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**THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PHYSIOTHERAPY
BSc. (Physiotherapy)**

By Laws

Allied Health Sciences Unit

Faculty of Medicine

University of Colombo

THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PHYSIOTHERAPY BSc. (Physiotherapy)

By Laws

These By-Laws may be cited as the Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy Degree By-Laws No 11 of 2006. 2010

Part 1 – General

1. Subject to these By-Laws a candidate may be admitted to the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy (BSc. Physiotherapy) provided the candidate
 - a. has been admitted as a student of the University under section 15 (vii) of the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978;
 - b. has been a registered student of the Faculty of Medicine, Colombo for the period prescribed by these By-Laws;
 - c. has completed to the satisfaction of the Vice-Chancellor the course of study prescribed by these By-Laws and the Regulations there under in the University or in any institution recognized for such training but not permitted to grant its own degrees;
 - d. has satisfied all the course requirements and has passed the examinations and/or assessments leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy;
 - e. has paid such fees or other dues as many have been prescribed by the University, and
 - f. has fulfilled any other conditions or requirements as may be prescribed by the University.

2. Subject to these By-laws the minimum period of study for the degree of BSc Physiotherapy shall be four years. A student must complete the BSc course within seven years of starting the course.

3. The course for the BSc Physiotherapy degree shall consist of course work which is arranged as Streams, including the following:
 - a. Basic Sciences Stream
 - b. Applied Physiotherapy Stream
 - c. Behavioural Sciences Stream
 - d. Research Stream
 - e. Clinical Sciences Stream

4. The modules and streams leading to the degree of BSc Physiotherapy, and the forms of examinations (assessments), and the marks apportioned to each component module shall be as specified by the schedules.

5. The Senate shall have power, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board to change, or amend or to add or delete the number of modules, number of examinations, courses of study or syllabuses, and to change or amend or add or delete any Rules and

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Regulations relating to any of the examinations leading to the degree of BSc Physiotherapy. Due notice shall be given to the students of any such amendments, changes, additions or deletions.

6. The examinations leading to the degree of BSc Physiotherapy shall take the form of Modular Assessments, Continuous Assessments of Streams, and/or End of Stream examinations.
7. The examinations leading to the degree of BSc Physiotherapy shall be in
 - a. Basic Sciences Stream
 - b. Applied Physiotherapy Stream
 - c. Behavioural Sciences Stream
 - d. Research Stream
 - e. Clinical Sciences Stream

The award of the degree of BSc Physiotherapy shall be based on the marks of the examinations of above streams.

8. Each of the examinations (assessments) prescribed by these By-Laws and the schedules there under shall be conducted by a Board of Examiners constituted for the conduct of that examination and authorized by the Senate.
9. A candidate shall not be permitted to take an examination unless the Head of the relevant Department or the Chairperson of the relevant Module/Subject or Stream or the Dean of the Faculty has certified that the candidate has completed the prescribed course of study for that examination, fulfilled the attendance requirements, by attending such proportion of practical classes and tutorials and other requirements or other forms of instruction in the subject matter of each examination or a component of an examination as may be prescribed by the Senate.
10. A candidate shall take each examination leading to the degree in BSc Physiotherapy on the first occasion on which the examination is held after the completion of the course of studies for that examination, unless the Senate for some specified reason permits the candidate to take the examination on the next subsequent occasion on which the examination is held, and where a candidate does not take an examination on the first occasion on which the examination is held after the completion of the course of studies for that examination, he shall be deemed unless the Senate determines otherwise, to have taken the examination on the first occasion, which shall be taken into account in computing the total number of occasions on which an examination may be taken by a candidate.
11. A candidate who does not successfully pass an examination after the completion of the course of studies for that examination shall take that examination or a component of the examination (e.g. a module/papers) to be completed as the case may be on the next subsequent occasion on which the examination is held, and where a candidate does not take that examination or modules/papers on that occasion he/she shall be deemed unless the Senate determines otherwise, to have taken the examination or the modules

/papers on the occasion, which shall be taken into account in computing the total number of occasions on which an examination may be taken by a candidate.

Part II – Basic Sciences Stream (BaScS)

1. The course of the Basic Sciences stream (BaScS) shall commence in the first term, and shall be of such duration and course content as prescribed by schedules.
2. The course of study in BaScS will include the subjects Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, Microbiology and Pharmacology.
3. Subjects of Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, Microbiology and Pharmacology shall have separate and or combined assessments.
4. There will be Continuous Assessments during the BaScS course and an End of BaScS course examination.
5. A candidate to become eligible to appear for the End of course examination in the BaScS shall have followed, to the satisfaction of the Vice-Chancellor the prescribed course of study in each of the prescribed subjects.
6. A candidate is considered to have passed the BaScS examination if the candidate has at one and the same examination, satisfied the Board of Examiners in each of the components of the BaScS examination; provided that a candidate may be referred in one or more subjects at the BaScS examination when the candidate has not obtained the pass mark (50%) for that particular component. To be referred in a subject the candidate shall obtain a minimum of 25% in that subject. Such candidates shall be deemed to have passed the examination when they pass the referred subject(s). A candidate who fails to obtain a mark of 25% in any one of the subjects shall be deemed to have failed the entire BaScS examination.
7. Candidates following the BaScS may be absent from one Continuous Assessment examination on the basis of a medical certificate that has been approved by the University Medical Officer or an appropriate Medical Board. Candidates, who miss two or more Continuous Assessment examinations for whatever reason, will have to join a junior batch of students and complete the BaScS.
8. A candidate who does not pass the End of Course BaScS examination in all of the components by the fourth scheduled attempt shall not be permitted to continue studies as a registered student in the BSc Physiotherapy course.
9. The mark obtained by a candidate in the BaScS course will form a component part of the Cumulative BSc result as prescribed by the schedules of the BSc Physiotherapy course.

Part III - Applied Physiotherapy Stream

1. The Applied Physiotherapy Stream course shall commence from the second year and will continue up to the end of the third year of the BSc Physiotherapy programme.

2. The Applied Physiotherapy Stream shall comprise of modules as specified by the schedules. The word Module is used to denote a content area in the curriculum which is comparatively smaller than the content area of a Stream and is system or topic based. Examples include the Biomechanics & Kinesiology Module and the Physiotherapy skills 1 Module.
3. A candidate to become eligible to appear for a Module examination in the Applied Physiotherapy Stream shall have followed to the satisfaction of the Vice Chancellor the prescribed course of study for that module.
4. Module examinations will be held in respect of modules as specified by schedules. A candidate is deemed to have passed the End of module examination if the candidate has satisfied the Board of Examiners of that module examination, as specified by the regulations made by the Senate.
5. A candidate who obtains 50% or more marks at an End of module examination shall be deemed to have passed that module. A candidate who obtains less than 50% marks at a module examination shall be considered to have failed that module. Candidates who fail one or more module examinations shall repeat the relevant module examination(s) that they failed and obtain a minimum mark of 50% to pass those module examinations.
6. A candidate who has passed the modules specified in the schedules prescribed by the Senate shall be deemed to have passed the Applied Physiotherapy Stream.
7. The mark obtained by a candidate in the Applied Physiotherapy Stream will form a component part of the Cumulative BSc (Physiotherapy) result as specified by the schedules.

Part IV - Behavioural Sciences Stream

1. The course of the Behavioural Sciences Stream shall commence in the first year and continue up to the end of the third year of the BSc Physiotherapy course. The course of study shall comprise of modules as specified by the schedules.
2. The Behavioural Sciences Stream assessments shall consist of Continuous Assessment examinations during the course and an End of Behavioural Sciences course examination.
3. A candidate to become eligible to appear for each examination in the Behavioural Sciences Stream shall have followed, to the satisfaction of the Vice Chancellor the prescribed course of study leading to each examination.
4. A candidate appearing for the End of Behavioural Sciences Stream course examination shall have appeared previously for the continuous assessments held during the course.

5. A candidate is considered to have passed the Behavioural Sciences Stream course, if the candidate obtains 50% or more marks from the total mark allocated for the Stream at the end of all BSS examinations.
6. A candidate may be referred in the Behavioural Sciences Stream examinations if the candidate fails to obtain 50% of the total mark allocated for the Stream. Such a candidate shall be deemed to have passed the Behavioural Sciences Stream when the candidate obtains more than 50% or more at a subsequent End of Course examination of the Behavioural Sciences Stream.
7. The mark obtained by a candidate in the Behavioural Sciences Stream will form a component part of the Cumulative BSc Physiotherapy result as specified by the schedules.

Part V – Research Stream

1. The course of the Research Stream shall commence in the first year and shall continue up to the end of the third year of the BSc Physiotherapy course. The course of study will include course work and a research project as specified by schedules.
2. The Research Stream assessments shall be based on the following : a) assessment of the project proposals and b) assessment of the research report and an oral examination.
3. A candidate for each examination in the Research Stream shall have followed to the satisfaction the Vice Chancellor the prescribed course of study leading to each examination.
4. A candidate may be referred in the Research Stream if the candidate fails to obtain the 50% mark for the total mark for the Stream. Such a candidate shall be deemed to have passed the Research Stream when the candidate obtains 50% or more at a subsequent examination and/or successful completion of the research.
5. The mark obtained by a candidate in the Research Stream will form a component part of the Cumulative BSc Physiotherapy result as specified by the schedules.

Part VI - Clinical Stream

1. The Clinical Stream course shall commence in the first year and shall continue up to the end of the BSc Physiotherapy course. The course of study will include lectures, clinical appointments, ward classes, practical sessions, clinics, field visits etc.
2. The Clinical Sciences Stream course consists of the following sections as specified by the schedules.

Clinical Practice

Phase I – First Year

General Observation on Tertiary and Community care

Phase II – Second and Third Years

- I - Musculoskeletal
- II - Neurology/Neurosurgery
- III - Cardiothoracic
- IV - Paediatrics
- V - General Surgical and Medical
- VI - Special Topics

Phase III – Fourth Year

- ICU: Medical and Surgical
- Neurosurgery (including NSICU)
- Neurology (including NICU)
- Cardiothoracic (including CTICU)
- Paediatric (including PICU)
- Orthopaedic and Accident service
- Rehabilitation Hospital
- Rheumatology
- Community Based
- Physiotherapy in a Base Hospital

3. A candidate to become eligible to sit the examinations in the Clinical Sciences Stream shall have followed, to the satisfaction of the Vice Chancellor the prescribed course of study leading to each examination.
4. The Clinical Sciences Stream assessments shall comprise of continuous assessments and an End of Clinical Stream examination.
5. The End of Clinical Stream Course examination shall comprise of a long case and/or a theory paper, a viva voce examination and a case record/ log book.
6. A candidate shall be deemed to have passed the End of Clinical Stream examination if the candidate has obtained at least 50% of the total marks for each of the components as specified by the regulations made by the Senate. A candidate may be referred in one or more components of the above examination if the candidate fails to obtain a minimum of 50% marks for a component of the Clinical Stream in accordance with the schedules. A referred candidate shall be deemed to have passed the Clinical Stream when the candidate passes the referred component by obtaining 50% or more marks at a subsequent examination.
7. The mark obtained by a candidate in the Clinical Stream will form a component part of the Cumulative BSc Physiotherapy result as specified by regulations made by the Senate.

Part VII – The Cumulative BSc (Physiotherapy) Result

1. The Cumulative BSc Physiotherapy result will be computed from marks of all streams in proportions specified by the schedules.
2. The Cumulative BSc Physiotherapy result will appear on the BSc Physiotherapy degree certificate.

Part VIII – Honours (classes)

1. Honours (classes) will be awarded based on :

1.1. the cumulative mark

1.2 Marks obtained in the

- a. Basic Sciences Stream
- b. Applied Physiotherapy Stream
- c. Behavioural Sciences Stream
- d. Research Stream
- e. Clinical Sciences Stream

Awards of honours (classes) shall be based on the marks obtained. Criteria for the award of classes is as follows:

Mark obtained

≥ 70 %	First class
65 – 69.9 %	Second class – Upper division
60 – 64.9 %	Second class – Lower division
50 – 59.9 %	Pass

2. With the exception of the Cumulative BSc Result, a candidate is eligible for honors in each of the Streams, provided the candidate has passed all components of the Stream at the first attempt, unless the Senate for some specified reason permits the candidate to take the examination at the next subsequent occasion.
3. In the case of the Cumulative BSc Result, students who have been referred in an intra-stream subject, module or examination will be eligible to obtain honours provided they have repeated a subject, module or examination not more than once per Stream. The marks carried forward to the Cumulative BSc Result in such repeated subjects, modules or examinations shall not exceed 50%.

Part IX - Interpretation

1. In these By-Laws unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1.1. The word 'Stream' is used to denote a section of the curriculum where the content areas are conducted over several years. Often the content areas in a Stream have some relationship amongst them. Examples include the Clinical Stream and the Applied Physiotherapy Stream.
 - 1.2. The word Module is used to denote a content area in the curriculum which is comparatively smaller than the content area of a Stream and is system or topic based.
 - 1.3. The words 'examination' and 'assessment' have the same meaning which denotes a formal test of knowledge or ability of students.
 - 1.4. The word 'course of studies' is used to denote a module, modules or a stream.
 - 1.5. "Council" means the Council of the University of Colombo constituted by the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978.
 - 1.6. "Senate" means the Senate of the University of Colombo constituted by the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978.
 - 1.7. "Faculty" means the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Colombo constituted by the University Act No. 16 of 1978.
2. Any question regarding the interpretation of these By-Laws shall be referred to the Council whose decision thereon shall be final.

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Assessment and Eligibility for Graduation

Schedule I

Principles

- Use formative assessments to provide regular student feedback on their progress and summative assessments to assess their competence and certification.
- Use variety of assessment tools aligned to the course outcomes and stream/subject objectives in assessing students.
- Use both continuous and end of module/subject assessments for the cumulative marks.
- Total cumulative grade and award of Honours will be according to the University of Colombo guidelines.

The Cumulative B.Sc. (Physiotherapy) Result

The Cumulative B.Sc. (Physiotherapy) Result will be computed from marks of all streams in proportions as specified below.

Basic Sciences Stream	15
Behavioural Sciences Stream	10
Research Stream	05
Applied Physiotherapy Stream	30
Clinical Stream	<u>40</u>
Total	100

The Cumulative B.Sc. (Physiotherapy) Result will appear on the B.Sc. (Physiotherapy) Degree certificate.

Classes are awarded on the basis of the cumulative total.

Assessment of Streams

Basic Science Stream

The total cumulative mark will be calculated in the following way:

- Final exam

% marks

Cumulative %

Theory		
MCQ & SEQ	70	42
OSPE	<u>30</u>	18
Total mark for final exam	100	
• Continuous Assessments		<u>40</u>
Total final cumulative mark		100

- An attendance of 80% or more is required at the practical sessions to be eligible to sit the Basic Sciences Stream final examination.
- The total mark from the Basic Science Stream contributing to the final cumulative BSc physiotherapy mark is 15 marks.
- The Basic Science Stream exam is a barrier exam. Any student who fails to obtain a pass mark of 50 % for any of the subjects (Anatomy, Physiology, or the paper in 'combined' subjects i.e. pharmacology, microbiology and pathology) at the barrier exam will not be allowed to proceed in the course.
- A student, who obtains less than 25% in any of the subjects, would be considered as having failed the entire Basic Sciences Stream.
- A student who fails to pass the Basic Sciences Stream within two examinations (whether a medical certificate has been submitted or not) will have to join the junior batch and continue the rest of the course. He / she will only have to repeat the subjects/papers which he / she failed to pass at previous attempts.
- The Basic Sciences Stream has to be completed in 04 attempts. A student who does not pass the Basic Sciences Stream assessment in four attempts will have to leave the University of Colombo.

Behavioural Sciences Stream

The total cumulative mark will be calculated in the following way:

	<u>Cumulative %</u>
• Final exam	50
• Continuous Assessments	<u>50</u>
Total final cumulative mark	100

* The total mark from the Behavioural Sciences Stream contributing to the final cumulative BSc physiotherapy mark is 10 marks.

Research Stream

	<u>Cumulative %</u>
• Final report and viva	75
• Project proposal	<u>25</u>
	100

* The total mark from the Research Stream contributing to the final cumulative BSc physiotherapy mark is 05 marks.

Applied Physiotherapy Stream

The total cumulative mark will be calculated in the following way:

Units	Modules / Subjects	Cumulative %	
Unit I	Biomechanics and Kinesiology	10	50
	Evidence Based Practice in Physiotherapy	05	
	Electro Physical Agents in Physiotherapy	10	
	Physiotherapy Skills	15	
	Applied Exercise Science	10	
Unit II	Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy: Theory and Practice	12.5	25
	Neurological Physiotherapy: Theory and Practice	12.5	
Unit III	Cardiothoracic Physiotherapy: Theory and Practice	10	25
	Paediatric Physiotherapy: Theory and Practice	05	
	General surgical and medical Physiotherapy: Theory and Practice	05	

	Special topics in Physiotherapy	05	
	Electives	Certificate only; No summative marks assigned	

- **An attendance of 80% or more is required at the practical sessions / tutorials to be eligible to sit *each* unit examination.**
- **In order to pass the Applied Physiotherapy Stream the student must obtain 50% or higher in all the unit exams. A student who has obtained less than 50% should repeat the unit assessment at the first available opportunity. Even if the repeat examination mark is over 50% (e.g. 65%), the mark carried to the cumulative mark will be 50%.**
- **The total mark from the Applied Physiotherapy Stream contributing to the final cumulative BSc physiotherapy mark is 30 marks.**

Clinical Stream

To be eligible to proceed to the Fourth Year, Phase II clinical rotations, the student must obtain 50% or higher in the Behavioural Sciences and Research streams, and also in the three unit examinations of the Applied Physiotherapy Stream.

The total mark from the Clinical Stream contributing to the final cumulative BSc physiotherapy mark is 40 marks.

The total cumulative mark will be calculated in the following way:

	<u>Cumulative %</u>
• Final long case	30
• Ten Case Records	20
• Final viva	10
• Continuous Assessments	<u>40</u>
Total final cumulative mark	100

- **An attendance of 80% or more is required at clinical practice sessions to be eligible to sit the Final OSCE examination.**

In order to successfully complete the BSc Physiotherapy course the student must obtain 50% or higher in each stream.

The maximum number of years a student is permitted to be registered as a student in the BSc course in Physiotherapy is 7 years. If this period expires then the student will lose his / her registration at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. He or she will NOT be eligible to be awarded the BSc degree in Physiotherapy. Periods for which a student has submitted a valid medical certificate/s certified by the UMO, will be added as extensions of this period of 7 years, after due consideration of an appeal submitted to the Faculty Board of the Medical Faculty, University of Colombo.

The details of this schedule may be subject to change. Any changes will be informed to the students as and when these changes occur.