

# THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF

# **SRI LANKA**

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS IN NATURAL SCIENCES DEGREE PROGRAMME

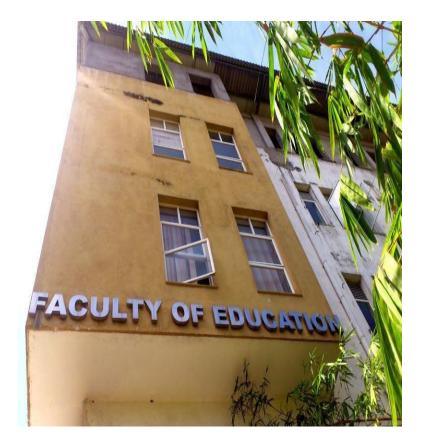
ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022



General information on Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree Programme (for Level 3 and 4 students)

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# GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS IN NATURAL SCIENCES DEGREE PROGRAMME

2020/2021

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree Programme is offered by the Faculty of Education in collaboration with the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Open University of Sri Lanka. The curriculum and the evaluation of this programme of study is determined by the two Faculties.

General information regarding the Open University, its study system and the curriculum of the Degree of Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences is introduced in this Prospectus. We would also like you to refer to the Prospectus on the B.Sc. Degree Programme offered by the Faculty of Natural sciences for further details.

As this programme is conducted in the distance mode, you will have only limited opportunities of meeting or contacting members of the academic staff. Therefore, it is essential that you read this brochure thoroughly and understand the procedures for overcoming difficulties you may face while following the programme. If you face problems with respect to any matter related to this programme, do not hesitate to contact the Co-ordinator of the programme from the Department of Secondary and Tertiary Education of the Faculty of Education.

We wish you all success with the Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree Programme!!

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#### 2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

#### 2.1 The Open University of Sri Lanka

The Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL) which was established in 1980, is a national university constituted under the University Act No. 16 of 1978 and the OUSL Ordinance No. 1 of 1990 and has the same legal and academic status as any other national university in Sri Lanka. It is one of the recognized universities in Sri Lanka where students are able to pursue further education through distance education mode.

The Open University of Sri Lanka comprises of a Central Campus which is located in Nawala, Nugegoda, nine Regional Centres (Colombo—situated in Nawala, Kandy, Matara, Jaffna, Anuradhapura, Batticaloa, Badulla, Kurunegala and Ratnapura) and 18 Study Centres.

The OUSL currently consists of six faculties, namely Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty of Management Studies and Faculty of Education.

## 2.2 Faculty of Education

Faculty of Education consists of four departments, i.e. Department of Secondary and Tertiary Education, Department of Early Childhood and Primary Education, Department of Special Needs Education and Department of Educational Leadership and Management. Department of Secondary and Tertiary Education offers Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree Programme in collaboration with the Faculty of Natural Sciences.

# 2.3 The Study System of OUSL

The OUSL adopts a multimedia study system, with a strong emphasis on distance mode of learning. Students are supported through print materials, audio-visual aids, dayschools, laboratory sessions, field work, tutor clinics, workshops and online learning.

#### 2.4 Courses and Programmes

In the Open University vocabulary, a **course** is a **unit of study**, which is generally completed within an academic year. A course can either be compulsory or optional.

A **programme of study** consists of a combination of compulsory and optional courses. To meet the criteria for the award of a Certificate, a Diploma or a Degree, it is necessary to complete a programme of study successfully. The types of study programmes offered by the Open University are as follows:

- Foundation Programmes
- Certificate Programmes
- Higher Certificate Programmes
- Diploma Programmes
- Bachelor's Degree Programmes
- Post Graduate Diploma Programmes
- Postgraduate Degree Programmes
- Continuing Education Programmes
- Stand Alone Courses

Foundation Programmes provide opportunities to enroll for Degree Programmes. These Programmes are offered in two levels namely Level 1 (F1) and Level 2 (F2). A student who completes any Foundation Programme in Arts, Commerce, Physical Sciences, Biological Sciences, or Technological Sciences attains qualifications similar to the level required to enter a conventional University.

Stand-alone Programmes are not linked to any key Programmes. These can be followed according to the individual needs of any person.

The academic value of a **Course** is expressed in terms of **Credit Rating**. It does not indicate a student's performance in an examination (E.g. - A Credit Pass at G.C.E. Ordinary Level or Advanced Level). A credit is calculated on the basis of the number of hours a student has to spend in studying a particular course of study. Eighteen (18 credits) means 450 (15 hours per week x 30 weeks) study hours. The maximum number of credits a student is permitted to register for an academic year is thirty (30). The minimum number of credits a student can register for an academic year is nine (9). Students who have enrolled for 30 credits may also enroll for **Courses** designated as Continuing Education up to a maximum limit of 9 credits.

Each course is assigned a course code consisting of seven (7) alphanumeric characters as follows:

Third letter	-The programme of study
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First two letters -field of study (See Table 1)

First digit -Level of study within the programme

Second digit -Credit rating

Last two digits -Unique serial number of course

Faculty	Field of Study	Letters in the		
,	,	Course Code		
Education	Secondary and Tertiary	ST		
	Education			
	Early Childhood and Primary	EP		
	Education			
	Special Needs Education	SN		
Natural	Botany	BY		
Sciences	Chemistry	CY		
	Pure Mathematics	PE		

Table 1: Examples for Letters used in Course Codes according to Field of Study

# 3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION ON BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS IN NATURAL SCIENCES DEGREE PROGRAMME

Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree Programme is an inter-faculty programme offered by the Faculty of Education in collaboration with the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Open University of Sri Lanka. It is of four academic years in duration, of which the first two years (Levels 3 and 4) will consist of Science courses and the next two years (Level 5 and 6) will consist of Education courses. It is a 122 credit programme in which candidates are required to acquire 30 credits each at Levels 3, 4 and 5, and 32 credits at Level 6.

This programme is specially designed for secondary school Science/Mathematics teachers, as well as for prospective Science/Mathematics teachers at secondary school.

### 3.1 Programme Learning Outcomes

After completing the Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree programme, you are expected to have the following characteristics/competencies:

 Subject/Theoretical Knowledge – Demonstrate an advanced knowledge and understanding of the core aspects of Education Critically analyse data, make judgments and propose solutions to problems in the field of Education

- Practical Knowledge and Application Construct and sustain arguments and use these arguments, ideas and techniques in problem solving in the field of Education Use practical skills and enquiry efficiently and effectively within the field of Education
- Communication Communicate/present information, ideas, issues and solutions efficiently and effectively and demonstrate awareness of the current developments in the field of Education
- Teamwork and Leadership –
   Exercise personal/team responsibility, and leadership in the professional environment/work place in the field of Education
- Creativity and Problem Solving Construct and sustain arguments and use these arguments, ideas and techniques in problem solving in the field of Education
- Managerial and Entrepreneurship skills– Take initiative, assume personal responsibility and demonstrate accountability and ability to instill entrepreneurship in the field of Education

- Information Usage and Management Thorough in transferable skills related to ICT and information literacy
- Networking and Social Skills Ability to work in teams, give leadership and promote social engagement in the field of Education
- Adaptability and Flexibility Analyse and devise appropriate strategies for adapting to changing environments
- Attitudes, Values and Professionalism –
   Exercise initiative, personal responsibility and accountability in tasks performed in the field of Education
   Demonstrate positive attitudes and social responsibility
- Vision for Life –

Clearly identify where one wants to be and develop long term goals accordingly towards Education Exercise and further develop the new competencies in Education and assume major responsibilities with confidence

 Updating self / Lifelong Learning – Undertake further training and develop additional skills that will enable them to make sound decisions
 Engage in independent learning using scholarly reviews and secondary sources of information in the field of Education

## 3.2 Admission Requirements

A person seeking admission to the Degree of Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences needs to have fulfilled at least one of the following admission requirements:

- A minimum of 03 passes in any number of sittings at the G.C.E. (A.L.) examination in approved science subjects (Applied Mathematics, Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Combined Mathematics, Higher Mathematics, Physics, Pure Mathematics, Zoology, Agriculture and Information Technology) OR
- Minimum of 30 credits from among the approved subjects in Foundation courses in Science OR
- Any other equivalent qualifications
   [See Table 1 in the B.Sc. Prospectus for further details]

# 3.3 Pre-requisites to register for Level 3 courses

Specific pre-requisites required to register for any course in a particular discipline at Level 3 over and above the general pre-requisite of a minimum of three passes in relevant courses at G.C.E. (A/L) are mentioned in Table 2.

# 3.4 Duration

A minimum of four academic years are required to complete the degree programme.

Table 2: Specific Pre-requisites Required to Register for Level 3 Courses

Discipline	Pre-requisites G.C.E (A.L.)		
Botany	Pass in Botany/Biology in G.C.E (A.L.) or Foundation		
Chemistry	Pass in Chemistry in G.C.E (A.L.) or Foundation		
Physics	Pass in Physics in G.C.E (A.L.) or Foundation		
Zoology	Pass in Zoology/Biology in G.C.E (A.L.) or Foundation		
Computer Science	3 passes in G.C.E. A/L or Foundation in approved Science subjects		
Applied Maths	Pass in Applied Maths/ Combined Maths/Higher Maths in G.C.E. A/L or Foundation in science /Foundation courses in Mathematics		
Pure Maths	Pass in Pure Maths/ Combined Maths/ Higher Maths in G.C.E. A/L or Foundation in science /Foundation courses in Mathematics		

# 3.5 Workload

A student will be required to complete courses adding up to a total of 122 credits for the Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree. The maximum number of credits a student can register for in one academic year is 30.

### 3.6 Exemptions

Candidates may be exempted from the requirement of obtaining credits in certain courses by virtue of other qualifications. Specific exemptions from Foundation levels and Level 3 are indicated in Tables 1, 2 and 4 in the B.Sc. Prospectus.

Exemptions from the Level 3 would not be given at the registration unless students apply for exemptions from a committee appointed by the Faculty of Natural Sciences beforehand. Applications for claiming exemptions can be collected from the Assistant Registrar of the Faculty. Duly completed application forms together with proof of qualifications and relevant course descriptions/syllabi should be forwarded to reach the AR/Natural Sciences on or before the date specified by the Faculty. The Faculty Exemption Committee will assess your qualifications and inform you if exemptions can be granted. It is your responsibility to claim such exemptions at registration.

Teachers who have successfully completed the 3-year Teacher Education Programme of a National College of Education and hold the Diploma in Teaching Science/ Mathematics would be exempted from Level 5 of this Programme.

A student granted an exemption from a particular course of study would be deemed to have obtained a final mark of 40 and a C grade in that particular course, irrespective of the mark he/she may have received at an equivalent course/ examination.

# 3.7 StART@OUSL [Students Academic Readiness Training at OUSL]

It is a three-month training programme to facilitate students to develop their study skills in order to become independent learners in the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system of the Open University. It comprises of three Compulsory Courses and three Optional Courses offered at Level 3, the first year of the degree programme.

# **Compulsory Courses:**

 FDE3020 Empowering for Independent Learning (EfIL) -(Free)

- LEE3410 English General Academic Purposes (EGAP) Rs. 5500/=
- CSE3213 ICT Skills Rs. 3000/=

A Student should offer all three Compulsory Courses to complete the StART@OUSL programme. However, you may also offer some of the optional courses if you so wish considering the following information:

- Social Harmony 3 Compulsory Dayschools and Multicultural Interactive Session
- Soft Skills for Personality Development 8 Activity based practical oriented workshops. Attendance compulsory for all workshops

PLEASE NOTE

- IT IS COMPULSORY THAT YOU SHOULD PASS THE EfIL COURSE (FDE3020) FOR YOU TO REGISTER AT LEVEL 4.
- IT IS COMPULSORY THAT YOU SHOULD PASS THE COURSES: LEE3410, CSE3213 and CYE3200 FOR YOU TO REGISTER AT LEVEL 5.

### 3.8. Courses

Courses offered at Level 3 of the Degree of Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences programme are given in Table 3.

Course Code	Credits	Course Title	
Discipline-based and Open Elective Courses			
Botany			
BYU3301	3	Organization of Cells and Plant Biochemistry	
BYU3500	5	Diversity of Plants	
Chemistry			
CYU3300	3	Basic Principles of Chemistry I	
CYU3201	2	Basic Principles of Chemistry II	
CYU3302	3	Basic Practical Chemistry	
Physics			
PHU3300	3	General and Thermal Physics	
PHU3301	3	Basic Electromagnetism	
PHU3202	2	Waves in Physics	
Zoology			
ZYU3500	5	Animal Life and Diversity	
ZYU3301	3	Biogeography	
Computer Science			
CSU3200	2	Introduction to Computer Programming	
CSU3301	3	Database Design and Implementation	
CSU3302	3	Data Structures & Algorithms	
Applied Mathematics			
ADU3300	3	Vector Algebra	

Table 3 - Level 3 Courses

ADU3201	2	Basic Statistics		
ADU3302	3	Differential Equations		
Pure Mather	natics			
PEU3300	3	Mathematical Logic and Mathematical Proofs		
PEU3301	3	Foundations of Mathematics		
PEU3202	2	Vector Spaces		
Open Electiv	ve Courses			
Level 3				
ADU3218	2	Basic Statistics		
DSU3298	2	Introduction to Sri Lankan Society		
FNU3200	2	Ethics in Science & Technology		
FNU3201* <sup>C</sup> s	2	Communication Skills		
LLU3261	2	Understanding Law		
MSU3208	2	Managing Your Work and People		
<b>Note:</b> ADU3218 is for Mathematics students not offering Applied Mathematics.				
Continuing	Education	Courses		
Compulsory				
ADE3200	2	Applied Calculus I		
CSE3213	2	Information & Communication Technology Skills		
CYE3200	2	Mathematics for Chemistry and Biology		
FDE3020	0	Empowering for Independent Learning (EfIL)		

LEE3410	4	English for General Academic Purposes (EGAP)
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## Abbreviations:

- \*CS Compulsory for specialization in Computer Science
- \*\* Offered only for 3-year degree

Courses offered for Level 4 of the Degree of Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences programme are given in Table 4.

Discipline-based Courses			
Course Code	Credits	Course Title	
Botany	·		
BYU4300	3	Plant Physiology	
BYU4301	3	Genetics and Evolution	
BYU4302	3	Systematics of Higher Plants and Animals	
BYU4303	3	Principles of Microbiology	
Chemistry			
CYU4300	3	Inorganic Chemistry	
CYU4301	3	Concepts in Chemistry	
CYU4302	3	Practical Chemistry II	
CYU4303	3	Organic Chemistry I	
Physics			
PHU4300	3	Modern Physics	
PHU4301	3	Electronics	
PHU4302	3	Optics	
PHU4303	3	Mathematical Methods for Physics	

Table 4 - Level 4 Courses

Zoology			
ZYU4300	3	Animal Form and Function	
ZYU4301	3	Ecology	
ZYU4302	3	Animal Development	
ZYU4303	3	Animal Behaviour	
Computer Scie	nce		
CSU4300	3	Operating Systems	
CSU4301	3	Object Oriented Programming	
CSU4302	3	System Analysis & Software Engineering	
CSU4303	3	Computer Networks	
Applied Mathematics			
ADU4300	3	Statistical Distribution Theory	
ADU4301	3	Newtonian Mechanics I	
ADU4302	3	Vector Calculus	
ADU4303	3	Applied Linear Algebra and Differential Equations	
Pure Mathemat	ics		
PEU4300	3	Real Analysis I	
PEU4301	3	Real Analysis II	
PEU4302	3	Linear Algebra	
PEU4303	3	Group Theory I	

# 3.9 Media of Instruction

The medium of instruction at Level 3 will be in either Sinhala, Tamil or English. A student may choose any one of these media.

Courses at Level 4 will be offered in English. Courses at Levels 5 and 6 are offered in Sinhala, Tamil and English; a student may choose any one of these media of instruction.

#### 3.10 Evaluation

Evaluation in this programme includes continuous assessment tests, laboratory work, fieldwork, teaching practice, observations and a project.

A student's progress is assessed continuously throughout the course by means of continuous assessment through both theory and practical assignments and at the end of the course by means of a Final Examination. Performance at continuous assessment will be considered in deciding the eligibility to sit the Final Examination.

The overall assessment mark (Z%) of a student in respect of any course shall be based on both the Overall Continuous Assessment Mark (X%) and the mark obtained at the Final Examination (Y%), and shall be computed as follows:

 For courses at Levels 3 and 4 offered by the Faculty of Natural Sciences, the following grading system shall be applied:

Each student who sits the final examination in a course will be awarded a grade dependent on the overall assessment mark (Z) as follows:

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If Y \ge 40, then Z = 0.4 \times + 0.6 Y
If 30 \le Y < 40, then Z = 0.4 \times + 0.6 Y, subject to a maximum of 40.
If Y < 30, then Z = Y
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 b) For courses offered by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences except for the course LLU3261 (Understanding Law), the following grading system shall be applied:

> If  $Y \ge 40$ , then  $Z = 0.4 \times + 0.6 Y$ If  $30 \le Y < 40$ , then  $Z = 0.4 \times + 0.6 Y$ , subject to a maximum of 40. If Y < 30, then Z = Y

 For LLU3261 Understanding Law, the following grading system shall be applied:

> If  $Y \ge 40$ , then Z = 0.3 X + 0.7 YIf  $35 \le Y < 40$ , then Z = 0.3 X + 0.7 Y, subject to a maximum of 40. If Y < 35, then Z = Y

 d) For courses offered by the Faculty of Education, the following grading system shall be applied:

> If X≥40 and Y ≥ 40, then Z = (0.4X+0.6Y)if X ≥40 and Y < 40, then Z = Y if X< 40, then Z=F (Fail)

For each course, an overall Grade and a Grade Point Value will be awarded based on Z% as shown in Table 5.

Range of Marks (Z%)	Overall Grade
85-100	A+
70-84	A
65-69	A-
60-64	B+
55-59	В
50-54	В-
45-49	C+
40-44	С
35-39	C-
30-34	D+
20-29	D
00-19	E

Table 5: The overall assessment mark Z%

 $A^+$ , A,  $A^-$ ,  $B^+$ , B,  $B^-$ ,  $C^+$ , and C are Pass grades. Absentees for a final examination will be assigned a RX Grade.

### 3.11 Fees

The fees for Levels 3 and 4 payable by the students registered for the Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree Programme 2021/2022 are given in Table 6.

Table 6: Fees for Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree Programme Level 3 & 4

Course Fee for the Academic Year 2021/2022		
Registration fee	Rs. 500.00	
Facility fee	Rs. 2,500.00	
Library facility fee	Rs. 100.00	
Refundable Lab Deposit	Rs. 1,100.00	
Tuition fees (per credit) (Levels	Rs. 2,130.00	
3 and 4)		
StART@OUSL (full package)	Rs. 8,500.00	

# Tuition Fees (for foreign students)

Students from developed countries: US\$ 113 per credit

Students from developing countries: US\$ 56.50 per credit

Tuition fees for the academic year may differ depending on the number of credits that you register for.

# Course fee

- Tuition Fee: Rs. 2,130/= per credit
- Course Materials Fee:

   For Printed Course Materials additional payment of Rs. 240/per credit will be charged
   For Soft copy of Course Materials (pdf file): Free of charge
- Number of Credits of regular courses to be offered/registered per year – between 8-30
- Students will initially receive a voucher corresponding to 24 credits. For this first instalment you will have to pay 60% of Tuition. The payment may be reduced at the time of registration if you wish to register for a lesser number of credits.
- Those who fail in examinations are required to re-register and pay for courses which they have repeated.

## Payment of Tuition Fee

 $1^{st}$  Installment (30%) at Registration,  $2^{nd}$  Installment (30%) – after 8 weeks of registration,  $3^{rd}$  Installment (20%) – after 16 weeks of registration,  $4^{th}$  Installment (20%) – after 24 weeks of registration.

All other fees (Registration Fee, Exemption Fee, Facilities Fee, Course Materials Fee, etc. to be paid at the Registration in full)

### Note:

If you wish to cancel your registration and withdraw from the programme of study, you will be required to inform the relevant Assistant Director/Regional Center.

A refund will be made only if you notify before the Add/Drop date.

You will be receiving **two separate vouchers;** one for B.Sc. programme and the other for StART@OUSL Programme.

You are required to make **payments for both vouchers** before coming for registration.

# 3.12 Award of the Degree

The Degree of Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences will be awarded in accordance with the provisions of the Open University Regulations.

# **APPENDIX I**

# Instructions to fill the ONLINE Application Form of the Bachelor of Education Honours in Natural Sciences Degree Programme 2021/ 2022

1. Apply online by visiting our webage <u>https://reginfo.ou.ac.lk/applyonline/</u> and obtain a user name and password.

Note:

• You need to provide information considered as MANDATORY including an email address and a mobile number, both of which may be your own. The officials may use them to communicate with you, to acknowledge receipt of your applications and to provide you additional information as and when necessary.

• All OUSL Centres will provide internet facilities for those who do not have access; see Table 7 for contact details and locations of OUSL Centres.

- 2. Go to "Online Application," fill the form and submit it.
- 3. Application fee: Rs. 350.00 payable by cash or credit/debit card

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# Appendix II: Locations of OUSL Regional and Study Centres

Centre	Code	Address and Telephone Numbers
The Open University Regional Centres (OURC)		
Colombo	WP10	OURC, Nawala, Nugegoda (011-2853930)
Jaffna	NP40	OURC, Browns Road, Kokuvil, Jaffna (021-2223374)
Kandy	CP20	OURC, Polgolla, Kandy (081-2494083 - 081-2494084)
Matara	SP30	OURC, Nupe, Matara (041-2222943)
Anuradhapura	NC50	OURC, Jayanthi Mawatha (Depot Area), Anuradhapura (025-2222871)
Batticaloa	EP60	OURC, 23, New Road, Batticaloa (065-2222264)
Badulla	UP80	OURC, 08, Bandaranayaka Mw, Badulla, (055-2228842)
Kurunegala	NW70	OURC, Negombo Rd, (Nissanka Mw Junction), Malkaduwawa, Kurunegala (037-2223473)
Ratnapura	SG90	OURC, Hiddellana, Ratnapura (045-2228660)
The Open University Study Centres (OUSC)		
Ambalangoda	SP31	80/1, Polwatte Road, Halwatura Ambalangoda (091-2258585)
Ambalanthota	SP33	Rajasaranagama Road, Lunama South, Ambalanthota (047-2225533)
Ampara	EP61	Inginiyagala Road, Samapura, Ampara. (063-2222052)
Bandarawela	UP81	St. Thomas Road, Wewatenna, Bandarawela (057-2222820)
Galle	SP32	Labuduwa, Galle (091-2223784)
Gampaha	WP11	Gampaha Road, Miriswatte, Mudungoda.( 033-2234571/033-2234572)
Hatton	CP21	Thondaman Vocational Training Centre, Hatton (051-2225139)
Kalutara	WP12	66/2, Nagoda Road, Kalutara (034-2223399)
Kegalle	SG91	Kumaratunge Munidasa Mawatha, Kegalle (035-2222501)
Moneragala	UP82	Technical College Junction, Sirigala, Potuvil Road, Moneragala (055-2277395)
Polonnaruwa	NC51	24th Mile Post Bendiwewa Jayanthipura, Polonnaruwa (027-2225776)
Puttalam	NW71	1/137, Colombo Road, Puttalam (032-2266822)
Vavuniya	NP41	366, Kandy Road, Thekkawaththai, Vavuniya (024-2222995)
Killinochchi	NP42	155 <sup>th</sup> Mile Post, Kandy Road, Killinochchi (021-2283970)
Trincomalee	EP62	26/A, Post Office Rd, Trincomalee (026-2222088)
Kuliyapitiya	NW72	Technical College, Kuliyapitiya, (037-2281181, 037-2281271)
Mullaitiv	NP43	Aathiparasakthy Ariviyal College, Ward No. 04, Irranaippalai Veethy, Puthukkudiyiruppu, Mullaithiv.
Mannar	NP44	OUSC, RDS Building, Minor Seminary Road, Chavatkaddu, Mannar. (0232-251999)

#### Programme Co-ordinator:

Ms. S.A.S. Kaushalya Perera, Lecturer, Dept. of Secondary and Tertiary Education, Faculty of Education. <u>saper@ou.ac.lk</u>