

Centre for Distance and Continuing Education (CDCE), University of Kelaniya

Requirements for award of the Bachelor of Arts degree

The requirements for award of the BA degree have been amended according to the University Grants Commission (UGC) Circular numbers 932 and 01/2021. These guidelines will be applicable to students selected for the academic year 2016 onwards.

1. Programme of study

The programme of study is divided into three academic years. The three academic years are named as Level One, Level Two and Level Three respectively.

2. Subjects of study

The main subjects for the Bachelor of Arts degree are offered collaboratively by the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Social Sciences. Students are required to complete three main subjects for award of the degree.

3. Course Units

Each main subject is divided into course units, each of which is given a value known as 'credits' based on the volume of work required to complete the course unit. Course units are of three types: Compulsory, Optional and Auxiliary course units. The abbreviations are C/O/A respectively.

4. Credits

One Credit recognizes 50 notional hours of learning. This could consist of 15 hours of lecture and 35 hours of self-study or 50 hours of practical classes. One Credit is also considered equivalent to 100 hours of workplace-based training. If a certain course unit requires 30 hours of lecture and 70 hours of self-study, that course unit receives a value of 2 credits. In order to qualify for award of the BA degree, a student is expected to complete a minimum of 90 credits in the three levels of the degree programme, with 30 credits for each level.

5. Grade Point Average (GPA)

Grade Point Average is a mathematical value given for the result of the degree. Grade Point Average is counted by multiplying the grade received, by the grade point value, and dividing the total of grades by the number of credits. For example, when the student completes two course units with 4 credits, one course unit with 3 credits and one course unit with 2 credits, and receives A, B+, B- and C+ respectively, the grade point average is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{4 \times 4.0 + 4 \times 3.3 + 3 \times 2.7 + 2 \times 2.3}{4 + 4 + 3 + 2} \\ &= \frac{16 + 13.2 + 8.1 + 4.6}{13} = \frac{41.9}{13} = 3.22 \end{aligned}$$

6. Calculating Grade Point Average (GPA)

In calculating the GPA, at least 90 credits from the compulsory course units with the highest grades are considered. The GPA is rounded to the approximate two decimal points.

7. Range of Marks and Grade Point Value (GPV)

The following table indicates the Grades and the Grade Point Value for a determined Range of Marks.

Range of Marks	Grade	Grade Point Value
85-100	A+	4.0
70-84	A	4.0
65-69	A-	3.7
60-64	B+	3.3
55-59	B	3.0
50-54	B-	2.7
45-49	C+	2.3
40-44	C	2.0
35-39	C-	1.7
30-34	D+	1.3
25-29	D	1.0
00-24	E	0.0

8. Criteria for award of Bachelor of Arts degree

The following requirements should be fulfilled for award of the BA degree:

8.1	A minimum of 90 credits should be completed within three levels, with a minimum of 30 credits in each level.
8.2	'C' grades or above should be obtained for at least 24 credits from each of the three levels.
8.3	'C' grades or above should be obtained for at least 72 credits from the compulsory course units.
8.4	From the compulsory course units in the three main subjects, 'C' grades or above should be obtained for at least 60 of the 72 credits registered, with 'D' grades or above for the remaining 12 credits, inclusive of 4 credits for each of the three subjects.
8.5	From the career-based training course units, 'C' grades or above should be obtained for at least 12 credits of the 18 credits registered and 'D' grades or above for the remaining 6 credits.
8.6	A minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.00 is required.
8.7	A minimum of 300 hours should be completed in workplace-based training.
8.8	An 'E' grade should not be obtained for any of the registered course units.
8.9	All the above requirements should be fulfilled within a maximum period of six academic years.
8.10	Course units for which a student has registered but has been absent (AB) for examinations, shall be awarded 'E' grades.
8.11	Course units with grades below 'C' such as C/D+/D/E are considered to have been failed.

9. Award of Classes

The following requirements should be fulfilled in addition to the above requirements for award of the BA degree, for award of First, Second (Upper Division) or Second (Lower Division) Classes.

9.1 First Class

9.1.1	'C' grades or better for all the registered course units.
9.1.2	'A' grades or better for a minimum of 70% of the 90 credits counted for the GPA
9.1.3	A minimum GPA of 3.70.
9.1.4	All the above requirements should be completed within a period of three academic years.

9.2 Second Class (Upper) Division

9.2.1	'C' grades or better for all the registered course units.
9.2.2	'B' grades or better for a minimum of 60% of the 90 credits counted for the GPA
9.2.3	A minimum GPA of 3.30.
9.2.4	All the above requirements should be completed within a period of three academic years.

9.3 Second Class (Lower) Division

9.3.1	'C' grades or better for all the registered course units.
9.3.2	'B' grades or better for a minimum of 60% of the 90 credits counted for the GPA
9.3.3	A minimum GPA of 3.00.
9.3.4	All the above requirements should be completed within a period of three academic years.