledge sharing.
5. **Effective and Visionary Communicator:**
    a) Engages diverse audiences with clarity, enhancing public understanding of complex scientific issues.
    b) Produces landmark publications and delivers influential keynote speeches globally.
6. **Holistic and Sustainable Problem Solver:**
    a) Applies critical and creative thinking to address multifaceted, real-world challenges.
    b) Makes evidence-based decisions with societal and environmental considerations.
7. **Ethical and Socially Responsible Leader:**
    a) Exemplifies ethical behavior and integrity in all research and professional activities.
    b) Actively engages in civic responsibilities and promotes social justice through research initiatives.
8. **Policy, Industry, and Societal Impact:**
    a) Translates theoretical research into practical, actionable solutions with tangible societal benefits.
    b) Collaborates with industries to drive innovation and foster economic growth.

7.3.3 Programme Learning Outcomes

PhD Programme Learning Outcomes Mapped Against SLQF Competencies

S. No.	Programme Learning Outcomes	SLQF Competencies
1	Contribute original research with critical reading, analytical skills, and mastery of specialized knowledge.	1, 2
2	Effectively disseminate research findings through publications and presentations.	3, 7
3	Exhibit responsibility and leadership in professional and academic settings.	4, 10
4	Conceive, design, and execute complex research projects with informed judgment and creativity.	2, 5
5	Supervise and guide original research with autonomy and initiative.	4, 6
6	Demonstrate proficiency in transferable skills, information literacy, and data management.	6, 7
7	Lead teams, promote social and professional engagement, and foster collaborative research.	4, 7
8	Strategically adapt to changing environments demonstrating positive attitudes and social responsibility.	9, 10
9	Set long-term goals aligned with personal growth and societal impact.	8, 9, 11,12
10	Pursue continuous professional development through independent and collective learning for innovative problem solving.	6, 9,11,12
1. Subject / Theoretical Knowledge, 2. Practical Knowledge and Application, 3. Communication, 4. Teamwork and Leadership, 5. Creativity and Problem Solving, 6. Managerial and Entrepreneurship, 7. Information Usage and Management, 8. Networking and Social Skills, 9. Adaptability and Flexibility, 10. Attitudes, Values and Professionalism, 11. Vision for Life, 12. Updating Self / Lifelong Learning		

7.3.4 Degree Programme Qualifiers by Board of Study

PhD Degree Programme Qualifiers by Board of Study			
	Board of Study / Department	**Offered Degree Programme (Qualification Title)**	**Approved Abbreviation**
1	Board of Study in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	PhD in **Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**	PhD **(Biochem Mol Biol)**
2	Board of Study in Biomedical Science	PhD in **Biomedical Science**	PhD **(Biomed Sc)**
3	Board of Study in Chemical Sciences	PhD in **Chemical Science**	PhD **(Chem Sc)**
4	Board of Study in Earth Sciences	PhD in **Earth Science**	PhD **(Earth Sc)**
5	Board of Study in Environmental Science	PhD in **Environmental Science**	PhD **(Env Sc)**
6	Board of Study in Mathematics	PhD in **Mathematics**	PhD **(Math)**
7	Board of Study in Physics	PhD in **Physics**	PhD **(Phys)**
8	Board of Study in Plant Sciences	PhD in **Plant Science**	PhD **(Plant Sc)**
9	Board of Study in Science Education	PhD n **Science Education**	PhD **(Sc Ed)**
10	Board of Study in Statistics and Computer Science	PhD in **Statistics and Computer Science**	PhD **(Stats Comp Sc)**
11	Board of Study in Zoological Sciences	PhD in **Zoological Science**	PhD **(Zoo Sc)**

7.3.5 Admission Requirements for PhD Degree Programme and the Duration

The applicant should possess at least one of the following qualifications in the relevant subject area:

Full Time and Part Time Students

A full-time student shall be a person duly registered for an MPhil/PhD degree programme and engaged in research and related activities at least during the normal working hours of the week. According to SLQF guidelines, a full-time research student should spend 3000 notional hours per year for research and related activities. Therefore, those who are employed are required to obtain leave of absence from their workplaces to be eligible for registration under this category. Those who are unable to fulfil the above requirement are advised to register as a part-time student.
A part-time student shall be a person duly registered for an MPhil/PhD degree programme who should spend at least 1500 notional hours per year for research and related activities.

Full-Time Registration

1. Direct Registration (SLQF Level 6 / 7 & 8)

a) Bachelor's Honours Degree (GPA ≥ 3.0) or equivalent
b) Postgraduate Certificate (SLQF Level 7) or
c) Postgraduate Diploma (SLQF Level 8)

Duration:

- Minimum: **3 years**
- Minimum PhD Research Period: **2 years** (after Qualifying Examination)
- Maximum: **6 years**

2. Master's Degree (SLQF Level 9 → PhD): Upgrade to PhD after at least 1 year of research

3. MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10 → PhD): Direct PhD pathway

4. Upgrade Routes (MSc / MPhil to PhD): Subject to Mid-Year Progress Review and supervisory approval
Maximum Duration for all routes: 6 years

Part-Time Registration (PhD)

Available through:

a) Direct registration (SLQF Level 6 / 7 / 8 & 9)
b) MPhil (SLQF Level 11) → PhD
c) MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10) → PhD

Duration:

- Minimum: **4.5 years**
- Minimum PhD Research Period: **3.5 years** (after Qualifying Examination)
- Maximum: **9 years**

7.3.6 Nested Exit and Fall-back Qualifications for PhD

To introduce **Nested Exit Qualifications** (voluntary early exit) and **Fall-Back Qualifications** (upon completion of the maximum permitted registration period) for different PhD registration pathways, ensuring academic equity, student mobility, and outcome-based progression.

Pathway to PhD Registration	Entry Requirements	Nested Exit Qualification (Voluntary Early Exit)	Fall-Back Qualification (After Maximum Duration)	Eligibility Conditions / Restrictions	Notes / QA Compliance
I. Direct Registration	a). Bachelor's Honours Degree or equivalent (SLQF Level 6) with GPA ≥ 3.0 b). PG Certificate (SLQF 7) or PG Diploma (SLQF 8)	**MPhil (SLQF Level 11)** may be awarded if the candidate opts to exit after demonstrating satisfactory progress and fulfilling the prescribed MPhil requirements, but prior to meeting PhD requirements.	**MPhil (SLQF Level 11)** may be awarded if the maximum PhD duration lapses without successful PhD thesis submission, subject to satisfactory progress and fulfillment of MPhil requirements.	Continuous satisfactory progress reports are mandatory.	Ensures transparent progression and compliance with QA and SLQF requirements for transfer and exit pathways.
II. Master's (SLQF Level 9)	Completed Master's Degree (SLQF Level 9)	**MPhil (SLQF Level 11**), subject to meeting prescribed requirements.	**MPhil (SLQF Level 11)**, subject to satisfactory progress and fulfillment of requirements.	Upgrade and exit subject to Board approval.	Aligns MSc-to-PhD mobility with SLQF progression norms.
III. Upgrade from MSc	A full-time MSc candidate may apply	If the candidate exits prior to	If the maximum PhD duration is reached	Candidates must maintain	Ensures This pathway ensures

(SLQF Level 10	for upgrade to the PhD programme following a satisfactory mid-year progress review and the recommendation of the relevant academic review panel.	confirmation of PhD registration, an appropriate qualification may be awarded based on completed research: **Master's Degree (SLQF Level 9) or MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10).** If sufficient research progress equivalent to **MPhil level** is demonstrated, **MPhil (SLQF Level 11)** may also be awarded subject to fulfillment of prescribed requirements.	without successful completion, the Institute may recommend **Master's Degree (SLQF Level 9), MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10), or MPhil (SLQF Level 11),** subject to satisfactory evaluation of research work and fulfillment of the relevant requirements.	satisfactory progress reports and research performance throughout the registration period.	transparent academic progression, clearly defined exit options, student mobility, and compliance with QA standards and the SLQF.
IV. MSc (SLQF Level 10)	Completed MSc Degree (SLQF Level 10) in a relevant field.	**MPhil (SLQF Level 11**), subject to meeting prescribed requirements.	**MPhil (SLQF Level 11),** subject to satisfactory progress and fulfillment of requirements.	As per institutional QA and progress review criteria.	Maintains consistency with SLQF Level 10 entry routes.
V. Upgrade from MPhil (SLQF Level 11)	Full-time MPhil candidate may request an upgrade to PhD after the mid-year progress review.	**MPhil (SLQF Level 11)** retained upon voluntary early exit from PhD pathway.	**MPhil (SLQF Level 11)** retained if maximum PhD duration is reached without successful completion.	Satisfactory progress and compliance with upgrade criteria required.	Supports flexible progression while safeguarding academic standards.

7.4 Application Procedure

PGIS accepts duly completed applications from prospective students throughout the year. Applications for enrolment must be submitted **online** using the prescribed application form available through the PGIS MIS portal (https://mis.pgis.lk/MIS_PGIS/#/examples/login)The prescribed application processing fee must be paid at the time of online submission. Submission of the completed online application through the MIS constitutes formal application to PGIS.

In addition, a printed copy of the completed application, duly signed, must be sent by post to PGIS within the stipulated deadline.

Fees

The fees are revised from time to time by the Board of Management of the PGIS. Please see the PGIS website: www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk for updated fees of relevant MPhil/PhD programmes.

Programme Guide for MPhil and PhD Degrees

Please refer https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/staff/cc_mphil_phd_progguide.pdf

7.5 Processing of Applications

Only completed applications submitted with all relevant supporting documents (as specified in the application guidelines) will be processed. Applications will be evaluated by the relevant Board of Study. Research proposals will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Board of Study, and shortlisted candidates will be required to make a presentation.

Applications that are incomplete or contain false or misleading information will be rejected. Applicants will be informed of their acceptance or non-acceptance to the postgraduate programme for which admission was sought. The decision of the PGIS regarding admission to any programme shall be final.

However, where a research proposal requires ethical clearance (human and/or animal studies), student registration shall be granted on a conditional basis until approval from the PGIS Ethics Committee is submitted to the relevant Board of Study.

Please refer MPhil/PhD Research project proposal
/www.pgis.lk/qac/downloads/mphil_phd_research_proposal_format.pdf

7.6 Registration and Related Matters

7.6.1 Date of registration

A person who the PGIS has accepted as a postgraduate student shall be required to register within a month to follow the relevant postgraduate programme of study (MPhil/PhD). The effective date of registration would be the date on which the duly completed application was received at the PGIS or day of starting of academic program? A person who registers for an MPhil degree programme, at the first instance, can upgrade the registration to a PhD after a minimum of one year duration (Please refer to section 10.2), on the recommendation of the relevant Board of Study.

7.6.2 Continuation of Registration

It shall be obligatory for each student to renew the registration every year until the completion of the programme of study.

7.6.3 Concurrent Registration

A student who is registered for a postgraduate degree programme in the PGIS is not permitted to register concurrently for another degree programme in the PGIS.

7.6.4 Withdrawal from a Programme

A postgraduate student wishing to withdraw from the programme for which he/she is registered must submit a written request to the Director, PGIS, through the research supervisor(s) and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study. If the request for withdrawal is submitted within three weeks from the date of payment of fees, 90% of the programme feewill be refunded. No refund will be granted after this period.

7.6.5 Re-admission

An MPhil/PhD student who fails to maintain registration will be deemed to have withdrawn from the Programme. If such a student wishes to re-enter the programme, he/she must apply for readmission in accordance with the
regulations in force at the time of application. Readmission is not guaranteed, and the procedure will follow the same process as initial registration, including payment of all prescribed fees.
The time period spent prior to withdrawal will not be counted towards the maximum duration of the programme after readmission.

7.6.6 Amendments to Registration

Any amendments to the personal information submitted at initial registration should be informed to the PGIS. A student who wishes to make amendments in the registration, such as courses/subjects, thesis topic/title, supervisor/s and student status, should do so in writing to the Director, PGIS. All changes in registration must receive the approval of the research supervisor(s), the Head of the Institution/Department/Laboratory concerned and the relevant Board of Study.

7.6.7 Postponement of Registration

A student who desires to postpone his/her registration for a programme should do so in writing to the Director, PGIS giving reasons and the duration of postponement. Each such request shall be considered on its own merit by the relevant Board of Study of the PGIS.

7.6.8 Cancellation of Registration

Registration may be cancelled by the PGIS on the recommendation of the relevant Board of Study for the following reasons:

(a) non-fulfilment of the coursework requirement of an MPhil/PhD degree within a maximum period of two years from the date of registration,
(b) non-payment of prescribed fees within the first six months of each year,
(c) failure to submit two progress reports successively or make two half-yearly progress review presentations successively, except during the period of thesis writing,
(d) non-adherence to the rules and regulations of the PGIS
(e) plagiarism and other forms of misconduct related to the academic teaching
(f) unsatisfactory academic progress.

7.6.9 Leave of Absence from the Programme

Leave of absence from the programme will not be granted under normal circumstances. However, leave may be granted under special circumstances on a written request made by the student through his/her supervisor/s. A student on a split or/and sandwich programme may be released for a specified period to continue the programme in an outside collaborating laboratory/institute. However, the student should maintain the continuity of registration by paying the relevant registration fees and any other fees, if any.

7.6.10 Guidelines for Re-admission to Postgraduate Programmes

Please refer section 3.16 Guidelines for Re-admission to Postgraduate Programmes.

7.6.11 Registration for Examinations

- To apply for coursework and/or thesis examinations conducted by the Institute, a registered student shall complete the annual registration and make all prescribed payments.
- A candidate shall satisfy all prerequisites stipulated for the relevant degree programme or course prior to registration for any examination.
- A candidate who has registered and paid the required fees for coursework examinations shall be issued the admission card and the examination timetable in advance of the examination.
- A student sitting for the second or third attempt at coursework examinations shall be required to pay the prescribed repeat examination fee at the time of applying for re-examinations.
- A student undertaking the second attempt at a thesis defense shall be required to pay the prescribed thesis resubmission fee.Üoncurrent registration for examinations of more than one degree programme at the PGIS is not permitted.

7.7 Requirements for the Completion of Degrees

Research Proposal: Students applying for registration to the MPhil or PhD programmes at PGIS must submit an application along with a research proposal to the relevant Board of Study. The proposal must be endorsed by a supervisor(s) and approved by the Board before the commencement of the study. The template for the research proposal is available on the PGIS website.

MPhil/PhD students are required to make a 20-minute oral presentation (or as required by the Board of Study) for evaluation by a panel (see Section 8.1 for details).

If a research proposal has already been evaluated and accepted by the NRC, NSF, or any other funding agency, it may be submitted directly to the Board of Study along with the relevant evaluation documents to obtain Board approval.

7.7.1 Research Work Requirements

The MPhil research component, comprising research work, seminars, supervision meetings, independent study, thesis preparation, participation in conferences, and publication-related activities, carries **60 credits (6,000 notional hours)**, while the PhD component, including the same activities, carries **90 credits (9,000 notional hours)** in alignment with **SLQF Level 12** requirements. Students are expected to engage in full-time research for a minimum of two years for MPhil and three years for PhD (or equivalent part-time), under the guidance of supervisors recommended by the Board, and to submit a thesis based on their research. *(See 4.1 Postgraduate Programmes – Entry, Requirements & Duration for detail*

7.8 Place of Research Work and Supervisors

A postgraduate student would normally be required to work in a laboratory/institution under the guidance of a supervisor/s approved by the relevant Board of Study. At least one of the supervisors should be from the institution where the major part of the research is carried out.

If the supervisor (s) of a research project is neither a member of the PGIS teaching panel nor a member of a Board of Study/academic staff member of the University of Peradeniya, a supervisor from the above said categories should be appointed as an internal supervisor to the project.

7.9 Progress Review Seminar

Full-time students are required to present their research progress and future work bi-annually (in June and December), while part-time students are required to do so every nine months (in September and the following June). The supervisor shall guide the student in preparing for the mid-year progress review seminar. This seminar will be evaluated by the same evaluation panel recommended by the Board of Study for assessing the research proposal. (see Section 8.1).

7.9.1 Progress Reports

The student shall forward half-year progress reports to the PGIS through the supervisor/s in the prescribed form at the end of the stipulated period. Supervisor/s shall endorse the progress reports after checking the work reported is in line with the proposal and consistent with the timeline, free of language and typographical errors and follows the PGIS format
(https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd_progress_report_202601.pdf).
Students shall submit the progress reports based on the progress review seminar within two weeks from the date of the seminar. The report should be forwarded with the recommendation of supervisor/s to the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study, who shall forward the same to the Director/PGIS with his/her recommendation. If progress review seminars are not made or progress reports are not submitted in two consecutive occasions, based on the recommendation of the supervisor(s), candidate's registration for the relevant degree will be terminated.

7.10 Initial Submission of Thesis

Once the research work is completed, three copies of the thesis in temporary binding should be submitted initially through supervisor/s and the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study to the Director, PGIS. The supervisor/s is/are expected to certify that the thesis is of an acceptable standard as required by the PGIS by signing and forwarding the 'Initial Submission Form' (Form 5.11.1A – **Annexure IV**) downloadable from the PGIS website: www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk. Students may also be required to fill out the 'Check List for MPhil/PhD Students for Acceptance of Spiral-bound Copy of the Thesis to be Sent for Evaluation' (**Annexure V**), which can be downloaded from the PGIS website: www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk. Along with the hard copy, a soft copy (PDF version) of the thesis must also be submitted to the PGIS. The soft copy should be named as **"RegistrationNumber_ThesisInitialCopy"**.

The general guidelines for the format of project report/thesis can be downloaded from the PGIS website: http://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/info_report_thesis_guide_2018.pdf. Before forwarding the Thesis to the PGIS, supervisors shall make sure that,

The thesis is formatted following the PGIS guidelines, well written to the acceptable standard and free of language and typographical errors. The thesis should be certified by the supervisor(s) only when it is suitable for submission. Thesis format can be found at
http://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/info_report_thesis_guide_2018.pdf

The student has fulfilled the publication requirement as mentioned in 7.3.4.

7.11 Thesis Defense

The thesis examiner shall be appointed by the PGIS, with the recommendation of the relevant Board of study, after getting his/her consent to evaluate both the thesis and thesis defense examination. The PGIS must obtain the consent of examiners to evaluate both thesis and thesis defense examination. MPhil/PhD thesis defense examination shall be arranged by the PGIS, considering a convenient date and time for all members of the Board of Examiners. Thesis defense examinations of MPhil/PhD should not be held in the absence of Thesis examiner/s.

If a student fails the thesis defense examination (viva-voce examination) he/she can repeat it on another date specified by the Board of Examiners. The maximum number of attempts a student is allowed to face

the thesis defense examination (viva-voce examination) is two. If a student fails the two attempts, the candidature will be terminated, and the submitted copies of the thesis become the property of the PGIS.

The time duration for the oral presentation at the thesis defense examination shall be 30 min for both MPhil and PhD students.

Upon the receipt of examiners' evaluation reports of a thesis, if the corrections are major, before resubmitting the revised thesis to the PGIS, the supervisor shall ensure that the student has incorporated the comments suggested by the examiners. Before certifying the final hardbound copy of the thesis, the supervisors shall check and certify that the student has incorporated all the corrections/suggestions made by both thesis and oral examiners.

7.12 Final Submission of the Thesis

Three or more copies of the thesis (one copy to the PGIS, one each for each supervisor and one for the student) in the permanently bound form, prepared according to the PGIS guidelines, should be submitted through the Supervisor and the Chairman of the relevant Board of Study to the PGIS within the specified period of time as recommended by the panel of examiners for consideration by the Results Board. When the candidate submits the thesis, the supervisor/s is/are expected to certify that corrections, revisions etc., if any, have been properly affected by the candidate by duly signing the 'Final Submission Form' downloadable from the PGIS website: www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk. Students are requested to submit a soft copy of the final version of the thesis to the PGIS labeled as **'Registration number_Thesis final copy'**

7.13 Publication Requirement

For the award of research degrees by the PGIS, the following publication requirements should be fulfilled.

A. To award the MPhil Degree:

- At least one peer-reviewed publication (Students must provide DOI or acceptance letter during thesis submission)
- Two Presentations at national/international conferences

and/or

- One article in PGIS Magazine

B. To award the PhD degree:

- Minimum of two peer-reviewed journal publications (Students must provide DOI or acceptance letter during thesis submission).
- Two Presentations at national/international conferences

and/or

- One article in PGIS Magazine

7.14 Evaluation of MPhil/PhD Degree Programmes

7.14.1 Research Proposal Evaluation

The composition of the Evaluation Panel of Research Proposal and Progress Review is given below. Composition of Evaluation Panel of Research Proposal:

1. Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study (Chairperson of the Panel) (where the Chairperson of the Board of Study is a supervisor, the Director or his nominee shall act as Chairperson)
2. Secretary of the relevant Board of Study
3. Two reviewers (the relevant Board of Study shall nominate suitable persons)
4. The supervisor/s shall be present as observer/s

The evaluation panel shall evaluate the written proposal and proposal presentation, and submit their recommendations to the relevant Board of Study. If a proposal is unsatisfactory, the panel may recommend revising and resubmitting the proposal or submission of a new proposal. The Board of Study will approve the MPhil/PhD application based on the recommendation of the panel. However, if the proposal requires ethical approval (human and animal studies), student registration will be granted conditionally until an approval from the PGIS Ethics Committee is submitted to the Board of Study.

If the supervisor/s of a research project is neither a member of the PGIS teaching panel nor a member of a Board of Study/academic staff member of the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya a supervisor from the above said categories should be appointed as an internal supervisor to the project.

7.14.2 Course Work Evaluation

A course unit is evaluated by continuous (in-course) assessments (and/or mid-semester examination) and end-semester examination. Details of the teaching and learning methods, as well as the assessment strategies for each course, are provided in the programme content.

- Continuous assessments, which include assignments, tutorials, quizzes, presentations etc. evaluate students' progress throughout the study (formative evaluation). The teacher of a course will be responsible in giving details of in-course assessments such as type of assessments, deadlines for submission of materials, marks allocation, etc. to the student at the beginning of the course. The teacher will display marks of in-course assessment before students sit the end-semester examination of the course.
- The mid-semester examination is an in-class/online examination in which the instructor has the freedom to select the structure of the examination paper and the duration of time.
- End-semester examinations (summative evaluation) evaluate students' overall subject knowledge, skills, and abilities at the end of the course. The end-semester examination is

  a comprehensive examination scheduled by the programme coordinator at the end of the semester. Students will be informed of the evaluation scheme by the instructor at the beginning of each course. For all theory and laboratory courses, a minimum of 80% attendance is required to sit the end-semester examination.

The following weightage of marks can be used as a guideline when computing the final marks of the course.

- Continuous assessments (with or without mid-semester examination) – 60%
- End Semester examination (comprehensive examination) - 40%

In the courses with laboratory and/or fieldwork, the method of evaluation can differ from one course to another and shall be evaluated, where applicable, on a continuous assessment basis and/or by end-semester examination.

7.14.3 Research Work Evaluation

All research students should conduct independent research for a stipulated period given by the degree programme, in addition to the completion of the relevant courses of the degree programme, if there are any. Evaluation panels, Thesis examiners and oral examiners of each research project for the following three components shall be appointed by the relevant Board of Study.

Components	Descriptor	Final Mark	Evaluators
Progress Review Seminar	The extent of research done, in-line with the proposal and consistent with the timeline, up-to-date knowledge, presentation style	10%	Evaluation Panel
Thesis	Up-to-date knowledge, well-structured, coherence, formatting and language impeccable, appropriate methodology, referencing is correct and consistent, scientific output	60%	Thesis Examiners
Thesis Defense Examination (Oral presentation followed by Viva Voce)	Scientific quality, organization, subject knowledge, presentation skills, time management, scientific output	30%	Thesis examiners and Oral examiner

7.14.4 Progress Review Seminar

Each student is required to submit half-year progress reports to the PGIS with the endorsement of the supervisor/s which will be evaluated and approved by the Board of Study.

7.14.5 Thesis Evaluation

The assessment of the research project/ thesis shall consist of two thesis examiners recommended by the relevant Board of Study for evaluation. The thesis shall be evaluated by two examiners at least one of whom shall be an examiner external to the place where the research work was carried out. In the case of PhD theses, it is strongly recommended that at least one foreign examiner be appointed. Each examiner will evaluate the temporarily-bound thesis or the softcopy as per the request of the examiner, and send the evaluation report to the PGIS. The evaluation report will include the final recommendation on the thesis. The thesis examiners evaluate the suitability, adequacy and consistency of information, arguments and results, innovations and contribution to the literature, and practical relevance of conclusions and recommendations presented in the thesis/dissertation. The thesis examiners will examine the thesis comprehensively and submit a detailed report with their recommendations to the Institute.

a. After evaluation of the thesis, if the two thesis examiners recommend that the thesis is “accepted as it is” or “accepted with minor corrections”, an oral examination shall be scheduled and convened by the PGIS.

b. If at least one of the thesis examiners recommends that “the thesis is accepted with major corrections”, the oral examination will be held only after the revised thesis is recommended as “accepted

as it is" or "accepted with minor corrections" by the two thesis examiners. The revised thesis should be resubmitted for evaluation within a specific time period (six months for MPhil and PhD) within the period of registration of the degree programme.

c. If one of the two thesis examiners recommends that "the thesis is not accepted", the revised thesis will be sent to a third thesis examiner recommended by the Board of Study, for evaluation. Above procedures a, b, c can be followed by considering the two closely similar recommendations given by two examiners out of the three thesis examiners.

d. If the two thesis examiners recommend that "the thesis is not accepted", a thesis review seminar will be held, and the following recommendation/s will be provided by the examination panel.

The examination panel consists of the Chairperson of the BoS, Secretary of the BoS, two thesis examiners and an oral examiner.

1) Make the necessary correction to the thesis and resubmit the thesis for evaluation within a specific time period (one year for MPhil and PhD) within the period of registration of the degree programme, or

2) Propose a downgrade the degree to a possible lower degree (provided that the student has completed the requirement for the possible lower degree)

The oral examination will be held only after the revised thesis is recommended as "accepted as it is" or "accepted with minor corrections" by the two thesis examiners.

If major revisions of the thesis are recommended, three copies of the revised thesis should be submitted using 'Resubmission Form' (Form 5.11.1B – **Annexure VII**) downloadable from the PGIS website: www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk. The supervisor/s is/are expected to certify that all the corrections/revisions have been made to the revised thesis as required by the examiners.

7.14.6 Thesis Defense Examination

If the thesis is accepted without revisions or with minor revisions as in (a) or (b) above, the oral examination followed by Viva-Voce will be conducted by a Panel of Examiners appointed by the relevant Board of Study. If major revisions are recommended as in (c) above, the oral examination will be held after the revised thesis is evaluated and recommended by the examiners as acceptable without further revision or acceptable with minor revisions.

Composition of Panel of Examiners for MPhil (SLQF-L11) and PhD (SLQF-L12):

1. Chairperson and Secretary of the relevant Board of Study

(If the Chairperson of the Board of Study is a supervisor, the Director or his nominee shall be the Chairperson)

2. Three examiners (two thesis examiners and an oral examiner)

(If the thesis examiner/s is/are not available, the relevant Board of Study shall nominate suitable person/s)

3. The Supervisor/s shall be present as observer/s

The oral examination of a thesis/dissertation shall be held soon after the completion of the research report evaluation as mentioned in 8.3.2. The viva-voce Examination Board will evaluate theoretical knowledge, analytical thinking, adequacy of information, creativity and innovations in the research, suitability and practical relevance of conclusions and recommendations, and communication and presentation skills of the student.

The panel of examiners will submit a report (and an evaluation sheet assigning marks) on the suitability of the candidate for the award of the degree. The supervisor will hand over the thesis back to the candidate for

suggested revisions, if any, with necessary instructions and a copy of the examiners' report. If the oral examination is not defended satisfactorily, the candidate is allowed only one more attempt to repeat the oral examination.

If the candidate fails the oral examination twice, the degree cannot be awarded, but may be considered for a possible downgrade and award a lower degree.

On the basis of the UGC circular 11/2020 provision has been granted for online assessment via virtual platform. The students are strictly monitored on impersonation, plagiarism and cheating in online assessments.

The MPhil/PhD Thesis Defense examination should be evaluated by both Thesis and Oral examiners independently. The final mark should be derived as an average of all the marks awarded by all the examiners (Thesis and oral). The Board of Examiners decides the award of Degree.

7.15 Upgrade from a Lower SLQF Level to a Higher SLQF Level

Students who are interested in upgrading their degree status from the lower level of SLQF to a higher level should follow the guidelines and fulfill the requirements given below.

7.15.1 Upgrade from MSc to MPhil or PhD

A student registered for the Masters Programme (SLQF Level 9) who has obtained a final GPA of 3.00 or above for the coursework component and has demonstrated excellent progress in the research project at SLQF Level 10 may apply, through the Supervisor, for an upgrade of registration to either the MPhil Degree Programme (SLQF Level 11) or the PhD Degree Programme (SLQF Level 12).
The application for upgrade shall be submitted after the Mid-year Progress Review Seminar, together with the recommendation of the Supervisor and the relevant review panel.
Such a request shall be made within four (04) months following the Mid-year Progress Review Seminar conducted at SLQF Level 10.
Approval of the upgrade shall be subject to the evaluation of the candidate's academic performance, research progress, and recommendation of the relevant academic review panel, and shall be granted by the relevant authority of the Institute in accordance with the postgraduate regulations.

7.15.2 Upgrade from MPhil to PhD

A student registered for the MPhil Degree Programme (SLQF Level 11) who has completed at least one (01) year of research on a full-time basis or two (02) years of research on a part-time basis in the MPhil programme may apply, through the Supervisor, for an upgrade of registration to the PhD Degree Programme (SLQF Level 12).The PhD Degree Programme requires a total of ninety (90) research credits, equivalent to 9,000 notional hours, to be completed over a minimum period of three (03) years of research.
The request for upgrade shall be submitted within four (04) months after the Annual Progress Review Seminar conducted in the second year of the MPhil programme (SLQF Level 11).The candidate shall submit a comprehensive written proposal which includes: a summary of the research work completed under the MPhil programme, the remaining work required for completion of the MPhil research,a new or extended research proposal for the PhD programme, and a proposed research plan and time schedule for completion of the PhD. The written proposal shall be evaluated by three (03) experts in the relevant discipline, recommended by the relevant Board of Study, followed by an oral examination.
The Oral Examination Panel shall consist of: the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study (If the Chairperson is a Supervisor, the Director shall nominate a suitable alternative); the Chairperson of another Board of Study, recommended by the Coordinating Committee; and three (03) experts in the relevant discipline, recommended by the relevant Board of Study. Approval of the upgrade shall be granted based on the evaluation of the written proposal, the oral examination, and the recommendations of the examination panel, subject to the approval of the relevant authority of the Institute.

Re-admission to Postgraduate Programmes

Refer Chapter 5.16 guidelines for Re-admission to Postgraduate Programmes*, PGIS, University of Peradeniya.*

7.16 PhD Qualifier Review

A PhD Qualifier Review is mandatory for:

a) Candidates registered for the PhD programme on a conditional basis with a **BSc Honours Degree or equivalent (SLQF Level 6, GPA ≥ 3.0)**.

b) Candidates with a certificate (SLQF 7), Diploma (SLQF 8) & Master's (SLQF 9) initially placed in a conditional PhD pathway.

7.16.1 Timing of the Qualifier Review

a) The Qualifier Review shall take place after one year and before 1.5 years from the date of conditional registration.

b) The schedule must be approved by the Board of Study on the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee.

7.16.2 Components of the Qualifier Review

The PhD Qualifier Review comprises the following components:

a) Submission of a Qualifier Report: The candidate must submit a detailed report (approximately 15–25 pages) including.

I. Title
II. Background and rationale of the research
III. Objectives and research questions/hypotheses
IV. Literature review
V. Preliminary methodology
VI. Results and publications, if any
VII. Timeline and work plan for the remaining duration
VIII. Ethical considerations (if applicable)

b) Oral Presentation

I. The candidate must deliver a 30-minute oral presentation summarizing the above components before a Qualifier Review Panel.
II. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A session.

7.16.3 Composition of the Qualifier Review Panel_

a) Two Reviewers with relevant expertise (appointed by the Board of Study)
b) A representative from the Board of Study (Chairperson)
c) Supervisor(s)

7.16.4 Evaluation Criteria

The candidate will be assessed on:

a) Clarity and feasibility of research objectives
b) Understanding of the relevant literature
c) Appropriateness of the methodology
d) Communication skills during the presentation
e) Potential for successful completion of the PhD

7.16.5 Outcomes of the Review

The PhD Qualifier Review Panel may recommend one of the following outcomes:

1. **Confirmation of PhD Registration**
   The candidate may continue unconditionally in the PhD programme based on satisfactory performance.
2. **Conditional Continuation**
   The candidate may continue in the PhD programme subject to fulfilling specified conditions (e.g., additional coursework, revision of the research plan, research/title change, supervisor change, registration status change (Full-time to part-time or vice versa)]

7.17 Requirement for the Award of the MPhil/PhD Degree

7.17.1 Award of the MPhil Degree

The MPhil degree is awarded to candidates who have successfully completed the following requirements:

i. admission requirements as set out in Section 7.2.5,
ii. accepted by the PGIS as a candidate for the MPhil programme,
iii. duly registered and paid fees for the prescribed duration of the programme,
iv. satisfactorily completed course work and research work requirements.

7.17.2 Award of the PhD Degree

The PhD degree is awarded to candidates who have successfully completed the following requirements:

i. admission requirements as set out in Section 7.3.5,
ii. accepted by the PGIS as a candidate for the PhD programme,
iii. duly registered and paid fees for the prescribed duration of the programme,
iv. satisfactorily completed coursework and research work requirements .

7.17.3 Criteria for the Effective Date of the MPhil/PhD degree

The effective date of the MPhil/PhD degree shall be determined as given below.

The effective date of the degree should be a date after the expiry of the minimum duration of a given programme. If the panel of examiners determines that both the thesis initially submitted and the oral examination are of acceptable standards, the effective date shall be as follows:

a) The oral examination held within three months from the date of initial submission of the thesis:

i. If the thesis is accepted without corrections and handed over in hard-bound form to the PGIS office within one month after the oral examination, the effective date shall be the date of the oral examination.
ii. If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in hard-bound form to the PGIS office within one month after the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the panel

of examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date of the oral examination.

iii. If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in hard-bound form to the PGIS office after one month of the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the panel of examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date of the final submission of the thesis.

b) The oral examination held after three months from the date of initial submission of the thesis due to no fault of the candidate

i. If the thesis is accepted without corrections and handed over in hard-bound form to the PGIS office within one month after the oral examination, the effective date shall be the date on which three months have elapsed since the initial submission of the thesis.

ii. If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in hard-bound form to the PGIS office within one month of the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the panel of examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date on which THREE months have elapsed since the initial submission of the thesis.

iii. If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in hard-bound form to the PGIS office after one month of the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the panel of examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date of the final submission of the thesis.

If the Panel of Examiners determines that the thesis submitted is acceptable with major corrections, then the candidate is required to resubmit the revised thesis to the PGIS with all the corrections made. The effective date shall be determined, after the evaluation of the revised thesis, according to the procedures stipulated.

If the Panel of Examiners determines that the thesis submitted is of an acceptable standard, but the oral examination is to be repeated due to unsatisfactory defence, then the effective date will be determined based on the repeat oral examination.

However, a candidate is allowed only one such attempt to repeat the oral examination for the same qualification (MPhil/PhD degree).

If the oral examination is not of acceptable standard for the PhD degree, even after repeated attempts, but is of acceptable standard for an MPhil degree, the Panel of Examiners may recommend the award of an MPhil degree.

7.17.4 Release of the MPhil/PhD Results

The Results Board shall be held to consider the award of the MPhil/PhD degree to the candidate. The Results Board will release the results subject to confirmation by the Board of Management of the PGIS and the Senate of the University of Peradeniya.

Composition of Results Board:

1. Director/PGIS (Chairman)
2. Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study
3. Secretary of the relevant Board of Study

7.18 Transcripts and Academic Dress

7.18.1 Transcripts

Certified transcript/s of a student's academic record authenticated by the signatures of the Director and the Deputy Registrar/Assistant Registrar of the PGIS may be sent under confidential cover directly to other institution/s on receipt of a request with the prescribed fee for such a transcript.

7.18.2 Academic Dress

- *Academic Dress for the MPhil Degree*

The academic dress for the Degree of MPhil shall consist of a gown of University pattern made of black cloth with a facing of scarlet and a garland woven with white and gold coloured cords and terminating with the crest of University of Peradeniya.

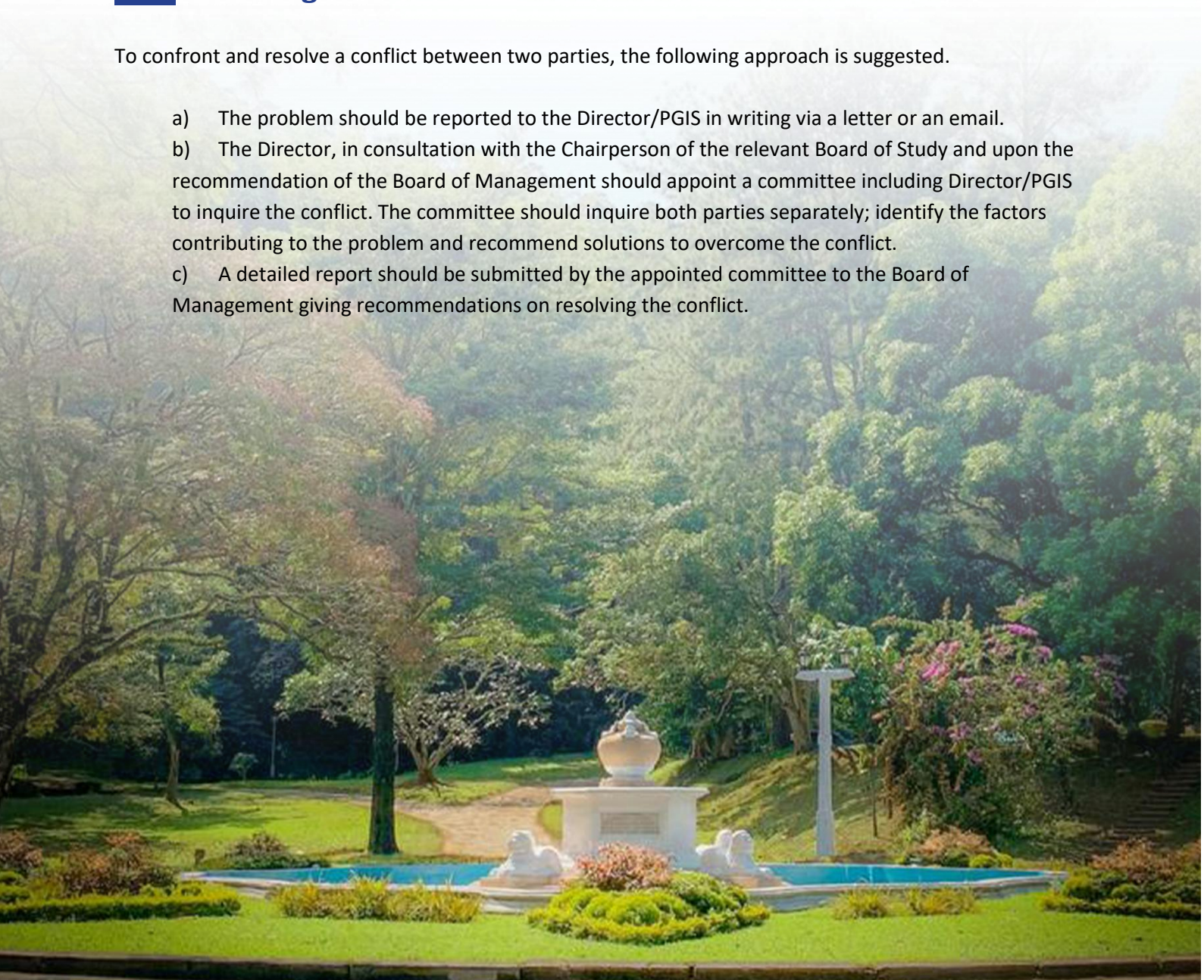
- *Academic Dress for the PhD Degree*

The academic dress for the Degree of PhD shall consist of a gown of University pattern made of black cloth with a facing of scarlet and a garland woven with scarlet and gold coloured cords and terminating with the crest of University of Peradeniya.

7.19 Resolving Conflicts

To confront and resolve a conflict between two parties, the following approach is suggested.

a) The problem should be reported to the Director/PGIS in writing via a letter or an email.
b) The Director, in consultation with the Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study and upon the recommendation of the Board of Management should appoint a committee including Director/PGIS to inquire the conflict. The committee should inquire both parties separately; identify the factors contributing to the problem and recommend solutions to overcome the conflict.
c) A detailed report should be submitted by the appointed committee to the Board of Management giving recommendations on resolving the conflict.



Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

CONDUCT OF POSTGRADUATE EXAMINATIONS

08

8 Examinations and Evaluation Procedure

8.1 Examination Unit

The Examination Unit of the PGIS has been established as a centralized unit to ensure the effective, consistent, and secure management of all postgraduate examinations. The Unit operates in accordance with the regulations of the PGIS, the University of Peradeniya and the University Grants Commission, with the objective of maintaining high standards of academic integrity, transparency, and quality assurance.

Functioning under the supervision of the Deputy Registrar of the PGIS, the Examination Unit is responsible for coordinating and administering all examination-related activities across postgraduate programmes. These services include examination scheduling, conduct of examinations, processing and compilation of results, obtaining statutory approvals, handling re-evaluation requests, and maintaining secure examination records.

The Unit also facilitates standardized operating procedures to ensure fairness and consistency in assessment processes. Special attention is given to confidentiality, accuracy, and timely communication with students regarding examination matters.

Through these services, the Examination Unit aims to provide students with a reliable, well organized, and transparent examination system, while supporting the academic mission and quality assurance framework of the PGIS.

Link to PGIS Manual of Procedures for Conducting Postgraduate Examinations 2025
http://www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk/downloads/staff/procedure_manual_conduct_of_examinations.pdf

8.2 Evaluation Scheme

Each course taken by the student will be evaluated through the scheme as given below.

The evaluation of each course shall be based on in-course assessments and end-semester examinations.The weightage of marks given below can generally be used as a guideline in the computation of the final grade.

End of course examination 60-80%

Continuous assessments (mid-semester examination, assignments, etc.) 20-40%

Courses with laboratory and/or fieldwork may be evaluated only by continuous assessments.

Based on the scheme given above, the overall performance of a student in a given course unit shall be evaluated by the respective instructor(s) and a grade will be assigned. The minimum grade a student should earn topass a course is C.

8.3 Grade Point Average (GPA)

8.3.1 Each course taken by the student will be evaluated through the scheme as given below.

8.3.2 The evaluation of each course shall be based on in-course assessments and end-semester examinations. The weightage of marks given below can generally be used as a guideline in the computation of the final grade.

End of course examination 60-80%
Continuous assessments (mid-semester examination, assignments, etc.) 20-40%

8.3.3 Courses with laboratory and/or fieldwork may be evaluated only by continuous assessments.

8.3.4 The Based on the scheme given above, the overall performance of a student in a each course unit shall be evaluated by the respective instructor(s) and a grade will be assigned. The minimum grade a student should earn to pass a course is C.

8.4 Scheme of Grading (Grades/Grade Points/ Marks Ranges)

8.4.1 On completion of the end of course examinations, the instructors are required to hand over the grades of course units to the Programme Coordinator who assigns the Grade Points according to the following table:

Grade	Marks Range (%)	Grade Point
A+	85-100	4.0
A	75-84	4.0
A-	70-74	3.7
B+	65-69	3.3
B	60-64	3.0
B-	55-59	2.7
C+	50-54	2.3
C	45-49	2.0
E	44-0	0.0

A minimum grade of **C** (or equivalent) must be obtained in all coursework modules.

8.4.2 The GPA is calculated using the weighted average of grade points for all credit-bearing taught modules:

$$GPA = \frac{\sum(Grade\ Point \times Course\ credits}{\sum Credits}$$

On completion of the end of course examinations, the instructors are required to hand over the grades of course units to the Programme Coordinator who assigns the Grade Points according to the following table:

Grade	Grade Point
A+	4.0
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0

Grade	Grade Point
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
E	0.0

8.4 Repeat examinations

A student who fails a course unit or who wishes to improve a previously obtained grade or student who fails to sit the proper/first attempt of examination without valid reason (with the BoS approval) shall be required to repeat the course unit and the corresponding course examination at the next available opportunity.

A maximum of two (02) repeat attempts shall be permitted for any course unit, in addition to the first proper attempt, resulting in a total of three (03) attempts per course unit.

In the case of a compulsory course unit, it cannot be substitutes with another compulsory or optional course unit at the repeat attempts.

However, for an optional course, a student may, with the approval of the relevant Board of Study, either repeat the same course or substitute it with an alternative course unit in place of the original course.

A student may repeat up to five (05) credits of coursework free of charge for any repeat attempts. A prescribed repeat course/examination fee shall be charged for any credits repeated in excess of this limit, in accordance with the relevant section of these regulations. The maximum number of credits that may be repeated by a candidate is twelve (12).

The maximum grade that may be awarded for a course at a repeat attempt shall be Grade B, irrespective of the actual performance.

8.4.1 Recognized Valid Reasons for Absence from End-Semester Examinations

A student who is unable to sit for an end-semester examination due to one or more of the following recognized valid reasons may apply for a make-up examination:

- Certified medical reasons;
- Death of a close relative;
- Attendance at another examination or selection test conducted by a public or private institution for purposes of recruitment, confirmation, or promotion of employment; or
- The student's own wedding, where it is held on the same date as the examination.
- Or any other valid reason accepted by the relevant Board of study.

A written request for a make-up examination, together with acceptable documentary evidence, shall be submitted within fourteen (14) days from the date of the scheduled examination. The decision to approve or reject such a request shall rest solely with the relevant Board of Study.

In the event that a student fails to submit a valid medical certificate or other acceptable documentary evidence, or fails to obtain the necessary approval from PGIS, the absence shall be counted as an examination attempt, and the student shall be required to repeat the course, with the full credit value of the course being counted as repeated.

A maximum of three (03) examination attempts shall be permitted for any course, in accordance with PGIS examination regulations.

8.5 Make-up Examinations

A student who fails to sit for the end-semester examination due to medical reasons or death of a close relative or another examination / selection test conducted by a public or private institution for his/her job recruitment or confirmation or promotion of the job held on the same day may request for a make-up examination within fourteen (14) days from the date of the examination. The relevant Board of Study shall have the discretion to accept or reject a request for a make-up examination.

The Institute shall conduct a make-up examination only during the examination period of the immediate next semester. After the approval of the Board of Study for a make-up examination, the student is required to register for the said examination by paying fees if relevant as instructed by the Deputy Registrar/Senior Assistant Registrar/Assistant Registrar of the Institute.

A fee of Sri Lanka Rupees Five Thousand (Rs. 5,000.00) shall be charged per make-up examination to cover the associated administrative and logistical costs.
The granting of a make-up examination is intended to facilitate timely academic progression of students while safeguarding academic integrity and maintaining examination standards.

8.6 Release of Results

The PGIS is committed to the timely release of examination results and to ensuring transparent access to students' performance evaluations. These Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) ensure a streamlined and standardized examination process and are aligned with the Guidelines for End Semester Examinations approved by the Board of Management (BoM), PGIS.

8.6.1 Result notification

At the conclusion of each examination period or academic assessment, results will be compiled, assessed, and recorded by the PGIS's academic administration. Notification of result availability will typically be communicated through Institute email and the Management Information System (MIS). Please ensure that your contact information, especially your email address, is up-to-date to receive timely notifications.

8.6.2 Result timelines

PGIS aims to release results promptly following the completion of assessments, and specific result release dates will be available on the academic calendar or through official communications. Typically, results could be released within three weeks after the conclusion of an examination or assignment submission.

8.6.3 Accessing results

To access results, log into the Management Information System (MIS) using your student credentials. Within the MIS, navigate to the "Academic Records" or "Grades" section, where you will find your individual course grades and performance feedback. If you encounter any issues accessing your results, please contact the PGIS's IT support for assistance.

8.6.4 Confidentiality and data security

Academic results are confidential and will only be accessible to you and authorized Institute personnel. Data security is taken seriously and implements strict measures to protect your academic records. Please refrain from sharing your login credentials or academic records with anyone to maintain the privacy and integrity of your results.

8.6.5 Grade appeals

If you have concerns or believe there may be an error in your assessment, the university has a grade appeal process in place. Refer to the PGIS's official policies and procedures for details on how to appeal for a grade review (http://www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk/downloads/students.php).

Your academic results reflect your hard work and dedication. You are encouraged to regularly check for result notifications, review your performance, and seek academic support or guidance when needed. The PGIS is ready to assist throughout your educational journey.

8.6.6 Final results of the programme

The PGIS conducts a Results Board meeting to consider the award of the Postgraduate Diploma, Masters Degree or MSc Degree to the candidate. The Results Board will release the final results subject to confirmation by the Board of Management of the PGIS and the Senate of the University of Peradeniya.

Composition of the Results Board:

1)Director/PGIS or Director nominated Chairperson

2)Chairperson of the relevant Board of Study or his/her nominee

3)Secretary of the relevant Board of Study

4)Coordinator(s) of the Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma/Masters/MSc programme

8.6.7 The result sheets shall also include the following

(a) The words "Postgraduate Institute of Science" and the University of Peradeniya.
(b) The name of the Examination together with the year in respect of which the examination was held
(c) Time month and the year when the examination was held
(d) That the results are provisional and are submit to confirmation by the Senate
(e) Signature of the Director and the Deputy Registrar/Senior Assistant Registrar/Assistant Registrar.

8.6.8 Releasing of Results

Provisional results shall be released upon approval by the Board of Examiners subject to the approval of the Board of Management and the Senate.
Depending on the nature and the size of the examination the Deputy Registrar/Senior Assistant Registrar/Assistant Registrar shall be given sufficient time to release the results after the determination of the results by the Board of Examiners.
A student shall make a request in the prescribed form to the Registrar of the Institute regarding any correction or verification of results/certificates issued by the Institute.
All Examination results shall be displayed on the notice board.

8.6.9 Confirmation of the Provisional Results

The Institute shall recommend names of candidates who successfully completed the requirements of respective degree programmes through Boards of Examinations and the Board of Management to the Senate for approval. Results of degree programmes shall be effective only with the approval of the Senate.

8.6.10 Issue of Results

Every candidate may be issued one or more of the following documents:-

(a) A statement of provisional results of examination
(b) Final Examination Certificate
(c) Transcript
(d) Degree Certificate according to the stipulations given

(a) **Statement of Provisional**

Results Every candidate shall be issued a Statement of Results on a printed form, duly signed by the Deputy Registrar/Senior Assistant Registrar/Assistant Registrar, upon the student's request. on a request of a student. These statements will be issued after the release of provisional results and will remain valid until the approval of the Senate. They will serve as temporary certificates.

(b) **Final Examination Certificate**

This certificate shall be issued only after the confirmation of the results by the Senate. Candidates shall apply for such a certificate and the certificate duly signed by the Deputy Registrar/Senior Assistant Registrar/Assistant Registrar shall be issued on payment of the prescribed fee. No duplicate shall be issued except where satisfactory evidence has been produced to the effect that the original certificate issued has

been damaged destroyed or lost. The fee for the Duplicate Certificate shall be double the prescribed fee.

(c) **Transcripts**

Transcripts shall contain information as to the Subject Code, Title of the Subjects, No: of Credits and the grades obtained by the candidate. These shall be issued on a request and the payment of the prescribed fee.

(d) Degree Certificate

Every candidate who has passed the final examination of a postgraduate programme shall be issued a degree certificate at or after the University's convocation. The format of the degree certificate shall be determined by the University Senate.

8.7 Remote/Online (Proctored) Examination

8.7.1 Pre-Exam Guides

a) Prepare a quiet, well-lit exam space free of unauthorized materials.
b) Ensure devices meet technical requirements and are fully charged.
c) Test internet connectivity and have a backup plan.
d) Gather required materials (e.g., writing sheets, calculators).
e) Log in at least 15–30 minutes before the exam.
f) Understand exam rules and consequences for violations.

8.7.2 During Exam Guides

a) Keep webcams and microphones operational throughout the session.
b) Follow identity verification protocols.
c) Inform the supervisor immediately if technical issues arise.
d) Avoid prohibited materials and follow exam rules strictly.

8.7.3 Post-Exam Guides

a) Upload the answer scripts within the allotted time (with a 30-minute grace period if required).
b) Ensure scanned answer scripts meet format and submission requirements.
c) Safely store both handwritten and digital copies of the answer scripts.

8.8 Re-Scrutiny of Examination Results

8.8.1 Eligibility to apply

a) A candidate who is not satisfied with the grade awarded after viewing his/her answer script may apply for re-scrutiny.

b) Applications must be submitted within one week after the date of viewing the answer script.

c) The candidate should submit the prescribed application form to the Deputy Registrar (Examinations), PGIS, together with proof of payment.

d) The re-scrutiny fee is Rs. 500.00, payable to the Account Division, PGIS.

e) If the result is changed, the deposit will be refunded in full.

f) If the result remains unchanged, the deposit will be annulled.

8.8.2 Procedure

Submission of Request

a) The candidate submits the completed application form and proof of payment to the Deputy Registrar (Examinations), PGIS (PGIS/Ex/Form 26)

Referral

b) The Deputy Registrar (Examinations) refers the request through the Director/PGIS to the Scrutiny Board.

Scrutiny Board Composition

a) Chairperson/ Board of Study (or nominee)
b) First Examiner
c) Second Examiner

8.8.3 Re-Scrutiny Process

a) The relevant answer script(s) will be taken out in the presence of the candidate from the Examination Unit/PGIS

b) The first and second examiners will carefully check the marking and totaling.

c) If an error or omission is detected, corrections will be made.

d) Possible outcomes:

I. Grade increased

II. Grade unchanged

III. Grade decreased

e) Note: Grade cut-offs will not be altered.

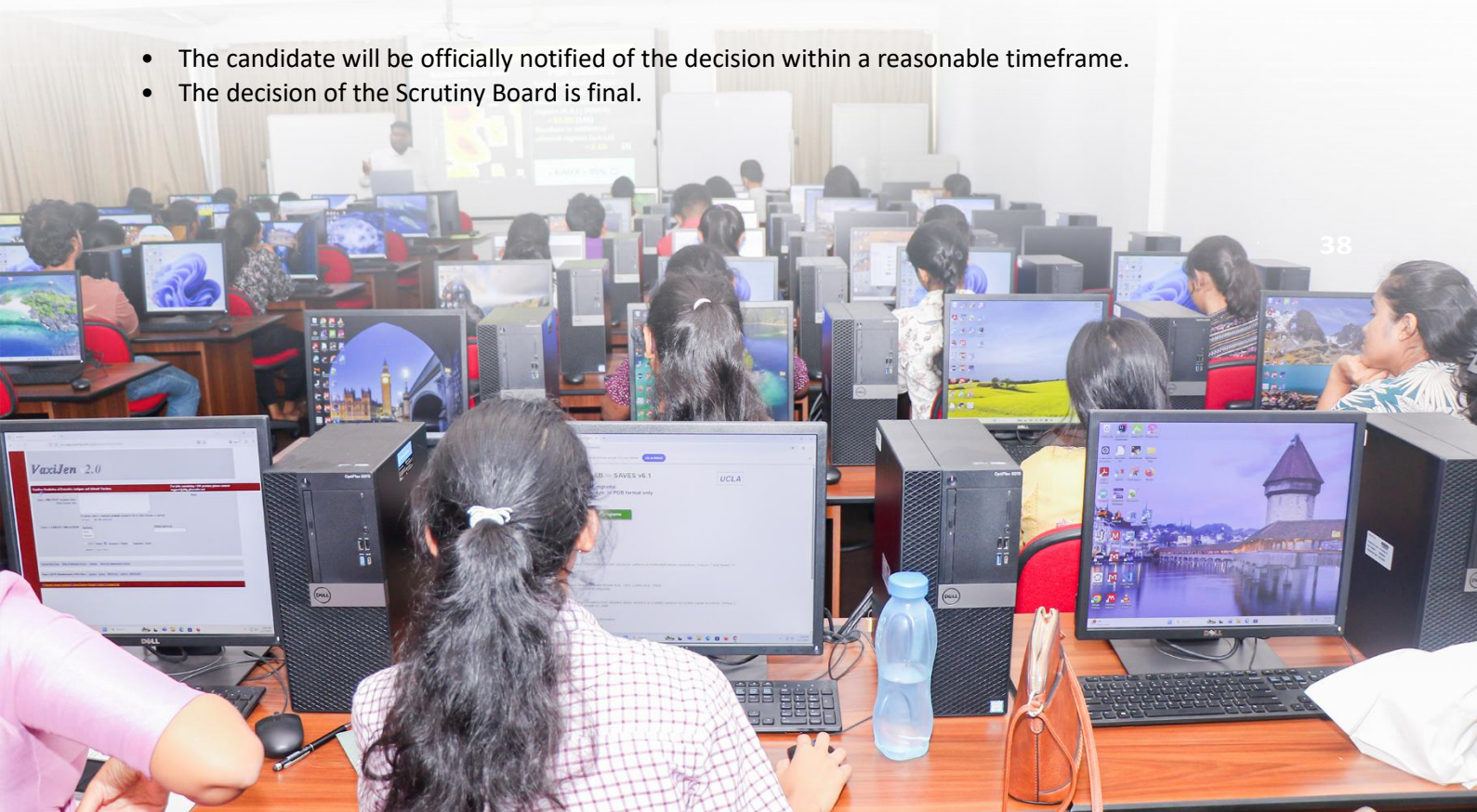
8.8.4 Documentation

a) If the grade changes, a Change of Grade Results will be forwarded to the relevant Board of Study for approval.

b) If no change is made, thecandidate will sign an agreement statement acknowledging the outcome.

8.8.5 Notification

- The candidate will be officially notified of the decision within a reasonable timeframe.
- The decision of the Scrutiny Board is final.



Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

OCCASIONAL STUDENTS

09

9 OCCASIONAL STUDENTS

9.1 Introduction

Occasional study programme is a short learning scheme to support the persons wanting to take a few taught courses or do a brief research project on a particular field. As such, the occasional students are not registered for any of the postgraduate degree programmes of the PGIS. However, you may receive an academic record for all the courses completed successfully. Further, if you wish to do a postgraduate study, you can use these academic records if relevant, apply for the next qualification. Please note that, you may need prerequisites for the courses that you are interested in. Then, you first have to complete those courses before you can enroll in the course/s of your interest. You have to pay for every course that you plan to register for in advance, before registration can take place.

Occasional study programme provides an ideal opportunity for the employees to upgrade and broaden their knowledge in a chosen field to enhance the career goals. This programme will also help you expand your professional capacity, learn something new, or even earn academic credit to transfer towards a degree. International students are also welcome to join the PGIS as occasional students to follow taught courses or to do a brief research project. There is a possibility of offering some courses on online mode.

To apply for a place as an occasional student, send the prescribed application forms which can be downloaded from the PGIS website (http://www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk). Duly completed application should be forwarded to the Assistant Registrar of the PGIS. The application processing fee should be paid at the time of submission of the application.

Two categories of such students are identified. They are those who:

(a) would follow course unit/s from a programme conducted by the PGIS and/or

(b) are attached to the research projects administered by the PGIS or by Teaching Panel Members of the PGIS

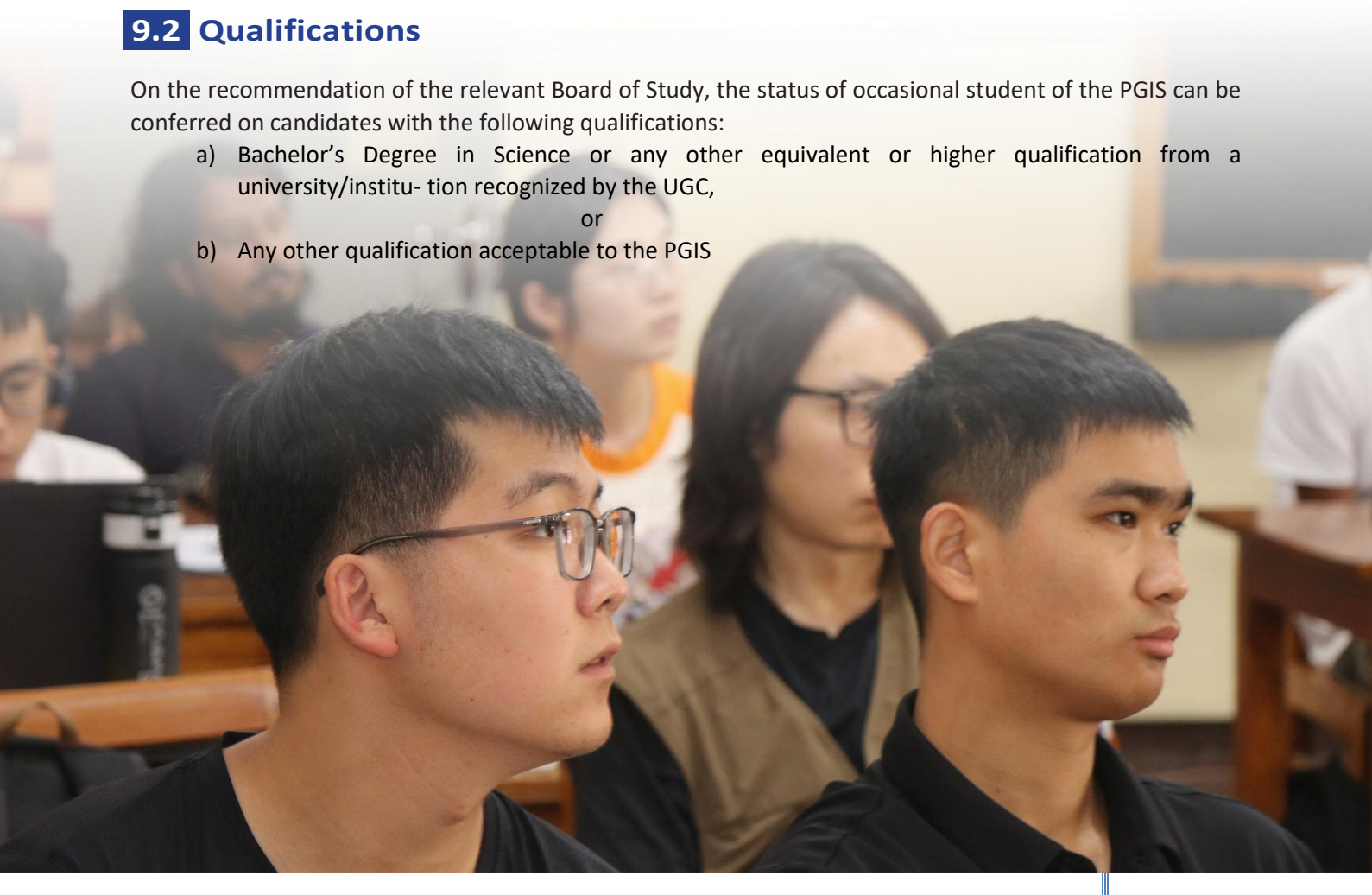
9.2 Qualifications

On the recommendation of the relevant Board of Study, the status of occasional student of the PGIS can be conferred on candidates with the following qualifications:

a) Bachelor's Degree in Science or any other equivalent or higher qualification from a university/institu- tion recognized by the UGC,

or

b) Any other qualification acceptable to the PGIS



Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

10

10 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

10.1 Introduction

This section of the student handbook provides you with an introduction to postgraduate degree programmes available in the PGIS. Whether you are a recent graduate eager to continue your academic journey or a working professional seeking to enhance your qualifications, PGIS, Sri Lanka offers a diverse range of opportunities for your postgraduate studies.

In this guide, you will explore the various types of postgraduate degree programmes, including Master's and PhD options, the admission criteria and application process and funding opportunities. With a rich blend of tradition and innovation, PGIS is poised to provide you with a rewarding and intellectually stimulating postgraduate experience.

10.2 Postgraduate Degree Programmes

Postgraduate degree programmes in Sri Lanka offer an enriching and transformative educational experience for those looking to advance their knowledge, skills, and careers. These programmes are designed to provide students with the opportunity to deepen their expertise in a specific field of study or engage in advanced research and academic exploration. Whether you are a recent graduate seeking to specialize in your chosen discipline or a working professional aiming to enhance your qualifications, PGIS offers a diverse range of postgraduate options to cater to your educational aspirations.

10.2.1 Masters Degree programmes

These programmes typically require one to two years of full-time study and provide in-depth knowledge and skills in a specific subject area. They often involve coursework, research, and, in some cases, practical training or internships.

10.2.2 PhD Degree programmes

PhD programmes offer the highest level of academic achievement and are designed for individuals interested in conducting original research in their chosen field. Completing a PhD in Sri Lanka involves several years of research, culminating in the submission and defense of a doctoral thesis.

10.3 Application for Postgraduate Degrees

10.3.1 Admission criteria

The eligibility criteria for postgraduate programs may vary depending on the Degree programme. However, common admission requirements include:

- A relevant undergraduate degree or equivalent qualification
- Satisfactory academic performance, often indicated by a minimum GPA or percentage
- Letters of recommendation

10.3.2. Application process

The application process typically involves selecting a programme that aligns with your academic and career goals, completing the application form and submitting the required documents, preparing for interviews or additional assessments, if required Receiving admission decisions and, if accepted, proceeding with enrollment.

10.4 Funding Opportunities

Sri Lanka offers various scholarships, grants, and financial aid options to support postgraduate students. These can be provided by the government, universities, research institutes, and external organizations. Explore these opportunities to help fund your postgraduate education.

10.5 VISA Application Procedure

A foreign student selected to study in Sri Lanka as a regular, casual or exchange student or a visiting scholar of the Institute should obtain Residence Visa to study or undertake research in Sri Lanka. Initially foreign students or visiting scholars will be provided with an Entry Visa for a period of one month or as approved by the Department of Immigration and Emigration of Sri Lanka (DIE). Once a student or a visiting scholar enrolls with the degree programme or engages in a research project his/her Entry Visa should be converted to Residence Visa.

10.5.1 Entry Visa

Upon the selection of a foreign candidate to follow a degree programme or a visiting scholar, the PGIS issues a letter to the Controller of the DIE, Colombo requesting to issue an Entry Visa for the candidate or the visiting scholar. A candidate or visiting scholar should submit the following documents to the Assistant Registrar of the PGIS by posts or as email attachments to process the Entry Visa:

I. The bio page of the passport (the Passport should have the validity at least for a period of six months from the date of application for Entry Visa);

II. Police or security clearance report for the candidate or visiting scholar which had been obtained from his/her country of residence;

III. A passport size photograph of the candidate or visiting scholar obtained within 03 months from the date of application for Entry Visa (online photograph);

IV. Payment Receipt of the course fee as mentioned in the letter of Registration

V. A covering letter written by the candidate or the visiting scholar to the Director/PGIS, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka informing his/her intended dates of entry to Sri Lanka and requesting Director/ PGIS to process his/her Entry Visa application.

A candidate or a visiting scholar is required to submit the above information at least two months before his/her intended date of entry into Sri Lanka.

The Assistant Registrar of the PGIS will submit duly completed Entry Visa application documents of a candidate or a visiting scholar to the DIE through the University Grants Commission and the Secretary to the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), Sri Lanka for approval.

Once approval is granted for Entry Visa, the DIE will fax the Entry Visa of the student or the visiting scholar to the Sri Lankan 'Embassy/Consular Office of the relevant country. The Assistant Registrar of the PGIS will send an email notification to the student or the visiting scholar requesting him/her to collect his/her Entry Visa from the Sri Lankan Embassy/Consular Office of the relevant country.

10.5.2 Residence Visa

Once enrolled in a degree programme or research project at the PGIS, a foreign student/ visiting scholar is required to convert his/her Entry Visa to Residence Visa (Student Category) before the date of expiry of the Entry Visa.

The PGIS should submit the following documents to the DIE to convert his/her Entry Visa to Residence Visa through the UGC and the Ministry of Education.

Since the approval process takes considerable time, the student/ visiting scholar is required to submit the copies of same set of documents in person to the DIE to extend his/her Residence Visa with the relevant payment.

I. The covering letter issued by the Director/PGIS to the DIE through UGC and MOHE;

II. Certified copy of the passport (the bio page) of the student or visiting scholar;

III. Duly completed Application for recommendation of issuing/ extension of residence Visa issued by the DIE downloadable from the DIE website http://www.immigration.gov.lk with recommendation of the Director/PGIS and the Vice Chancellor, University of Peradeniya;

IV. Landing Entry/ Leaming Entry Visa of Applicant;

V. Duly completed application for residence Visa issued by the DIE downloadable from the DIE website http://www.immigration.gov.lk;

VI. Health Protection Plan (HPP) issued by the Health Assessment Centre of the Ministry of Health, Nutri- tion and Indigenous Medicine Sri Lanka;

VII. The form with the recommendation of the Chairperson of the Board of Study for the extension

Residence Visa is issued for a period of one year at a time and can be renewed annually with the provision of justification and evidence of study and research. An applicant is required to pay the Residence Visa fee to the Visa Counter at the time of application.

For more information, please visit the website of the DIE:http://www.immigration.gov.lk/

10.5.3 Health Protection Plan (BPP)

The Health Protection Plan (HPP) issued by the Health Assessment Centre of the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine Sri Lanka is mandatory for the application of Residence Visa in Sri Lanka. An applicant is required to apply for HPP within seven (7) days from the date of entry into Sri Lanka. An appointment can be made online through the website of the Immigration Health Unit (IHU). Under the HPP, an applicant of Residence Visa is screened for diseases such as Tuberculosis, Malaria, HIVIAIDS and Filariasis. As given in the relevant website of the Ministry, a foreign student/ visiting scholar is entitled to receive the following benefits under the HPP: Emergency care, primary out-patient care and treatment for diseases identified in the health assessment in government hospitals. A fee is charged for the HPP and cash payment in LKR is accepted only at the IHU. The renewal of the HPP is required for extension of Residence Visa annually. For more information, please visit the website of the IHU: https://www.health.gov.lk/IHU.

10.5.4 Extension of Residence Visa

The PGIS should submit the following documents to the DIE to convert his/her Entry Visa to Residence Visa through the UGC and the Ministry of Education.

Since the approval process takes considerable time the student/ visiting scholar is required to submit the copies of same set of documents in person to the DIE to extend his/her Residence Visa.

I. The covering letter issued by the Director/PGIS to the DIE with the recommendation from the Vice Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya;

II. Certified copies of the passport (the bio page) of the student or visiting scholar and the page of the cur- rent Residence Visa;

III. Duly completed Application for recommendation of issuing/ extension of Residence Visa issued by the DIE downloadable from the DIE website http://www.immigration.gov.lk with recommendation of the Director/PGIS and the Vice Chancellor, University of Peradeniya;

IV. Renewal of Health Protection Plan (HPP) issued by the Health Assessment Centre of the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine Sri Lanka;

V. Duly completed application form for Residence Visa issued by the DIE downloadable from the DIE website http://www.immigration.gov.lk;

VI. The form with the recommendation of the Chairperson of the Board of Study for the extension

A foreign student is required to submit documents for extension of Residence Visa two months before the date of expiry of the current Residence Visa to the Director of the PGIS with a covering letter indicating his/her progress of study/research and his/her tentative work plan for the next year with recommendation from his/her supervisor/s.

10.6 Studying and Living in Sri Lanka

10.6.1 Cost of living in Sri Lanka

Studying in Sri Lanka is known for its affordability, especially when compared to many Western countries. The cost of living in Sri Lanka is relatively low, making it an attractive destination for international students on a budget. Accommodation, transportation, and food are reasonably priced, allowing students to maintain a comfortable lifestyle without excessive financial burden.

10.6.2 Student life in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka offers an engaging and dynamic student life. The diverse and multicultural student community fosters a sense of belonging and encourages cross-cultural interactions. There are numerous clubs, societies, and student organizations where students can connect and participate in a wide range of extracurricular activities. The country's rich cultural heritage also means that there are plenty of opportunities to explore traditional music, dance, and local festivals, providing a unique and unforgettable student experience.

10.6.3 Healthcare and safety in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka places a strong emphasis on healthcare and safety for its residents and international students. The country has a well-developed healthcare system with modern hospitals and medical facilities. Health insurance is typically a requirement for international students, ensuring access to quality healthcare. Sri Lanka is also considered a safe destination for students.

10.6.4 Cultural experience in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's cultural experience is a highlight for international students. The country's rich history, diverse ethnic groups, and various religious traditions create a vibrant and colorful tapestry. Students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in local customs, traditional festivals, and historic sites. The island's stunning natural beauty, including lush forests, pristine beaches, and wildlife reserves, adds to the cultural experience. Whether
exploring ancient temples, savoring local cuisine, or participating in cultural celebrations, students in Sri Lanka will find themselves surrounded by a rich and immersive cultural environment that enriches their academic journey

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

11

11 COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

11.1 Introduction

Within our research projects and collaborative programmes, we embark on interdisciplinary journeys aimed at addressing pressing issues across various fields. Through partnerships and joint efforts, we strive to advance knowledge, develop innovative solutions, and make tangible contributions to the betterment of society and the environment. Each Board of Study carry out number of research projects relevant to demanding fields ineach discipline.

11.2 Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

The research in the fields of molecular biology and biochemistry includes areas, each bearing its own profound implications for science and society. These areas focus on from molecular characterization of oral microbes to understand their impact on oral hygiene to hydrolytic enzymes, inhibitors of proteases and other digestive enzymes, anti-obesity agents and bioactive compounds which have potential application in medicine. For our agricultural endeavors, we study beneficial nitrogen fixing rhizobia and look into the genes of important agronomic traits of rice. As we commit to sustainability, we explore the remarkable world of biodegrading enzymes derived from the microscopic powerhouses of the microbial realm.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Hydrolytic enzymes and Protease inhibitors from plants and microorganisms
- Molecular characterization of human oral pathogens
- Genetic diversity of rhizobia
- Digestive enzyme inhibitors and anti-obesity agents from Sri Lankan flora
- Plant hormone biosynthesis and signaling pathway in rice with desirable agronomic traits
- Bioactive compounds from plants and animals
- Hormonal signaling pathways

11.3 Biomedical Sciences

The research in the field of biomedical sciences includes exploring a diverse range of topics that hold the potential to revolutionize human health and well-being. From the precise world of diagnostic clinical biochemistry to the intricacies of molecular medicine, this field offers a gateway to unlocking the secrets of life's most fundamental processes. In the quest for comprehensive health, scientists investigate parasites and zoonotic diseases, striving to safeguard both human and animal populations. The world of bioinstrumentation provides cutting-edge tools to advance diagnostics and treatment, enhancing our capabilities to understand and combat diseases. We delve into clinical research on diabetes mellitus and lipid profiles, addressing pressing issues in modern healthcare. Simultaneously, we seek out the treasures hidden within plant secondary metabolites, evaluating their bioactivity for potential therapeutic applications. The exploration of immunological responses and the development of receptor- and enzyme-based biosensors pave the way for groundbreaking diagnostic and treatment modalities.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Diagnostic clinical biochemistry Molecular medicine
- Parasites and zoonotic diseases Bioinstrumentation
- Clinical research on diabetes mellites and lipid profile
- Bioactivity evaluation of plant secondary metabolites
- Immunological and receptor- and enzyme-based biosensors

11.4 Chemical Sciences

The research in the field of chemical sciences includes exploring various topics that promise to shape the future of our world. Bioactive natural products reveal the hidden treasures of the natural world, holding the potential to revolutionize medicine and industry. As stewards of the environment, we design sensors to detect and mitigate environmental pollutants while pioneering innovations in medical diagnostics. Electrochemical research, ranging from the enchanting realm of conducting polymers to the sophisticated technology of liquid crystal displays and electrocatalysis, opens doors to groundbreaking applications in electronics and sustainable energy. At the nanoscale, we venture into the world of nanomaterials, harnessing their unique properties for transformative technologies. Solar cells emerge as beacons of clean energy, paving the way for a sustainable future. The intricate domains of surface and solid-state chemistry illuminate our understanding of materials' fundamental properties. In the laboratory, synthetic organic chemistry sparks innovation, enabling the creation of novel compounds with limitless potential. We also dedicate our efforts to the treatment of industrial effluents and waste, seeking environmentally sound solutions to preserve the world we inhabit.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Bioactive natural products
- Development of sensors for environmental pollutants and for medical use
- Electrochemical research: conducting polymers, liquid crystal display technology, electrocatalysis, etc.
- Nanomaterials
- Solar cells
- Surface and Solid-State Chemistry Synthetic organic chemistry
- Treatment of industrial effluents and waste
- Nanotechnology for food, agriculture, energy storage, environmental remediation, drug delivery
- Crystal Engineering & mechanochemistry
- Nanotechnology for advanced textiles
- Clay-polymer nanocomposites
- Dye-sensitized solar cells, fuel cells, photo-electrochemical solar cell, supercapacitors
- Value addition to local minerals through nanotechnology
- Chronic kidney disease of unknown origin prevailing in some agricultural parts of Sri Lanka
- Transparent conducting oxide 1-D nanomaterials
- Electronically conducting polymers
- Advanced electroanalytical chemistry
- Water quality modeling
- Photochemical and photoelectrochemical aspects of semiconductor based composite systems

11.5 Earth Sciences

The research in the field of Earth sciences includes exploring a range of topics with profound implications for our planet and society. The exploration of minerals for industry is an integral part of sustainable development, providing the resources that power our modern world. Water resources investigation and research on water

quality play a pivotal role in ensuring a sustainable and clean water supply for both human and environmental needs. Disaster management and mitigation strategies are crucial for safeguarding communities against natural and man-made catastrophes. Research on the color enhancement of gemstones bridges the worlds of geology and aesthetics, adding value to these precious natural treasures. The application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) empowers us to make informed decisions in environmental management, engineering, disaster response, land use planning, and urban development. Environmental impact assessment research guides responsible development and safeguards ecosystems.

Finally, the exploration for mineral fuels is essential for meeting our energy needs while considering environmental and economic sustainability.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Exploration of minerals for industrial applications
- Investigation and evaluation of water resources and water quality research
- Disaster management and mitigation strategies
- Research on color enhancement of gemstones
- Application of GIS in environmental management, disaster response, and land-use planning
- Environmental impact assessment for sustainable development
- Exploration of mineral fuels with environmental considerations
- Geological evolution of Sri Lanka's hard rock terrain
- Paleoclimate and paleoenvironmental research
- Geochemical investigations targeting environmental remediation
- Monitoring and remediation of environmental pollution using geological materials, focusing on emerging contaminants
- Mars analog studies with serpentinite occurrences in Southern Sri Lanka
- Geoarchaeological preservation efforts in Sri Lanka
- Heavy mineral sand exploration in coastal zones
- Strategic exploration of critical and strategic metals and minerals in igneous and meta-igneous formations
- Seismicity-induced potential landslide disaster risk assessment in the Kotmale reservoir area, Sri Lanka

11.6 Environmental Science

The research in the field of Environmental Science includes some of the most pressing challenges facing our planet. Pollution studies take center stage, as we investigate the intricate web of environmental contaminants. The management of urban and semi-urban solid waste becomes a paramount concern as our cities grow. Understanding biodiversity depletion and its consequences, including the complex challenges of human-wildlife conflict, is crucial for the conservation of our planet's unique ecosystems. Demographic and employment trends, as well as resource depletion, are deeply intertwined with social impacts, leading to comprehensive studies on sustainable resource management. The development of tourism, while economically promising, demands meticulous examination due to its multifaceted effects on society, culture, and the environment. Research in natural resource depletion, sustainable development, and environmental management provides a roadmap for responsible stewardship of our planet's resources. As the world seeks cleaner, more sustainable energy sources, researchers are at the forefront of exploring alternative energy sources and biofuels, guiding the transition to a greener future.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

Pollution studies encompassing,

- Air pollution in urban and semi-urban areas in relation to volume of vehicular traffic, and smoke stack output of industrial and power plants, and in rural areas in relation to agricultural practices, and livestock management,
- Wetland pollution due to agricultural fertilizers, industrials effluents and other anthropogenic activities, and bioremediation,
- Management of urban and semi-urban solid waste
- Biodiversity depletion and human-wildlife conflict

- Demographic and employment trends and resource depletion, and their social impacts
- Tourism development and its social, cultural and environment effects
- Natural resources depletion, sustainable development and environment management
- Alternate energy sources and biofuels
- Undeveloped and under-developed natural resources for human use and export

11.7 Mathematics

The research at the Board of Study in Mathematics encompasses a wide range of critical disciplines that significantly enhance efficiency, optimize processes, and drive innovation across various industries. This research aims to explore the interplay among these mathematical frameworks and their applications in addressing complex real-world challenges. By integrating the strengths of these disciplines, the Board of Study endeavors to uncover hidden patterns, develop sophisticated algorithms, and enhance decision-making processes, ultimately bridging the gap between theory and practice. This approach fosters a deeper understanding of how mathematics can inform modern decision-making, optimize resource allocation, and lead to more informed, data-driven solutions in an ever-evolving world.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Optimization Theory & Operations Research
- Industrial Mathematics
- Financial Mathematics & Stock Market
- Discrete Mathematics
- Mathematical Modeling
- Computational Mathematics
- Mathematical Cryptography
- Pure Mathematics

11.8 Study in Physics

The research in the field of Study in Physics include research embarking on a multifaceted journey, delving into the exploration of organic and inorganic materials for solar cell applications, the utilization of local clay and ceramic materials to enhance the quality of construction products, the development of ionically conducting materials for fuel cells and batteries, the investigation of polymers for artificial muscles, and the crucial realms of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Radiology, and Dosimetry. As we strive for a more sustainable and technologically advanced future, the relentless pursuit of better, cleaner, and more efficient materials and processes is essential. In this interdisciplinary study, we aim to not only explore the fundamental properties of these materials but also uncover innovative applications, pushing the boundaries of energy generation, construction materials, energy storage, healthcare, and radiation-based therapies.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Study of organic/inorganic materials for solar cell applications
- Study of local clay/ceramic materials for better quality tiles/bricks and other products
- Ionically conducting materials for application in fuel cells and batteries
- Study of polymers suitable for artificial muscles
- Diagnostic Radiology
- Therapeutic Radiology
- Dosimetry

11.9 Plant Sciences

The research in the field of Plant Sciences span a diverse array of disciplines within the realm of plant science and ecology, with a primary focus on understanding and addressing various challenges and phenomena crucial to the health and sustainability of ecosystems. Through rigorous investigation and innovative methodologies, we delve into plant pathology, exploring the intricate interactions between pathogens and plants to mitigate diseases and enhance crop productivity. Concurrently, our exploration extends to the intricacies of plant reproductive biology and breeding, aiming to harness genetic diversity for improved agricultural outcomes and ecosystem resilience. Additionally, we delve into the nuanced dynamics of forest ecosystems, from the ecology of wet and dry zones to the restoration of degraded habitats and the troubling phenomenon of forest die-back. Our research encompasses the pivotal role of rhizobiology, soil fertility, and management in sustaining plant health and ecosystem vitality. Moreover, we delve into microbiology, plant systematics, and phylogenetics, unraveling the complexities of biodiversity conservation and the preservation of wild crop relatives. Complementing these efforts, we investigate postharvest technologies to minimize food loss and maximize the longevity of perishable produce. Furthermore, we scrutinize the ecological ramifications of invasive alien plants, striving to mitigate their impact and preserve native biodiversity. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and a commitment to scientific rigor, we endeavor to advance knowledge and promote sustainable practices for the benefit of ecosystems and societies alike.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Plant pathology
- Food and Nutrition
- Plant reproductive biology and plant breeding
- Ecology of wet and dry zone forest ecosystems
- Restoration ecology (restoration of degraded habitats) and Forest die-back
- Rhizobiology, Soil fertility and soil management
- Plant systematics and Phylogenetics
- Microbiology
- Biodiversity conservation and management
- Wild crop relatives and conservation of their germplasm
- Postharvest technology of fruits, vegetables, cut foliate and flowers
- Seed biology
- Invasion of alien exotic plants

11.10 Science Education

The research in the field of Science Educationis dedicated to advancing science and mathematics education across a spectrum of disciplines, with a particular emphasis on Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and Mathematics, along with IT, Agriculture, Environmental Science, and Earth Science. Through collaborative efforts and innovative methodologies, we aim to enhance teaching practices, curriculum development, and educational policies to foster deeper understanding and engagement among learners. In Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and Mathematics, our investigations delve into effective pedagogical approaches, conceptual frameworks, and assessment strategies to promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for success in scientific

inquiry. Additionally, we explore the integration of Information Technology (IT) tools and resources to enrich learning experiences and facilitate access to diverse educational materials. Moreover, our research extends to the realms of Agriculture, Environmental Science, and Earth Science. By leveraging interdisciplinary perspectives and evidence-based practices, we strive to empower educators, policymakers, and stakeholders to cultivate a scientifically literate and mathematically proficient society capable of addressing complex challenges and driving innovation.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Science and Mathematics education related research mainly in the four major subject areas, Chemistry, Physics, Biology and Mathematics, IT, Agriculture, Environmental Science, Earth Science

11.11 Statistics and Computer Science

The research in the field of Statistics and Computer Science spans computer science, statistics, and data analysis, focusing on advanced methodologies for complex challenges. Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) and Fuzzy Modeling are fundamental tools for modeling intricate systems and extracting meaningful patterns. Image Processing enhances quality and automates analysis in medical imaging, remote sensing, and computer vision. Database Systems and Web Technologies enable efficient data management and user-friendly interfaces, while expertise in Computer Networks ensures reliable communication. In statistical modeling, we specialize in Mixed and Ridge Regression, alongside Inference on Exponential Families, Categorical, Time Series, Spatial, and Multivariate Analysis. Through collaboration, we drive innovation for real-world impact.

Current research programmes/ collaborations:

- Artificial neural networks and fuzzy modeling
- Image processing and analysis
- Database systems
- Web technologies
- Computer networks
- Distributed systems
- Mixed regression and ridge regression estimation
- Inference on exponential family of distributions
- Categorical data analysis
- Time series analysis
- Spatial analysis
- Multivariate analysis (Manova, principal component, cluster, factor, discriminant, canonical, correlation)

11.12 Zoological Sciences

Research in Zoological Sciences fosters a deeper appreciation for the intricate connections between all living organisms and a balance between humans and nature while striving to bridge scientific knowledge with practical applications such as biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability, sustainable agriculture, and animal and human health. Environmental Zoology focuses on systematics, evolutionary relationships, animal behavior, impact of habitat loss, climate change, and pollution on wildlife, strategies to protect endangered species, sustainable environmental management and wildlife preservation. Medical Zoology focuses on animals that impact human health, particularly in relation to the transmission of diseases. This field examines how various animal species, including insects, rodents, and other vectors, play a role in spreading infectious and investigate the biology and behavior of these animals to develop strategies for controlling disease outbreaks. We also explore Zoonotic diseases, providing critical insights for both disease prevention and public health management. Research in Applied Zoology explores numerous aspects of animal behavior, ecology, genetics, diseases and physiology to inform conservation efforts, improve pest control and livestock management, develop sustainable agricultural practices, and enhance both animal and human health.

Current research programmes / collaborations:

- Systematics and Evolutionary
- Biology Wildlife Conservation and Management

- Ecology and Environmental Science
- Marine Biology
- Ethology
- Medical Entomology
- Vector Biology
- Agricultural Entomology and Pest Management
- Parasitology
- Environmental Health
- Limnology
- Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries
- Epidemiology and Public Health

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

POSTDOCTORAL AND VISITING SCHOLAR FELLOWSHIPS

12

12 POSTDOCTORAL AND VISITING SCHOLAR FELLOWSHIPS

12.1 Introduction

The PGIS provide Postdoctoral Fellowships to provide training across disciplines and Visiting Scholars to undertake collaborative research with the relevant institutions while contributing to the intellectual and research endeavors, as a part of the mission of the PGIS. This programme aims to facilitate to conduct research for a limited number of distinguished scholars from other academic institutions or accomplished professionals.

The postdoctoral fellow offer is a short-term research position that provides further training in a particular field. During this period, the Postdoctoral Fellows/Visiting Scholars have an opportunity to conduct independent research, sharpen technical skills, and focus on their research interests. Further, the PGIS will provide an office room with an internet facility, the facilities to conduct research, laboratory space, access to libraries, health center, recreational facilities, etc. to the PGIS Postdoctoral Fellows/ Visiting Scholars.

The PGIS offers two types of positions.

PGIS-funded Postdoctoral Fellows

Self-funded/Nationally or internationally funded Postdoctoral Fellows/Visiting Scholars

12.2 PGIS-funded Postdoctoral Fellows/ Self-funded/Nationally or Internationally-funded Postdoctoral Fellows/Visiting Scholars

The appointment is temporary, full-time basis as outlined in the appointment letter, and has fixed starting and end dates. Further, a Postdoctoral Fellow/Visiting Scholar is required to work five days per week inclusive of weekends.

The Postdoctoral Fellow/Visiting Scholar shall work independently in collaboration with a supervisor/mentor who is an academic member associated with the PGIS.

Initial appointment at the PGIS is for six months for the PGIS funded Postdoctoral Fellows.

However, for Postdoctoral Fellows/Visiting Scholars with outside funding, the duration is the length of their fellowship award funding.

The Postdoctoral Fellow/Visiting Scholar is not allowed to engage in any other full-time work or research during the period of the said appointment.

The PGIS-funded Postdoctoral Fellows may not undertake any paid employment outside the PGIS without the prior approval of the Director/PGIS.

The selected Postdoctoral Fellows/Visiting Scholar are expected to participate actively in the activities of the PGIS based on the recommendation of the Director/PGIS.

A Postdoctoral Fellow/Visiting Scholar is permitted to teach up to one course per semester in the postgraduate programmes conducted by the PGIS for additional payments at the PGIS rates.

12.3 Application and Selection Procedure

The PGIS offers a limited number of grants for postdoctoral applicants, and suitable applicants are selected from a committee appointed by the Board of Management of the PGIS.

The applicant should use the PGIS format given in the link (give the link to the PGIS research proposal).

The panel appointed by the Board of Management of the PGIS, will evaluate all applications received in a given year based on the academic record, and scientific quality of the research proposal, aligned with the mission of the PGIS.

12.4 Progress and Extension

Extension and monitoring of the progress of the Postdoctoral Fellow shall be evaluated by a three-member panel appointed by the Research Grant Committee (RGC) of the PGIS.

Extension of the position for which the PGIS funded postdoctoral positions will be based on the progress and the recommendation of the supervisor/mentor and a three-member panel appointed by the RGC of the PGIS. The extension of such cases will be a maximum of two years.

All Postdoctoral Fellows should submit a one-page monthly progress report through the supervisor/mentor to the Director, PGIS (Format- according to the PGIS).

A Postdoctoral Fellow shall present his/her progress in the research in every six months to the panel appointed by the RGC of the PGIS.

All Postdoctoral Fellows/Visiting Scholars should submit a final report based on the research carried out during the tenure at the PGIS through the supervisor/mentor to the Director PGIS (Format- according to the PGIS).

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

CELLS, UNITS, COMMITTEES AND EVENTS

13

13 CELLS, UNITS AND COMMITTEES

13.1 Introduction

The PGIS has various units and committees aimed at enriching the academic experience and supporting the diverse needs of our students, faculty, and stakeholders. From ensuring the highest standards of quality assurance to nurturing entrepreneurial spirit and ethical research practices, each unit and committee plays a pivotal role in shaping our institution's culture of excellence and advancing our collective mission.

13.2 Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

Established in 2020 according to the guidelines given by the Quality Assurance Council of the University Grants Commission, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) has a broad mandate of coordinating all the quality assurance related activities within the institute in liaison with the Centre of Quality Assurance of the University. The IQAC promotes measures for institutional level functioning towards quality enhancement through internalizing of best practices in academic, academic-related and administrative processes.

13.3 Industrial and Entrepreneur Unit (IEU)

The unit is managing and handling all industrial and entrepreneurial activities of PGIS. The unit collaborates with various business parties, industries, institutes, investors, and grant bodies to facilitate industrial programmes and the entrepreneurship of PGIS.

13.4 Industrial and Entrepreneurship Programmes

13.3.1 PGIS Industrial Support Programme

Core industrial oriented research and development areas of PGIS

- Mineral based value-added products
- Pharmaceuticals and healthcare products
- Agricultural and Food product development
- Cosmetics and Nutraceuticals
- Packaging solutions
- Natural products
- Waste to products, waste treatment and waste minimization technologies
- Air and water purification
- Agricultural and Food product development
- Smart devices and sensors
- Data science solutions and Big Data Analysis
- Polymer Technology
- Smart textiles
- Energy storage and harvesting
- Analytical Equipment and Instrument Manufacturing and Maintenance

Research engagement models

Invest on already competed project/product to commercialize

Investors are invited to invest on already completed projects with commercial potential in order to bring the project to next level of commercialization.

Fund a research assistant

The industry or investor is allowed to submit a research proposal or research idea. PGIS can provide suitable research assistant to work full time on project subjecting to research agreements prepared case by case. The research assistant can be an MPhil student working full time for minimum 2 years, PhD student working full time minimum for 3 years or MSc student working on 1 year research project.

Client R & D projects

3-12 months research and development projects can be provided to PGIS. The PGIS expert team of the relevant area will evaluate and have initial discussions with the client. Then, PGIS will develop a research proposal with inputs of the client. When the client is satisfied with the proposal, PGIS will start the project. Please note that PGIS is taking a research engagement fee to develop a research proposal which will be waved off after engaging with the project.

13.5 Short Courses/Training Programmes/Workshops

The PGIS routinely conducts conferences, short courses, in-service training programmes, workshops, seminars, etc. of national and global importance. The PGIS advertises these programmes on the PGIS website: www.pgis.lk from time to time. The Institute also conducts tailor-made training programmes depending on the demand.

13.6 Scientific and Industry Consultancy Services

The PGIS also offers scientific consultancy services in various disciplines of science to the local industry and public/private sector institutions. The relevant application form can be downloaded from the PGIS website; www.pgis.pdn.ac.lk.

13.7 Outreach Activities

The outreach activities include public lectures, newspaper/magazine articles, TV/radio programmes and camps/ visits throughout the country for the dissemination of scientific information. In addition, advice, consultation, guidance and scientific/laboratory services are provided to industry and other organizations/institutions on request.

13.8 Data Science Unit

The Data Science Unit (DSU) provides on-demand access to High Performance Computing (HPC) services that support high-quality research for using supercomputers, parallel computing and/or computer clusters which are essential for dealing with large scale data. The services of this unit will help researchers to perform advanced computing tasks including modelling, data processing and analysis. We run a local cluster called “Pera” which provides facilities for postgraduate students and teaching staff of the PGIS. Those who need to access HPC resources have to register online.

13.9 Ethical Clearance Committee

The Committee for Ethical Clearance of the PGIS reviews research involving human participants and animal subjects, for ethical aspects. The Committee operates under the Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures recommended by the Forum for Ethics Review Committees of Sri Lanka and functions in accordance with national and international guidelines.

13.10 Research Grant Committee

The Research Grant Committee of PGIS oversees the Institute's research and development activities. It administers annual research grant programmes, supports academics in securing and managing external funding, and guides early-career graduates in developing research careers. The Committee also works to attract donations to enhance infrastructure and promotes research dissemination and publications.

13.11 Student Grievance Committee

The Counseling Unit offers solutions to the problems of PGIS students and staff. It also designs and organizes motivational activities and events for students and staff to achieve their goals successfully.

13.12 Career Guidance and Development Unit

The unit aims to guide and develop the career of PGIS students. The unit arranges training needs of PGIS students, development and revision of curricula to meet career needs, and organizes interview sessions between PGIS graduates and employers.

13.13 Excellence in Biodiversity Research Unit

The global concern on conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity has strongly emphasized the need for trained taxonomists, geneticists, and ecologists to assist in the identification, classification, and assessing the genetic diversity of plants, animals, and other organisms in conservation areas as well as understanding the ecosystem structure, functions, and their dynamics. Conservationists, foresters, agriculturists, Ayurveda practitioners, medical researchers, and many biologists working with plants and animals are heavily dependent either on taxonomic documentation or gathering ecological information with the ultimate aim of managing ecosystems sustainably. This need is strongly felt by a country like Sri Lanka where the biodiversity is rich and at the same time is highly threatened and depleting at an alarming rate. At present, together with the Western Ghats of India, Sri Lanka is listed as one of the Biodiversity Hotspots of the world. The growing awareness that biodiversity is a precious global asset to present and future generations and that species' survival and the integrity of habitats and ecosystems are at serious risk has increased the importance of biodiversity-related research significantly. To mitigate these issues related to the depletion of biodiversity and contribute towards the country's sustainable conservation goals, PGIS established a Unit for Excellence in Biodiversity Research to facilitate multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research and other outreach activities related to biodiversity and its management and conservation. This promotes collaborative research work by setting the stage for researchers from various areas to work together like Ecology, Genetics, Genomics, Systematics and Phylogenetics, Evolutionary Biology, Bioinformatics, Forestry, Microbiology, Mycology, Modeling, Environmental Archaeology, and Behavioral Ecology.

13.14 Multidisciplinary Disaster Research Unit

The Unit for Multidisciplinary Disaster Research (UMDR) focuses on advancing disaster knowledge through interdisciplinary collaboration. UMDR leads efforts in disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery, linking national and international research communities. It trains scholars and practitioners in disaster management and supports policy development to build a disaster-resilient society. Operating under the PGIS's Management Committee, UMDR also engages the public by disseminating disaster knowledge. UMDR aims to be a national leader in disaster research, contributing significantly to both academic and practical advancements.

13.15 Media Unit

The PGIS Media unit brings PGIS events and activities to the public. The unit manages the social media pages of PGIS, creates educational videos, publishes activities and achievements in media, advertises academic programmes, and promotes PGIS at the international level.

13.15 Events

13.15.1 Workshop on Scientific Writing

The Workshop on Scientific Writing was conducted by the PGIS to enhance the scientific communication skills of postgraduate students and researchers. The workshop focused on the structure of scientific papers, effective academic language, and best practices for publishing in peer-reviewed journals. Participants were introduced to ethical writing practices, proper citation methods, and strategies to avoid plagiarism. Interactive sessions and practical examples helped participants improve the clarity and coherence in their own research writing. The workshop contributed to strengthening the quality and impact of postgraduate research at PGIS.

13.15.2 RESCON

RESCON (Research Congress) is the flagship annual postgraduate research conference hosted by the PGIS, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Since its inception in 2014, RESCON has grown into one of the country's most significant scientific gatherings, providing a vibrant platform for scholars, researchers, and postgraduate students to present their work, exchange ideas, and forge collaborative networks across disciplines

At its core, RESCON celebrates interdisciplinary research excellence and promotes intellectual engagement across a wide array of scientific fields. The congress typically features keynote addresses**,** oral and poster presentations**,** technical sessions, and opportunities for professional development, making it an essential event in the PGIS academic calenda.

13.15.3 Water symposium

The Annual PGIS Water Symposium brings together students, researchers, and industry experts to explore critical issues related to water resources and sustainability. The symposium featured presentations on water quality, hydrology, aquatic ecosystems, and sustainable water use. Experts shared research findings and practical solutions addressing water pollution and climate-related impacts on water systems. The event encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange among participants. Overall, the symposium contributed to advancing research and policy-relevant discussions on sustainable water management.

13.15.4 The International Symposium on Microplastics Pollution – SYMP

he International Symposium on Microplastics Pollution (SYMP) is a dedicated scientific forum organized by the Board of Study in Environmental Science at the PGIS. The symposium brings together researchers, academics, policymakers, and practitioners to address the pressing global issue of microplastic pollution, its sources, impacts, and solutions.

13.15.5 International Journal of Environmental Issues (IJEI):

International Journal of Environmental Issues (IJEI) is published by the PGIS, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. It reconnoiters all aspects of global environmental issues and conceivable remedial actions to safeguard the quality of the environmental compartments: the lithosphere, the hydrosphere, the biosphere and the atmosphere, through publications in different disciplines, including air, water and soil pollution, sustainable management of environmental quality, environmental monitoring, industrial emissions and their consequences, and environmental issues affecting human health, under the umbrella of environmental science.

13.15.6 PGIS Newsletter

The PGIS Newsletter serves as an official platform to share important academic updates, institutional developments, and achievements of the PGIS. It features highlights of academic programmes, research activities, conferences, workshops, and student accomplishments. The newsletter also showcases collaborations, outreach initiatives, and contributions of staff and students to the scientific community. Through regular publication, the PGIS Newsletter aims to keep stakeholders informed and engaged with the institute's ongoing progress

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

FACILITIES

14

14 FACILITIES

The PGIS provides a range of academic, research, and student support facilities to ensure a conducive environment for postgraduate learning, research, and professional development. These facilities are designed to support coursework, independent research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and student well-being, in line with the academic standards and research-intensive mandate of PGIS. Access to these resources enhances the overall postgraduate experience and supports students in achieving the intended learning and research outcomes of their respective programmes.

14.1 Library

Postgraduate students are provided with library facilities through the Library of the Faculty of Science, which supports advanced learning and research activities at the PGIS. The library holds a comprehensive collection of books, reference materials, and journal titles relevant to postgraduate study. In addition, it subscribes annually to a substantial number of foreign and local journals. A dedicated collection of project reports and theses from all MSc, MPhil, and PhD degree programmes offered by the PGIS is maintained to support research and scholarly inquiry. Audio-visual facilities are also available to facilitate learning and research presentations.

Arrangements may be made to access the Main Library and other faculty libraries of the University of Peradeniya. Where necessary, the PGIS may also facilitate access to external libraries and specialized collections within Sri Lanka through prior arrangements with relevant institutions.

14.2 Lecture Rooms and Auditoriums

The PGIS buildings are equipped with lecture rooms, smart classrooms, two auditoriums, and a boardroom furnished with modern audio-visual facilities. These spaces support postgraduate teaching, seminars, workshops, guest lectures, research presentations, and academic meetings conducted as part of the PGIS degree programmes.

14.3 Laboratories and Instrumentation

At present the Departments of Botany, Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Physics, Statistics and Computer Science, and Zoology in the Faculty of Science provide laboratory facilities to postgraduate students of the PGIS to carry out their work. In addition, for certain courses and research programmes laboratories in other institutions are also used by prior arrangement. At present, the PGIS has a chemistry/environmental laboratory. In addition, the PGIS will be able to house teaching laboratories and research laboratories in its new building.

PGIS is in the process of developing its instrumentation laboratories by installing state-of- the-art instrumentation. At present, there are three instrumentation laboratories for teaching/research purposes, with a new X-ray diffraction facility.

14.4 ICT/GIS and Data Science Laboratories

ICT, GIS, and data science laboratory facilities are available to fulfil the computational and analytical requirements of postgraduate programmes across all fields of study. Internet facilities are provided for both students and staff to support teaching, learning, and research activities. In addition, computer laboratories at the Department of Statistics and Computer Science of the Faculty of Science provide services to postgraduate students of the PGIS.

The PGIS is in the process of establishing a new computer laboratory to support computationally intensive

data processing, modelling, simulation, and interdisciplinary research. The ICT/GIS laboratories provide access to a wide range of software relevant to postgraduate coursework and research.

14.5 Recreation

A reading room and a student common room are available for postgraduate student use at the PGIS. In addition, facilities for athletics, cricket, hockey, rugby, soccer, volleyball, tennis, and swimming are available within the University premises. A well-equipped gymnasium located near the Institute provides opportunities for indoor sports such as badminton, basketball, table tennis, and weightlifting. A theatre for screening films and documentaries, as well as an open-air theatre for dramas and cultural activities, are also available on the University campus.

14.6 Healthcare

The Health Centre, headed by the Chief Medical Officer, provides preventive and curative healthcare services to the University community, including postgraduate students of the PGIS. A 24-hour medical service is available to attend to emergencies. Cases that cannot be managed at the Health Centre are referred to the Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya, or the Teaching Hospital, Kandy.

14.7 Counselling & Psychological Support

The on-campus Counselling and Psychological Support Unit (CaPSU), based at the Health Centre, offers confidential counselling services to postgraduate students. Students may contact CaPSU via the dedicated phone line (070 1 343 444) to speak with a trained mental-health counsellor or to arrange an appointment.

- On-site counselling is available on weekdays from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm
- Online counseling is offered weekdays from 4.00 pm to 8.30 pm
  and
  Saturdays from 4.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

14.8 Study Rooms

Study rooms at the PGIS provide quiet and comfortable spaces for postgraduate students to engage in individual and group study. These rooms support focused learning, academic discussions, and research collaboration. The availability of dedicated study spaces enhances the postgraduate academic experience by facilitating uninterrupted study, preparation for coursework and examinations, and research activities. This facility reflects PGIS's commitment to supporting postgraduate learning and research.

Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS)
University of Peradeniya

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

15

15 CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

15.1 Introduction

As part of our commitment to nurturing well-rounded scholars and fostering a vibrant campus culture, we facilitate and support a diverse range of clubs and societies. Through these student bodies, we facilitate opportunities for research engagement, professional skill development, leadership, networking, and social interaction, thereby enriching the postgraduate academic experience and promoting lasting professional connections. In this chapter, we outline the objectives and activities of each student body and explain how our students may become involved. We encourage all postgraduate students to actively engage in these initiatives and contribute meaningfully to the academic, professional, and social life of our Institute.

15.2 Young Researchers Forum

The PGIS Young Researchers Forum (PGIS-YRF) was established on 12th May 2005 at a seminar titled *"Challenges and Opportunities in Scientific Research for Young Researchers"* conducted by the PGIS. The Forum was established with the following objectives:

- To realize the potential of young researchers as the next generation of scientists
- To promote interaction and exchange of information related to scientific research and to facilitate local and international collaboration
- To generate a research climate that encourages creativity, open communication, and the free flow of ideas and talents
- To provide a platform to highlight issues faced by young researchers in conducting scientific research in Sri Lanka
- To promote public awareness of the importance of scientific research

15.3 Science Education Alumni Association (SEAA)

The Science Education Alumni Association (SEAA) was established with the following objectives:

- To encourage, foster, and promote close relationships between the PGIS and its alumni, and among alumni themselves
- To initiate and develop alumni programmes for the benefit of graduates and current students
- To disseminate information related to Science Education programmes among alumni
- To pursue other objectives consistent with the aims and objectives of the Association

15.4 Computer Science Alumni Association (CSAA)

The Computer Science Alumni Association (CSAA) was established on 15th November 2015 with the following objectives:

- To bring together graduates from all batches of the Computer Science Postgraduate Diploma, MSc, MPhil, and PhD programmes conducted at PGIS since its inception in 2000
- To contribute to the advancement of the PGIS by supporting its academic, research, and professional objectives
- To promote continued research engagement and high-quality contributions to the field of Computer Science

ANNEXURES

Annexure I **MPhil/PhD Course Work Requirement form (Form 5.7.1.IA)**

http://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd-coursework_req_form.pdf

Annexure II **Completion of MPhil/PhD Course Work Requirement – Certification (Form 5.7.1.IB)**

http://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd-course_work_comp_req_cer.pdf

Annexure III **Progress report of postgraduate students (MPhil & PhD)**

https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd_progress_report_202601.pdf

Annexure IV **MPhil/PhD - Initial Submission of the Thesis (Form 5.11.1A)**

https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd_thesis_init_sub_2026_jan.pdf

Annexure V **Check List for MPhil/PhD Students for Acceptance of Spiral-bound Copy of the Thesis**

http://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd-check_list.pdf

Annexure VI **Final Submission of the MPhil/PhD Thesis (Form 5.11.3A)**

https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd_thesis_final_sub_2026_jan.pdf

Annexure VII **Re-submission of the MPhil/PhD Thesis (Form 5.11.1B)**

https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd_thesis_after_major_corrections_2026_jan.pdf

Annexure VIII **Application for Upgrading Degree Status: MPhil to PhD (Form 5.10A)**

http://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/app_mphil_to_phd.pdf

Annexure IX **Format of the MPhil/PhD Research Project Proposal**

https://www.pgis.lk/downloads/students/mphil_phd_research_proposal_format.pdf

PGIS HANDBOOK 2026

Published by the Postgraduate Institute of Science,
University of Peradeniya,
P.O.Box 25,
Peradeniya 20400,
Sri Lanka

Tel : +94 81 2385660, +94 81 2385667
Fax : +94 81 2389026
Web : https;//www.pgis.lk
Email : info@pgis.lk