



OUSL

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

PROSPECTUS

MASTER OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY

ACADEMIC YEAR

2026/27

DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL STUDIES



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Entry Requirements

Candidates should meet one of the following criteria:

- A degree from a recognized university with at least one year of work experience preferably in planning, administration, or implementation of development projects, or
- An equivalent or higher qualification acceptable to the Senate of the Open University of Sri Lanka with at least one year of relevant work experience, and
- Selection through an interview conducted by the Department of Social Studies, as needed.

Master of Arts in Development Studies and Public Policy

This is a programme of minimum two years duration. This programme offers you knowledge and research skills from a multi-disciplinary approach to development.

Drawing on the academic and professional experience and expertise of our faculty, the MA in Development Studies and Public Policy offers you a unique post-graduate study programme with a policy focus.

Programme Structure

Regular Courses: 45 credits. The courses are from the core social science disciplines of economics, politics, sociology and mass communication.

Research Work: 15 credits

Continuing Education Courses: 3 credits

The two academic years are divided into four semesters

Course Fee Structure

Registration Fee:

- Local students: Rs. 1500.00
- Foreign students: USD 200

Facility Fee: Rs. 2500.00**Library Facility Fee: Rs. 200.00****Tuition Fee Per Credit:**

- Local students: Rs. 2310.00
- From developed countries: USD 60
- From developing countries: USD 30

Refundable Deposit for Foreign Students: USD 500**Payment Installments:**

Tuition fees can be paid in two installments:

- 1st installment: 60%
- 2nd installment: 40%

**For Further Details, Please Contact:****Prof. Thiwankee****Wickramasinghe**

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Detailed Curriculum: MA in Development Studies and Public Policy

Level 9 (MA 1st year)

Course code	Course title	Credits	Semester
DSP9411	Practices of Development: Theories and Concepts	4	1
DSP9402	Economics of Development	4	1
DSP9403	Sociology of Development	4	1
DSP9312	Systematic Approach to Sustainable Development	3	1
DSE 9301	Critical Reading and Academic Writing	3	1
DSP9413	Evolution and Development of Public Policy in Sri Lanka	4	2
DSP9406	Politics of Development	4	2
DSP9407	Development Communication for Behavior and Social Change	4	2
DSP9314	Development Project Management	3	2
Total		33	

Level 10 (MA 2nd year)

Course code	Course title	Credits	Semester
DSPA202	Development Strategies and Policies	2	1
DSPA302	Contemporary Economic Thought and Public Policy	3	1
DSPA303	Contemporary Social Thought and Public Policy	3	1
DSPA304	Contemporary Political Thought and Public Policy	3	1
DSPA405	Research Methodology in Social Sciences	4	1
DSPAF06	Dissertation	15	2
Total		30	