

Background

The Department of Law came into existence in 1920 together with the Rangoon University, what is today the University of Yangon. It was one of seven original affiliated faculties of the Rangoon University.

Bachelor of Laws (BL)

During the early years the Law Department only offered a law degree known as Bachelor of Laws (BL) degree as a part-time post graduate degree course. The BL Degree consisted of a two year course of study.

Bachelor of Arts in Law (BA (Law)), Bachelor of Laws (LLB)

With advent of the Revolutionary Council after 1962, a Committee to reform legal education was established, and significant reforms were accomplished by the Higher Education Law, 1964. After 1964, it became a fulltime course. Under this system, students obtained BA (Law) degree after 4 years of study and had to continue their studies another one year for LLB degree.



Bachelor of Laws (LLB)

New system of higher education brought the fulltime legal education course in the name of LLB degree in 1965. It became a five year, full-time course of study at the Department of Law.

The Bachelor of Laws degree program remained the main vehicle for University legal studies at all Law Departments of Universities except University of Yangon and University of Mandalay till 2013 academic year. The YU Law Department, however, has re-launched its first year law classes for outstanding students starting from 2013-14 academic year. 2016-17 academic year is the fourth batch of first year law class at YU, law department.



Master of Laws (LLM)

The first postgraduate legal degree program at the Department of Law, the LLM degree program, was established in 1973. The new LLM program presently run is two years in duration. The program offers the opportunity to specialize in four different areas: Civil Law, Commercial Law, International Law, and Maritime Law.

During their first three semesters students take requisite Masters level course and are assessed by examination. During their final semester, students must undertake their own research and produce a written thesis. Students with LLB degrees are admitted into the LLM program at the University of Yangon, Department of Law after successfully passing an entrance examination.

Master of Research (MRes)

This is a one year program dedicated to researching the law. Students are required to develop and produce a significant piece of scholarship during their candidacy. LL.M degree holders who are qualified to do research are admitted to this program.



Doctoral Program (PhD)

Since 1999, the Department of Law has offered PhD degree program which has consistently been in high demand. The duration of the doctoral course is five years. The first year is a preliminary qualifying year, which includes methodological and theoretical study.

The remaining four years are devoted to the preparation of the candidate's dissertation. Eligibility to enter the program is limited to LL.M degree holder academic staff and ministerial staff with two or more years of service that pass an entrance examination; and MRes degree holders (who are exempted from the entrance exam). At present YU has conferred approximately more than 100 PhD graduates for different areas of law (Civil Law, International Law, IP, Environmental Law, etc...).

Graduate Diploma Courses

Graduate diploma courses are offered by the Department of Law under the University's Human Resources Development Program 2004. There are four different areas of law in which diplomas are offered: Business Law, International Law, Maritime Law and Intellectual Property Law. Each diploma course lasts one year. Individuals with any undergraduate degree who pass the entrance examination can attend the Diploma courses.

Master of Arts in Business Law (MA Business Law)

The Department of Law is responsible for a two year MA program in business law. In order to gain entry into the program a student have a graduate diploma in business law and pass an entrance examination.

Teaching Staffs

Department of Law of YU has a small but dynamic team consisted of four Professors including one Head of Department, fourteen lecturers, eight assistant lecturers and two tutors. It is also supported by rich knowledge of distinguished part-time Professors who are well acquainted with issues of human rights, international trade, family laws, and etc.

International Co-operation

Since 2013 January, YU Law Department has been hosting many visiting professors for short stay sponsored by Open Society Foundations (OSF), an initiated main sponsor, focusing on different areas of law. Myanmar Japan Legal Research Center between Yangon University and Nagoya University was established on 29 June 2013 and has conducted many workshops and other academic activities. UNDP partnering BABSEA CLE has sponsored giving and promoting clinical legal education to Myanmar law students starting from 2013. Series of Faculty Seminar on different areas of law and Curriculum Development Seminars are being held in 2013 at YU, Law Department. Australian National University and National University of Singapore signed MOU with Yangon University law department in 2014 for academic and research exchange and co-operation. Other collaborations are training program with Oxford University of UK, Colombia University of US, Central European University of Hungary and Professor exchange programme with the University of Toulouse I, France. Starting from 2015-16 academic year, YU Law department will host an American Professor, who is from Brooklyn law school of New York, for one semester as a visiting professor at YU Law.

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