Dear student,

The Faculty of Natural Sciences is pleased to announce the offering of the B.Sc. Special Degree Programme for the Academic Year, 2019/2020. The Special Degree will be offered in the following subjects of specialization:

- Botany
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Zoology

This programme aims to provide opportunities to develop scientific skills and knowledge application with emphasis on practical work that develop technical and analytical skills, develop positive attitude, values and transferable skills such as communication and ICT, team work and problem-solving skills required of professional scientists, to develop a pool of future scientists to give leadership in research and innovation, academics with the additional advantage of having experience in open and distance learning and enhance the potential in our undergraduates to pursue postgraduate studies here and abroad.

As outcomes of this programme, a graduate is expected to have acquired, upon completion of the Special degree, a sound knowledge and skills to understand and make informed judgement about contemporary issues, trends and developments in the area of specialization, developed critical and analytical thinking and acquired problem-solving skills and developed transferable skills and acquired practical, technical and research skills in the area of specialization in order to be able to undertake research that has relevance to the country.

We have witnessed a continued demand for Special degree graduates both in Sri Lanka and abroad and this programme is expected to offer better employment opportunities and postgraduate study prospects for students.

The curriculum of the B.Sc. Special Degree is designed to give students an in-depth knowledge of the subject of specialization and the courses have been specially selected to cater to the contemporary needs of the society. The credit value of courses, level-wise, in the subject of specialization offered at Levels 5 and 6 are in line with the credit requirement as stipulated by the Sri Lanka Qualification Framework (SLQF).

The courses for the Special Degree will be delivered via a hybrid mode of study with a considerable component of face-to-face teaching and practical sessions, field visits and a research project. Therefore, attendance is compulsory for all academic activities at Levels 5 and 6 of this programme. Please note that this programme will be conducted at CRC only.

The essential preliminary details about eligibility criteria for admission, criteria for the award of the B.Sc. Special Degree in the relevant subject of specialization and the method of selection are given below:
Eligibility criteria for admission to the Bachelor of Science Special Degree

The BSc Special Degree Programme is a four-year programme, comprising courses, adding up to a total of one hundred and twenty (120) credits from Levels 3, 4, 5 and 6. Students will be selected for the Special Degree on the completion of Level 3 and Level 4. To be eligible to register for the B.Sc. Special Degree Programme leading to the Special Degree in a particular subject, a student should fulfill the following criteria, within three (03) consecutive academic years from initial registration in B.Sc. Programme.

(a) Exemptions and/or acquired the OCAM requirements as specified to sit the final examination in sixty (60) credits at Level 3 and Level 4, and,
(b) Minimum C grades in all thirty 30 credits of courses at Level 3, and,
(c) Minimum C grades in twelve (12) credits of courses at Level 4 in the subject of specialisation, and,
(d) Minimum GPA of 3.00 at Levels 3 and 4 of the forty-two (42) credits of courses specified above in (b) and (c), and,
(e) Minimum B grades adding up to fifteen (15) credits of courses out of a total of twenty (20) credits of courses in the subject of specialization at Levels 3 and 4 taken together with at least C grades for the remaining five (5) credits, and,
(f) Minimum C grade or exemption for the courses CYE3200, LEE3410 and CSE3213.

Award of the Degree of Bachelor of Science Special Degree

The Programme of Study leading to the award of the Bachelor of Science Special Degree comprises courses adding up to a total of one hundred and twenty (120) credits of regular courses and continuing education courses.

To be considered for the award of the Bachelor of Science Special Degree, a student shall require to successfully complete:

(a) Thirty (30) credits at Level 3 comprising eight (08) credits each from any three chosen disciplines and six (06) credits from among specified open elective courses at Level 3, and,

(b) Thirty (30) credits at Level 4 comprising twelve (12) credits each from any two disciplines offered at Level 3 and six (06) credits from the remaining discipline chosen at Level 3, and,

(c) Thirty (30) credits at Level 5 comprising minimum of twenty-one (21) credits from the subject of specialization at Level 5, including all the compulsory courses, and, a minimum three (03) credits, and, a maximum nine (09) credits from the other two disciplines chosen at Level 3, taken together and/or up to six (06) credits of open electives, and,

(d) Thirty (30) credits at Level 6 comprising minimum of twenty-four (24) credits and maximum thirty (30) credits of courses from the subject of specialization at Level 6 (or as specified by the respective department), including all the compulsory courses, which shall include at least six (06) credits of research component, and,

(e) Minimum C grade or exemption for the courses CYE3200, LEE3410 and CSE3213
For the award of the Bachelor of Science Special Degree, a student shall require to complete the above requirements within 06 academic years from his/her initial registration to the BSc Degree Programme. Those who do not complete within the stipulated period may seek approval to be considered for the Bachelor of Science General Degree.

**Method of Selection**

Those interested in following the B.Sc. Special Degree Programme and have acquired the necessary eligibility criteria for admission as specified in this document, are required to submit the duly completed application form to Assistant Registrar/Faculty of Natural Sciences, The Open University of Sri Lanka, P.O. Box 21, Nawala, Nugegoda on or before 28th June 2019.

Please note that only those who satisfy the above criteria, based on academic performance at Levels 3 and 4 and the interview conducted by the respective Department concerned will be selected for the Special Degree in a particular subject. In case you are planning to apply more than one subject please indicate your order of subject preference for specialization in your application. If and when an applicant is not selected to follow the Special Degree in the subject of his/her first choice, he/she will be considered for the Special degree in the subject of his/her second choice, if any.

The fees for Levels 5 and 6 will be Rs. 2,640.00 per credit for the academic year 2019/2020. This fee will be revised periodically. An additional payment will be required as Laboratory fee for practical sessions for certain courses with practical components.

Please contact the relevant Heads of the Departments on or before re-registration for more details and information regarding final selection for registration for the Special degree programme.

The Application Form will be available at the Dean’s Office or in the Faculty website.

With Best Wishes

Dean/Faculty of Natural Sciences
04-06-2019
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
Faculty of Natural Sciences  
Application for B.Sc. Special Degree Programme

1. Choice

(a) Academic Year for which application is made: 20 /

(b) Indicate as 1 & 2 the order of preference of subjects for specialization (if any).

- Botany
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Zoology

2. Personal Information

Full Name:

NIC Number

Permanent Address

Details of Employment (if any)
Place of Employment
Post:
Address

Contact details
Telephone Home: Mobile:

Email:

3. Results at Level 3 and Level 4. (*place a √ in the appropriate box*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Registration to Level 3</th>
<th>Registration No:</th>
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*Attach a result sheet with grades of the courses offered at Level 3 & Level 4 in the B.Sc. Degree*

Tick (√) the box if you fulfill the following criteria, within 3 years from the initial registration to Level 3:

- I have obtained eligibility to sit final examination in the 60 credits of courses at Levels 3 and 4, as specified
- I have obtained minimum C grades in the 30 credits of courses at Level 3 and minimum C grades in 12 credits of courses at Level 4 in the subject of specialization
- I have obtained minimum GPA of 3.00 for the 42 credits of courses at Levels 3 and 4, specified above
- I have obtained minimum of B grades adding up to 15 credits out of total of 20 credits of courses in the subject of specialization at Level 3 and Level 4 taken together with at least C grades for the remaining 5 credits
- I have obtained minimum C grades or exemptions for the courses LEE3410, CYE3200 and CSE3213
I certify that the above details are true and correct. I understand that if any of the above information is inaccurate/incorrect, my application will be rejected without any consideration.

Signature: .......................................................... Date:....................

The duly completed application form should be handed over personally or sent by registered post not later than **28th June 2019** to:

Assistant Registrar/Faculty of Natural Sciences  
The Open University of Sri Lanka  
P.O. Box 21  
Nawala, Nugegoda

Name of Applicant:

The applicant is

☐ Eligible  
☐ Selected

Subject of specialization

☐ Botany  ☐ Chemistry  ☐ Mathematics  
☐ Physics  ☐ Zoology