University of Colombo

BIT

BACHELOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- EXTERNAL DEGREE -

HANDBOOK 2017

UCSC University of Colombo School of Computing

University of Colombo
Sri Lanka

BACHELOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (BIT)
External Degree

Student Handbook for
2017 Academic Year

Conducted by
University of Colombo School of Computing

Disclaimer

This handbook is compiled with information received up to December 2016, and is applicable to the students of Academic Year 2017

It is hereby informed that this handbook is only for general information and is not for official purposes.

Any information contained herein should be confirmed by reference to the relevant authority.

For the latest version of the handbook please visit our website

http://www.bit.lk

Mission & Vision

Vision

Be a Global Leader in Computing, Advancing the Frontiers of new knowledge through Learning and Research.

Mission

To advance and enhance computing knowledge, fostering global strategic alliances, promoting cross disciplinary research, producing socially responsible professionals with entrepreneurial skills, leadership qualities and integrity contributing to position the country as a knowledge hub in the region.

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



I am indeed pleased to issue this brief message on the occasion of publishing the Students Handbook of BIT degree programme for the academic year 2017 complied by the University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC). I firmly believe that a handbook is highly significant in providing all the required information for the new entrants and it will be immensely beneficial for them.

The Institute of Computer Technology (ICT), the predecessor of the present UCSC was established in the year 1987. In 2000, the UCSC took the initiatives to the external degree BIT or The Bachelor of Information Technology by having the most advanced training resources and experiences in the field of ICT with the anticipation of developing the human resources in Information and communication technologies. The BIT provides a well defined and a gradually updated syllabus which is capable of fulfilling the industrial requirements ultimately. It provides a wide range of job opportunities for its local and foreign ICT graduates and has been redesigned according to the policy frame work for external and extension programmes introduced by University Grant Commission.

With the subsequent developments taking place in the area of information and communication technologies as well as the eagerly awaited structural changes in IT education in Sri Lanka , the need of a fully pledged higher educational institute teaching IT and communication related subjects were seriously contemplated by the policy makers of the University. A lot of intellectual inputs were considered at the ensuing discussions on how such issues are to be addressed and finally the University of Colombo School of Computing was established in 2002 replacing the then Information and Communication Technology (ICT). I will be failing in my duty, if I do not mention the name of the late Professor V K Samaranayake without

whose services and dedicated contribution neither the ICT nor the UCSC would have become a reality. I am happy to note that the UCSC at present has become a much sought after institution for IT education in Sri Lanka. I would also like to note with pleasure that, under the proper guidance of the current Professor K P Hewagamage, the academic staff of the UCSC is well-trained with many of them having earned their doctoral degree from highly recognized universities, fellowships and memberships from world renowned professional associations.

A handbook is always useful not only to the students but to those who wish to have an in-depth knowledge of the activities of the school including the operational mechanism of both academic and administrative spheres. I would like to thank the Handbook Committee of the UCSC for embarking on a very useful and constructive exercise.

As students of this University, I hope that you will derive maximum benefits from the treasured opportunities that will be bestowed to you and be broadminded responsible citizens in future.

Professor Lakshman Dissanayake
Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



I am honored to welcome all the new students of Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT) degree programme of the University of Colombo on behalf of the management of University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC). Simultaneously I would like to congratulate all of them for being fortunate to get the admissions for the best higher education centre in computing in Sri Lanka. Since the beginning in 2002, the University of Colombo School of computing has been holding the number one position in Sri Lanka by having the most advanced training resources and experience in information and communication technology.

You have started a new era of higher education and it will be different from your school education. In the university education, the role of the institute is just to facilitate your learning. Thus UCSC is dedicated to a student centered education which encourages the academic excellence through well defined and gradually updated syllabus. Moreover we have a qualified academic staff to support all of you, by any means necessary to ensure that the students reach their fullest academic potentials. In that manner, since the beginning UCSC has been gradually moving towards the success by following the vision of the UCSC "Be a Global Leader in Computing, Advancing the frontiers of new knowledge through Learning and research". Moreover, UCSC has been doing a great service to the country by fulfilling the increasing demand for IT professionals. In 1985, UCSC introduced computer science as a field of specialization and has produced significant number of graduates for the IT industry in Sri Lanka. Another significant fact that you have to keep in your mind is the importance of English for the successful completion of the degree. Since all the courses are conducted in English, certain challenges can be occurred when you are following the BIT programme. Therefore it is essential to work hard to overcome these barriers.

The beginning of anything is hard. You might face problems trying to adjust to the study programme. But try to be strong and go towards your targets. Finally I would like to remind all of you that as the best higher education centre in IT in Sri Lanka, we are dedicated in your education and skill development since we regard that the future and the development of our country are depended on you. Providing best professionals, well developed syllabus or the best courses cannot make you an outstanding graduate unless you take the responsibility on your own and become active learners and follow your studies properly and independently. Thus I hope that all of the new BIT undergraduates will do their best and grow into locally and internationally renowned personalities with innovative and expert minds. Once again I wish you all the best for the new journey that you are going to commence.

Professor K P Hewagamage
Director of the University of Colombo School of Computing

ACRONYMS

ADMTC	:	Advanced Digital Media Technologies Centre
A/L	:	Advanced Level
BIT	:	Bachelor of Information Technology
CCNA	:	Cisco Certified Network Associate
CCNP	:	Cisco Certified Network Professional
CD	:	Compact Disk
CSC	:	Computing Services Centre
DIT	:	Diploma in Information Technology
EDC	:	External Degree's Centre
eLC	:	e-Learning Centre
FIT	:	Foundation in Information Technology
G.C.E.	:	General Certificate in Education
GPA	:	Grade Point Average
GPV	:	Grade Point Value
HDIT	:	Higher Diploma in Information Technology
HETC	:	Higher Education for the Twenty-First Century
ICT	:	Information and Communication Technologies
IT	:	Information Technology
JICA	:	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MBA	:	Master of Business Administration
MPhil	:	Master of Philosophy
MSc	:	Master of Science
NCGE	:	National Certificate in General Education
O/L	:	Ordinary Level
PDC	:	Professional Development Centre
PhD	:	Doctor of Philosophy
R&D	:	Research and Development
SCORM	:	Sharable Content Object Reference Model
SIDA	:	Swedish International Development Agency
TV	:	Television
UCSC	:	University of Colombo School of Computing
UGC	:	University Grants Commission
UNESCO	:	United Nations Educational, Scientific Cultural Organization
VLE	:	Virtual Learning Environment

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SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

The history of higher education in Sri Lanka is closely linked to that of the University of Colombo. Established in the year 1870, as the Ceylon Medical College by the Government of that day under the leadership of Governor, Sir Hercules Robinson, the University of Colombo could claim to have been associated with higher education for over 100 years. This is an important legacy that all undergraduates who join the University of Colombo must be aware of and be proud of.

The vision of the University of Colombo, is to become a centre of excellence of international repute that contributes significantly to the national development and human resource development particularly, in the South Asian region. Conscious of its long traditions as a leading tertiary education institution in the Island, it will promote scholarship and research. It will seek to create and sustain a culture of learning and critical inquiry that respects viewpoint differences, inculcating a sense of social responsibility and service and commitment to democratic values in a plural society.

The University of Colombo is a metropolitan university and the students are at a distinct advantage of being at the hub of cultural, economic and political activities in the country. Since its establishment as a distinct university, it has expanded its departments and programmes, and acquired reputation within the country as well as abroad for academic excellence. The university has many faculties and institutes which are in great demand for the programmes that they offer for undergraduate and postgraduate students, and for a wider community. The services of its staff are also increasingly used by the research community, international development agencies and the governmental and non- governmental sectors.

Students should feel very privileged to belong to the University of Colombo with its long tradition of excellence in teaching, learning, research and contribution to the community. The University of Colombo started its computing activities in 1967 and today it is the most advanced higher educational institution, in the forefront of human resource development in Information and Communication Technologies in Sri Lanka.

1.2 THE UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

In September 2002, University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) was established by merging The Institute of Computer Technology and The Department of Computer Science both of the University of Colombo, as the first centre of higher learning of computing in Sri Lanka. In the year 2003 UCSC admitted 120 students through the University Grants Commission (UGC) for a 3 Year Bachelor of Computer Science and 4 Year Bachelor of Science in Computer Science degree programmes. The number of students admitted to these programmes has now increased into 175. In addition to this, UCSC introduced a 3 Year Bachelor of Information & Communication Technology and 4 Year Bachelor of Science in Information & Communication Technology degree programme admitting 80 students through the UGC. This programme was introduced to fill the gap in the industry between business requirements and technical solutions. The Information & Communication Technology degree is now called the Information Systems degree and admits 100 students annually. UCSC offers three Masters Programmes in Computer Science, Information Technology and Information Security and also has MPhil and PhD programmes. Computer Science courses are also conducted for all students of the Physical and Bio Science streams of the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo. The vision of the UCSC is to be a centre of international repute in training in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

The UCSC is fully equipped with student laboratories, multimedia laboratories, research laboratories, a state of the art digital studio, a campus wide fibre network, with the entire UCSC building complex fully wired for Internet access. UCSC has a state of the art network-operating centre. The library is well equipped with Books, Journals, CDs and provides Internet access to e-journals.

The library is not accessible for the BIT candidates, however a collection of recommended textbooks are available with several public libraries and a collection of past dissertations are available at the BIT office.

The major goal of the UCSC is to prepare students for careers in Information and Communication Technology as Software Developers, Systems Analysts, Network Administrators, Database Administrators, Web Developers, IT Managers, IT Strategic Planners and IT Policy Makers.

1.2.1 *EXTERNAL DEGREE CENTRE (EDC)*

The main purpose of establishing the External Degree Centre and the three year external degree programme, Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT) is to widen the higher educational opportunities of the students who have been unsuccessful in meeting the competitive eligibility criteria for admission to the state university system. Another reason has been the massive demand from the ICT industry for high quality human resources far exceeding the number provided by the state universities The BIT degree programme commenced in the year 2000 and has so far produced 6952 Diploma holders, 3354 Higher Diploma holders and 1923 graduates and almost all graduates have been absorbed by the ICT industry.

1.2.2 *e-LEARNING CENTRE (e-LC)*

The UCSC was identified by donor agencies such as Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and European Union Asia Link Programme as an ideal location for a centre of excellence in e-Learning. In 2003, e-Learning Centre (eLC) has established an online learning environment at UCSC. The centre provides necessary support in developing interactive e-Learning content and training. The online virtual learning environment of the BIT degree programme *(http://vle.bit.lk)* is managed by them. For more details visit the eLC website *(http://www.ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/elc)*.

1.2.3 *ADVANCED DIGITAL MEDIA TECHNOLOGIES CENTRE (ADMTC)*

Advanced Digital Media Technologies Centre (ADMTC) was established under the UCSC in order to implement the "Project for Human Resource Development in Information Technology through capacity building of the UCSC" that was supported by JICA. The centre is equipped with a state of the art Digital Studio and Multimedia Laboratories and it supports development of e-learning course content. Centre also conducts several training programmes in Multimedia, e-Learning and Digital Media Production. ADMTC produces all BIT TV programmes. For more details visit the website *(http://www.ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/admtc)*

1.2.4 COMPUTING SERVICES CENTRE (CSC)

The Computing Services Centre (CSC) of UCSC is the main Consultancy arm of the UCSC. It conducts System Design and Development, System Recommendation, Software Project Consulting, Recruitment Testing, Tender Evaluation, Feasibility Study, Acceptance tests for computer hardware and software. It also conducts tailor-made training programmes for the organizations in the private and public sector.

Training courses ranging from awareness to specific skills such as Java Application Developments using JavaSE, Advanced Java Application Development using JavaSE, Computing for Career Development, Graphic Design & Creativity Development, Software Quality Assurance using Test Automation Frameworks, Linux Systems and Network Administration, and Advanced Multimedia Web Design & Development Techniques are conducted by the CSC during weekday evenings and weekends. Software development unit of the CSC provide assists in automating various processors of the BIT programme. For more details visit the website *(http://www.ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/csc)*.

1.2.5 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (PDC)

Professional Development Centre (PDC) of UCSC was set up for keeping a close liaison with IT industry and for improvement of the academic programmes through industry partnership. PDC primarily concentrate on improving professional skills of the staff and the internal students, industrial placements and visits for internal undergraduates and promoting inter-cultural harmony.

1.2.6 CENTRE FOR DIGITAL FORENSICS (CDF)

Centre for Digital Forensics (CDF) of the UCSC was established in 2011. The advisory panel consists of UCSC and foreign academics. UCSC has played a key role in assisting the Sri Lanka Police and the Criminal Investigation Department since 2003. The centre investigates evidence of digital crimes.



SECTION 2

BIT DEGREE PROGRAMME

2.1 OVERVIEW

Taking into consideration the job opportunities that exist for ICT graduates in Sri Lanka & overseas, the UCSC took the initiative to launch the External Degree programme leading towards the award of Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology (External) – BIT in 2000. This degree programme has been redesigned according to
Policy Frame work for External and Extension programme introduced by University Grant Commission in 2010.

The UCSC having the most advanced training resources and experience in Sri Lanka in the field of ICT training examinations, is leading towards the first-ever External Degree in IT in Sri Lanka. The University of Colombo will award the degree.

UCSC provides a well-defined detailed syllabus that would help to lay a solid foundation on which, a student can build his career in IT. The syllabi will be constantly updated to meet the industry requirements. Model and past question papers, a list of recommended textbooks are provided to the students. In the year 2003, e-learning was introduced to the first year BIT students through a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). This was possible through the assistance given by SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency). VLE assists the students in learning through self-evaluating quizzes, learning material and activities.

Further support is given to BIT students through video content available on YouTube (*http://www.youtube.com/user/admtc*) and LEARN TV.

The expertise of more than 22 PhD, 05 MPhil, 10 MSc/MBA drawn from the University of Colombo, other Sri Lankan Universities and the ICT industry are associated with the programme, which makes the BIT a first in Sri Lanka to benefit from such expertise. Last year, more than 30 training institutes spread over the country currently offer training programmes for the BIT degree.

BIT Programme is designed to:

- produce qualified IT professionals through external mode in addition to the traditional University output
- set professional standards and encourage students to obtain skills in commercial IT applications and in the usage of necessary tools
- enable those who could not enter the university to read for a degree in IT due to severe competition to work towards obtaining such a degree

- provide an opportunity to those non-graduates already who are working in IT to obtain a formal qualification in IT through self- study

The minimum duration of the BIT degree programme will be 3 academic years.

- A **Diploma in Information Technology (DIT)** will be awarded on successful completion of course examinations of the first year as specified in section 4, (see Table 2a)
- A **Higher Diploma in Information Technology (HDIT)** will be awarded to holders of the IT Diploma on successful completion of course examinations of the second year **as specified** in section 4, (see Table 2b)
- **Degree Certificate (BIT)** will be awarded on successful completion of year 1, year 2 and year 3 examinations and fulfilment of other requirements **as specified** in section 4.

Over 35,000 candidates have enrolled for the BIT programme since its inception in 2000 and the 17th consecutive Academic year is about to commence. Statistics number of Diploma/ Hogher Diploma & Degree Awardees of the last 16 years are summarized in Table 1.

	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year
	DIT	HDIT	BIT
2000/01	171		
2001/02	299	70	
2002/03	596	148	63
2003/04	572	353	113
2004/05	259	164	103
2005/06	346	154	115
2006/07	532	128	108
2007/08	613	386	138
2008/09	438	310	161
2009/10	366	199	140
2010/11	581	309	129
2011/12	659	262	172
2012/13	618	305	194
2013/14	523	339	225
2014/15	379	227	262
Total	**6952**	**3354**	**1923**

Table 1: *Statistics of Awardees*

2.2 INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

The e-BIT programme of the UCSC won a Certificate of Commendation in the Education Planner and Administrator Category of the UNESCO ICT in Education Innovation Awards 2007-2008 and awards at NBQSA and e-Swabhimani.

The UCSC was chosen for this award owing to its innovative use of ICT to scale the output of ICT Professionals much needed by the industry. The e-BIT was designed to optimize the use of ICT for communication, registration, delivery of the curricular content, and examination through its website and associated Virtual Learning Environment. Today, it has become the student portal through which one can learn on-line, seeks assistance from facilitators, and communicates with peers in addition to obtaining examination support material and retrieving results. For this reason, the BIT programme has become the premier 'open' and affordable IT degree programme in Sri Lanka.

The success of the e-BIT can be attributed to the efforts of the e- Learning Centre of the UCSC through its research and development (R&D) activities. The curriculum was completely revamped taking into account a new online pedagogy based on a user-centric but collaborative learning model and the constructive alignment paradigm of learning. R&D work in setting up an appropriate Virtual Learning Environment resulted in the adoption and adaptation of the open source Moodle framework which was customized and localized to form Vidupiyasa – UCSC's "Virtual Campus". SCORM compatible online learning lessons were developed based on the redesigned curriculum, with Video lectures distributed using a local TV channel, CDs and the online portal. An e-Assessment system for formative as well as some summative testing have also been developed and deployed.

2.3 AUTHORITIES

Authorities Concerned with the BIT Degree Programme offered by UOC are listed below.

- Board of Study of the UCSC for External & Extension programmes
- The Academic Syndicate of the UCSC
- The Board of Management of the UCSC
- Exam Offences Committee of the University of Colombo
- The Senate of the University of Colombo
- The Council of the University of Colombo

2.4 JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The 21st Century would be dominated by ICT and there is a growing need for IT professionals. This, together with the critical shortage of IT professionals today, translates into opportunities for those who are in IT as well as those who are interested in entering the field. Software Development & ICT Services is one sector where Sri Lanka can do well and have highly satisfactory economical returns, which in turn will benefit to the national economy. In this context, we need to heighten public awareness on the potential of IT and increase educational opportunities in the sphere.



SECTION 3

REGISTRATION

3.1 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

*This will be effective for 2016 Academic Year.

(a) Three passes in the Advanced Level examination in one sitting

and

Pass Ordinary Level with credit passes for English & Maths *

OR

(b) Pass theoretical components of Foundation in Information Technology (FIT) of the UCSC

and

Pass Ordinary Level with credit passes for English & Maths *

OR

(c) Any other academic/professional qualifications & deemed equivalent by the Senate of the University of Colombo

and

Pass Ordinary Level with credit passes for English & Maths *

and

with *e-selection test (for those with non-IT equivalent qualifications), which tests the analytical, quantitative and communication skills

***e-Selection test**

The e-selection test is held only in Colombo and in English medium. Duration of the test is 2 hours and the type of the test is Multiple choice questions. It is only for candidates who are applying under 3.1 (c) admission category. They should apply before the end of the previous Academic Year to sit for the e-Selection test unless extensions are announced.

3.2 SELECTION PROCEDURE

Notices calling the admission for the Diploma in IT of the BIT degree programme will be published in the press and the BIT website annually. In accordance with such notices, prescribed application forms should be completed online from the BIT website and forwarded to the External Degree Centre (EDC) of the UCSC with payment of appropriate fees in section 8.1 (see Table 5). Degree path is shown in Figure 1.

3.3 REGISTRATION

The selected students will be informed to be registered for the Year 1 of the BIT degree programme. Initially students will be granted only a provisional registration. Registration proper would be given only after the qualifications (e.g. Advance Level, Ordinary Level and other) are verified (e.g. by Examinations Division of the UCSC) or other equivalent qualifications are accepted by the University Authorities. Registration is valid for a period of one academic year. The students have to pay the registration fee annually to keep their registration valid and sit for examinations.

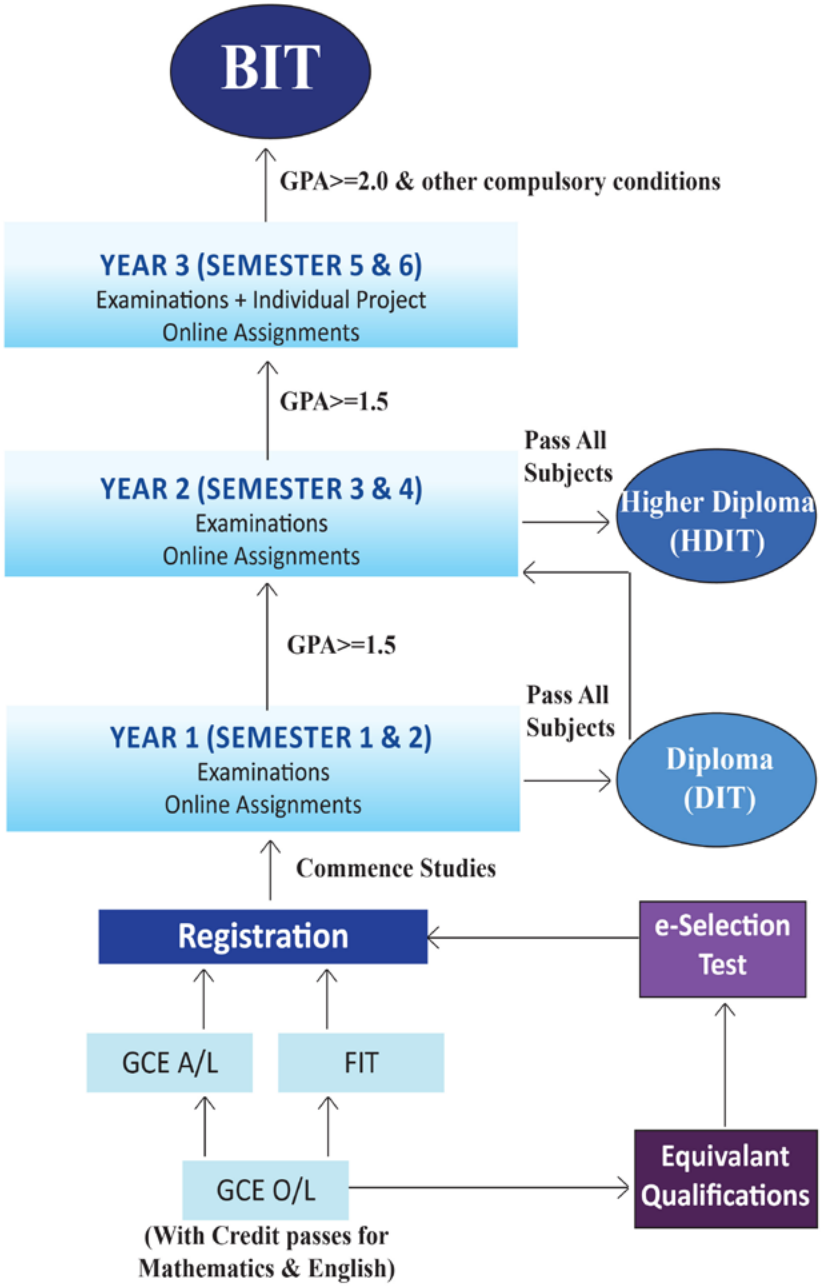


Figure 1: *Degree Path*

3.3.1 *DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION*

Originals & Photo copies of the following:

- Birth Certificate
- National ID card / valid Passport / valid Postal ID
- Educational certificates
  - (a) For Candidates who have obtained three passes at the Advance Level examination in one sitting
    - (i) Advance Level Certificate
    - (ii) Ordinary Level Certificate(s)
  - (b) For Candidates who have FIT and Ordinary Level
    - (i) Confirmation letter from FIT and
    - (ii) Ordinary Level Certificate(s)
  - (c) For candidates having alternative qualifications:
    - (i) Documents issued by the institute/institutes giving the name, duration, the course content (syllabus, no. of hours of theory, no. of hours of practical work) and the level of achievements of the study programmes that has been completed by the candidate or the successful results of any examination that the candidate has sat for and any certificates received
    - (ii) Ordinary Level Certificate(s)
- Proof of payment of Registration Fee for Year 1
- **Three recent colour** photographs of Passport size with your signature on the reverse of two photographs.

Paste the third photograph on a clean sheet of A4 paper and get it attested by an ***authorized person.** The signature and the seal of the authorizing person should be placed across the photograph so as not to cover the face of the candidate.

Head or Retired Head of a Government/Director Managed approved school, Grama Niladhari of the Division, Justice of Peace, Commissioner of Oaths, Attorney at Law, Notary Public, Commissioned Officer of the armed forces, Staff Officer of Govt./ Corporation, the Chief Incumbent of a Buddhist Vihara, A religious Dignitary of standing of any other religion

3.3.2 REGISTRATION NUMBER

The registration number will be given to the students at the registration and a BIT Identity Card will also be issued. All inquiries regarding any matter pertaining to the BIT degree programme must be accompanied by this registration number. In case you are unable to obtain registration this year, either due to a personal reason or the inability of acquiring the necessary qualifications, the UCSC authorities will allow you to defer the registration to the next academic year on a written request made with a payment of a Deferment fee.

3.3.3 BIT IDENTITY CARD

The BIT Identity Card remains as a property of the student until such time; the student obtains the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology. Thereafter, the student should return it to the External Degree Centre (EDC) of UCSC. If the BIT Identity Card is lost, a duplicate will be issued on payment. For payments refer (Section 11). An affidavit should be produced to obtain the duplicate. **Students will not be allowed to sit for an examination without a valid BIT Identity Card.**

3.3.4 CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION

Any student at his request may obtain cancellation of his student registration. In such an event the UCSC will retain 25% of the registration fee provided a written request will be made within 30 days from the closing date of registration. Otherwise no refund is made. No requests for cancellation will be entertained from students awaiting the results of an examination or pending disciplinary action in respect of any examination malpractice.

The registration of the students who have been found in submitting false documents, would be cancelled and forwarded to necessary authorities for investigation and further action(s).

3.3.5 RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

All students are required to renew their registration within a prescribed period after the release of results of Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 examinations. Renewal process is done online and the generated payment voucher should be used to make the payment. No other mode of payment will be accepted. Already registered students need to renew their registrations before the 31st of December unless their registration depends on the release of results. Students will inform whether they have to be registered/re- registered for the next academic year depending on their examination

results. A student have no right to claim to sit any examination after expiry of period of registration. Hence a student whose registration has lapsed must apply to the EDC for renewal of registration. To access online material and to take part in online assessments, the renewal of registration must be done before 31st December.

If a student who is already registered for the BIT programme, and wishes to postpone his/her registration, he/she will have to inform the EDC in advance by a letter. Such students will have to pay 50% of the intervening years' registration fees plus the registration fee for the year being renewed. This option is given only once for the entire degree period. If not informed, such students have to pay the full fee for all the years, up to a maximum Rs. 5,000/=.

The students should complete any academic year (First or Second or Third) within five years. If a student fails to do so, he/ she should be registered as a new student.

3.4 VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (VLE) FOR BIT

You will be given a login (a username and a password) to the VLE for BIT at the beginning of each academic year of the BIT programme. **http://vle.bit.lk** is the Virtual Learning Environment established for the BIT students. You are requested to refer/check the VLE for the programme occassionally.

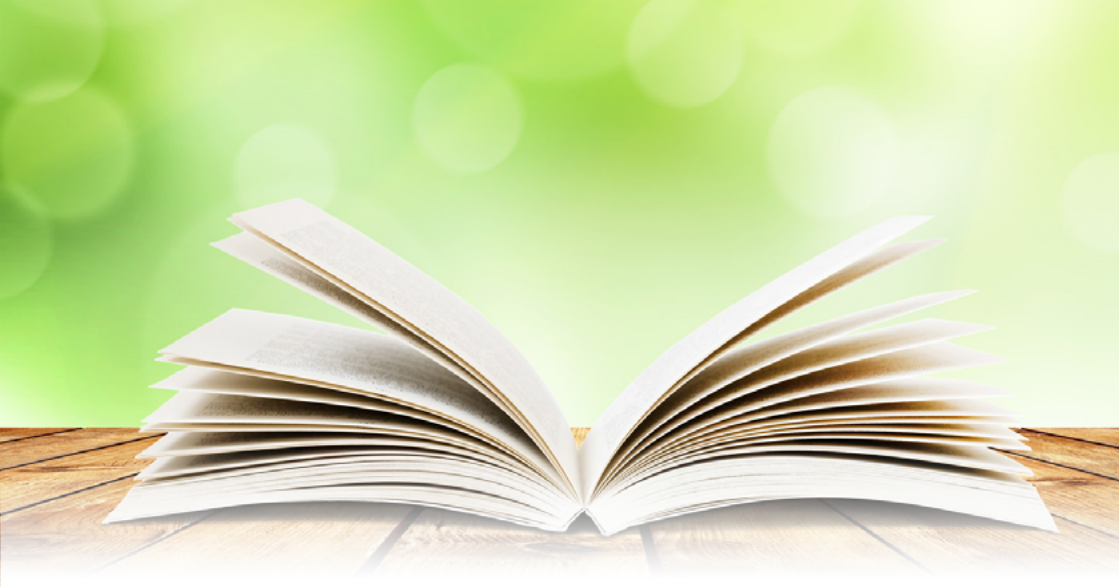
Course materials, contineous assessments, on-line exams, past papers, course related notices, announcements, deadlines for various submissions, extensions, exam time tables, exam applications, admission cards and many other useful information are available at the VLE.

When new students are registered, they will be given a Student Registration No. which will be the username to access the VLE for BIT. You will be given a password once the registration process completes successfully. You must have an email address to access the services of VLE for BIT.

The students, who are registered for the 3rd year Software Development Project, are given the login to the Project-VLE (http://vle.bit.lk/project) for project related studies/submissions.

If there is any issue with accessing the VLE, the students should contact the VLE Administrator through email (admin@vle.bit.lk), indicating your registration number and the NIC number.

During the office hours, students could contact EDC, UCSC, and eLC using the contact numbers given in the Contact section.



SECTION 4

COURSE STRUCTURE

Candidate must select a minimum of 30 credits from each academic year including all compulsory courses. All courses in Year 1 and Year 2 (Table 2a and Table 2b) are compulsory and each of them has online assessments. Enhancement courses are identified using EN as first two letters of course code.

* The Enhancement Courses are designed to strengthen students' communicational, mathematical & PC applicational skills. Simultaneously, through these courses, a knowledge on the concept of management & entreprenurship will be provided to the students. EN Courses are compulsory to pass and some Enhancement courses consists of practical assessments (EN1101 & EN1301) as well.

Refer detailed syllabus: *http://www.bit.lk/sylabus*

All courses offered in year 1 (Table 2a) are compulsory and each of them has online assesments.

YEAR 1 (All Compulsory with continuous assessments)			
Code	**Name**	**Semester**	**Credits**
IT1105	Information Systems & Technology	1	3
IT1205	Computer Systems I	1	3
IT1305	Web Application Development I	1	3
EN1101	Communication Skills	1	3
EN1201	Introductory Mathematics	1	2
EN1301	Personal Computing	1	2
IT2105	Mathematics for Computing I	2	3
IT2205	Programming I	2	4
IT2305	Database Systems I	2	4
IT2405	Systems Analysis & Design	2	3
Total Number of Credits			**30**

Table 2a: *Year 1 Courses*

All courses offered in Year 2 (Table 2b) are compulsory and each of them has online assessments.

YEAR 2 (All Compulsory with continuous assessments)			
Code	**Name**	**Semester**	**Credits**
IT3105	Object Oriented Analysis & Design	3	3
IT3205	Fundamentals of Software Engineering	3	3
IT3305	Mathematics for Computing II	3	3
IT3405	User Interface Design	3	3
IT3505	Web Application Development II	3	4
IT4105	Programming II	4	4
IT4205	Information Technology Project Management	4	3
IT4305	Rapid Software Development	4	4
IT4405	Computer Networks	4	3
Total Number of Credits			**30**

Table 2b: *Year 2 Courses*

Compulsory courses and optional courses are offered in Year 3 (Table 2c)

YEAR 3 (Select all Compulsory (C) and Select optional (O) subjects to complete 30 credits)				
Code	**Name**	**Semester**	**Credits**	**Select**
IT5105	Professional Issues in IT	5	3	C
IT5205	Information Systems Security	5	3	C
IT5305	Computer Systems II	5	3	O
IT5405	Fundamentals of Multimedia	5	3	O
EN5101	Fundamentals of Management	5	2	C
IT6105	Software Development Project	5 & 6	8	C
IT6205	Systems & Network Administration	6	3	C
IT6305	e-Business Application	6	3	O
IT6405	Database Systems II	6	3	C
IT6505	Middleware Architecture	6	3	O
EN6502	Introduction to Entrepreneurship	6	2	C
Total Number of Credits			**36**	

Table 2c: *Year 3 Courses*



SECTION 5

EXAMINATIONS

5.1 MEDIUM

Medium of Examinations is English. Any part of the answer script written in any other language will not be marked.

5.2 EXAMINATION DATES

Examinations will be held on Semester basis, twice within an Academic Year, starting during April-May and September-October respectively.

5.3 APPLICATIONS TO SIT THE EXAMINATIONS

Applications for examinations will be entertained from prospective candidates who possess all the requisite qualifications via the BIT website. Refer examination criteria (see Section 5.4) for eligibility. Examination application forms should be completed online and system generated application and the payment voucher should be printed and submitted to the BIT office. Exam fee will be non refundable and non transferrable. Applicants should download and print their admission cards online and bring them to the examination centre.

Important

Examination Application may be rejected on the following grounds:

(i) Not possessing all the requisite qualifications for the examination concerned

(ii) Not applying on prescribed online forms

(iii) Not submitting the system generated application and payment voucher on or before the closing date of applications

(iv) Invalid Registration

(v) Non-payment of Registration and Examination fees

(vi) Pending inquiries

(vii) Incomplete or inaccurate application form

5.4 EXAMINATION CRITERIA

The Board of Examiners may test any candidate by means of written / electronic / oral / practical examination or any other form of evaluation.

Each course (as set out in section 7 above) examination leading to the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology, carries a maximum mark of 100.

A candidate shall not re-sit for a course examination, for which he/she has already obtained a mark of 50% or more.

The pass mark for course examination shall be 50%.

5.4.1 *FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION*

Each candidate shall sit during his First Year of study, number of courses (as specified in section 7 above), relating to semester 1 and semester 2 and be subjected to continuous assessment.

Any candidate who obtained a minimum GPA (Grade Point Average) of 1.5 at the First Year course examinations may proceed to and register for the Second Year. Note that enhancement courses are Non-GPA.

5.4.1 *SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION*

Each candidate shall sit for number of courses (as specified in section 7 above), relating to semester 3 and semester 4 and be subjected to continuous assessment during his/ her second year of study.

Any candidate who obtained a minimum GPA (Grade Point Average) of 1.5 at the Second Year course examinations may proceed to and register for the Third Year.

5.4.1 *THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION*

Each candidate shall sit for number of courses (as specified in section 7 above), relating to semester 5 and semester 6 during his/ her third year of study. The examination for the project shall consist of the project report and its defence.

5.5 EXAMINATION ADMISSION FORMS

Before a minimum of one week prior to the commencement of the examination, the admission forms for the examination will be issued for all the eligible candidates through the web site. In the event of a candidate having any issue related to the admission he should inform the EDC of UCSC immediately. Failing that candidate will not be allowed to sit the examinations.

5.6 OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Those candidates who are referred or re-referred must of necessity obtain a pass in the relevant of such course examination in accordance with examination criteria. A candidate can appear for any course examination until either he/she obtains a pass in the course or completes the degree programme. However, a student shall not re-sit a course examination, for which he/she has already obtained a mark of 50% or more.

5.7 EXAMINATION RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

A candidate when sitting an examination must at all times have in his possession his admission form and his BIT Identity Card. In case the BIT Identity Card is not produced, when called for (at an examination), a student is liable to have his candidature cancelled. In the course of an examination, if by any chance the BIT Identity Card is lost, steps must be taken immediately to inform the Coordinator of such loss and have a duplicate procured.

A detailed instruction sheet along with the examination admission card will be issued for all the candidates.

In the event an examination malpractice is proved the following punishments are meted out:

- Cancellation of examination candidature
- Suspension/Cancellation of registration
- Debarring from sitting the examination for a stipulated period of time with or without a fine being imposed
- Any other punishment meted out by the Senate of the University of Colombo

Some of these malpractices are:

- Having on one's possession or near oneself notes, diagrams, articles etc. irrespective of its relevance to the examination.
- Removing from the examination hall stationery, tables, etc. supplied by the University
- Copying
- Impersonation
- Other forms of dishonesty and unruly behaviour
- Obtaining or attempting to obtain improper assistance or cheating or attempting to cheat
- Aiding and abetting the commission of any of these offences
- Non adherence to examination procedures/rules

5.8 RELEASE OF RESULTS

Results will be published in the BIT website. Results are expected to be released on semester basis. However the process may take 3-4 months from the last examination paper.

5.9 RE-SCRUTINY OF ANSWER SCRIPTS

Under no circumstance and for no reason what so ever will there be a re-scrutiny of answer scripts. UCSC will publish the model answers on the BIT Virtual Learning Environment after relevant examinations. Students feedback are considered before commencing paper marking. Any queries regarding the model answers may be made within the specified period to the Academic Coordinator of BIT *(acc@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk)*.



SECTION 6

DEGREE AWARDING CRITERIA

6.1 CRITERIA FOR A PASS

A candidate shall be deemed to have passed the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology Examination if he has,

(a) a minimum of 90 Credits with at least 30 Credits from each of the three years;
(b) at least a C grade or pass mark for at least 20 credits from each year;
(c) a minimum Overall GPA of 2.00 in the three years;
(d) a grade not inferior to a C for the third year Software Development Project and a grade not inferior to D for all other courses in each year of study;
(e) a pass mark for each enhancement course identified in Regulations.

A candidate, who fails to obtain a pass in the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology Examination as specified in section 9.1 above, may be allowed to re-sit any course examination subject to conditions specified elsewhere in By-Laws.

If the candidate does not pass at the final year project, he/she shall be required to re-submit the project report and/or re-appear for the defense as determined by the Board of Examiners.

A candidate who fails to satisfactorily complete any continuous assessment component in respect of each year may be required to repeat such component.

Each course examination and the project shall be graded according to the scheme given in Table 3.

Marks	Grade	Points Value
90-100	A+	4.00
80-89	A	4.00
75-79	A-	3.67
70-74	B+	3.33
65-69	B	3.00
60-64	B-	2.67
55-59	C+	2.33
50-54	C	2.00
45-49	C-	1.67
40-44	D+	1.33
30-39	D	1.00
20–29	D-	0.67
00-19	E	0.00

Table 3: *Grading Scheme*

Grading for Enhancement Courses

Marks	Grade
50-100	PASS
0-49	FAIL

The Grade Point Value (GPV) corresponding to the percentage score obtained by a student in respect of each such Course in the case shall be multiplied by its Credit Value and weighted across all Courses to obtain the Grade Point Average (GPA = Σ (GPV*Credits)/ Σ Credits) rounded to the second decimal place, of all the contributing Courses of the student. Such courses shall satisfy the minimum 30 Credits per academic year as prescribed in section 8. Example for GPA is given in table 4.

Course	Credits	Grade	Points value	Attempt	GPV (Pass)	GPV (Class)
IT1105	3	A+	4.00	2	4.00*3= 12.00	2.00*3= 6.00
IT1205	3	A	4.00	1	4.00*3= 12.00	4.00*3=12.00
IT 1305	3	A-	3.67	1	3.67*3= 11.01	3.67*3=11.01
EN1101	3	P	NA	NA	NA	NA
EN1201	2	F	NA	NA	NA	NA
EN1301	2	F	NA	NA	NA	NA
IT2105	3	C-	1.67	2	1.67*3= 5.01	1.67*3= 5.01
IT2205	4	D+	1.33	1	1.33*4= 5.32	1.33*4= 5.32
IT2305	4	C+	2.33	2	2.33*4= 9.32	2.00*4= 8.00
IT2405	3	C	2.00	1	2.00*3= 6.00	2.00*3= 6.00
GPA Credit Total	23				60.66	53.34
Pass GPA = 60.66 / 23 = 2.63						
Class GPA = 53.34 / 23 = 2.31						

Table 4: *Example for Grading Point Average*

6.2 AWARD OF CLASSES

In the case of a candidate who passes repeat subject of any course examination, the percentage score to be taken into consideration in determining the award of class shall be limited to C grade for a course examination unless the Senate decides otherwise.

To obtain the degree, a candidate should obtain C or higher grade for 20 credits for each year and the minimum period of completing the degree is three years and from 2020 a maximum period of 5 years will apply. Candidate should pass the project and all enhancement courses and it is compulsory to sit for all compulsory courses in each year.

6.2.1 FIRST CLASS

A candidate is eligible to be placed in the First Class if he/she has passed the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology as set out in section 6.1 and has:

(i) obtained a minimum overall Class GPA of 3.50; **AND**
(ii) an "B" grade for the Software Development Project.

6.2.2 SECOND CLASS (UPPER DIVISION)

A candidate is eligible to be placed in the Second Class (Upper Division) if he/she has passed the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology as set out in section 9.1 and has:

(i) obtained a minimum overall Class GPA of 3.25; **AND**
(ii) a minimum of a "B" grade for the Software Development Project.

6.2.3 SECOND CLASS (LOWER DIVISION)

A candidate is eligible to be placed in the Second Class (Lower Division) if he/she has passed the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology as set out in section 9.1 and has:

(i) obtaining a minimum overall Class GPA of 3.00; **AND**
(ii) a minimum of a "B" grade for the Software Development Project.



SECTION 7

AWARDS

7.1 OVERVIEW

The candidates have to apply to obtain examination transcripts and certificates. All certificates are awarded once a year during the respective awards ceremony. The candidates may apply for transcripts during anytime of the year using the online form and apply through post by paying transcript and postal fees.

7.2 TRANSCRIPTS

The University shall publish the names of candidates who are eligible to be awarded the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology. Each candidate, whether he has passed or not, shall be provided with a transcript giving details of the grades, GPV and GPA that the had obtained and the final result including classes, if any,

provided that, he makes an application for such transcript in the prescribed manner. Applications must be made using the online system and transcript will be either posted using your self- addressed envelope or can be collected from the BIT office. Minimum period required to issue a transcript is one week.

7.3 DEGREE

Degree certificates will be issued to graduates after the approval of the Senate of the University of Colombo, few months after the convocation ceremony.

7.4 DIPLOMAS AND HIGHER DIPLOMAS

A candidate who has obtained a minimum GPA of 2.0 for each course and has satisfactorily completed the continuous assessments and all courses as specified in section 7 in the First Year shall be awarded a Diploma in Information Technology.

A candidate who has obtained a minimum GPA of 2.0 for each course and has satisfactorily completed the continuous assessments and all courses as specified in section 7 in the Second Year and has obtained the Diploma in Information Technology shall be awarded a Higher Diploma in Information Technology.

7.5 AWARDS & PRIZES

Prof. V.K. Samaranayake Medal for the best performance at the Bachelor of Information Technology (External Degree)

1. The selection would be made by the examinations board that determines the award of the degree.
2. The award will be made to the student who is graduated at the first attempt with the overall class GPA among those who obtain a first or second class.
3. If there is no suitable candidate for the award, the interest accrued would be added to the endowment.
4. The award will consist of a medal and cash, the total sum of both being not more than 75% of the interest derived. Any unutilized interest will be credited to the endowment.
5. Any changes to the above conditions should be authorized by the Board of Management of the UCSC on the recommendation of the donor or his heirs.
6. The award may be named "Medal for the best performance at the BIT degree awarded by Prof. V.K. Samaranayake".

Award for the Best Software Development Project

1. This will be awarded at the BIT convocation to the student who graduated at the first attempt with the highest mark for the Software Development Project among those who obtain a first or second classes.
2. The selection would be made by the examinations board that determines the award of the degree.

Best e-Learner Awards (4 awards)

1. These four (4) awards (one award per semester for semesters 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th) will be awarded at the Diploma/Higher Diploma awards ceremony.
2. These awards will be made to the candidates who obtain the Diploma and/ or Higher Diploma at the first attempt.
3. These awards will be based on their performance at the VLE assessments and the active participation in the VLE forum discussions in each of the four semesters.
4. The value of each award would be Rs. 5,000/=.
5. The selection would be made by the examinations board that determines the Diploma and/or Higher Diploma.

Mr. M.J.P.U. Samanthilake Memorial Award (for the 3rd year)

The Mr. M.J.P.U. Samanthilake Memorial Award will be awarded to the candidate who,

1. obtains a First or Second (Upper) class
   AND
2. who has obtained the Diploma and Higher Diploma at the first attempt
   AND
3. Who has passed the 3rd year online Courses

The selection will be based on the highest mark obtained for 3rd year online courses. This will be awarded at the BIT convocation.

The selection would be made by the examinations board that determines the award of the degree.



SECTION 8

FEES & PAYMENTS

8.1 PROGRAMME FEES

Programme fees for Sri Lankan Citizens (in Sri Lankan Rs.) are given in Table 5.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	TOTAL
Application Processing (when applying)	1,000	--	--	1,000
Annual Registration / Renewal Fee	2,750	3,300	3,850	9,900
Course Examination (Each Course)	1,200	1,500	1,800	--
Course Examination (Enhancement Courses)	1,500/1200*	--	1,800**	--
Year Examination (minimum)	12,600	13,500	14,400	40,500
Project Examination Fee (Proposal & Dissertation submission)	--	--	6,000	6,000
TOTAL (minimum)	16,350	16,800	24,250	57,400

Table 5: *Programme Fees for Sri Lankan Citizens*

* Rs. 1,500/= for EN1101 : Communication Skills
* Rs. 1,200/= for EN1201 : Introduction to Mathematics
* Rs. 1,500/= for EN1301 : PC Applications
** Rs. 1,800/= for EN5101 : Fundamentals of Management
** Rs. 1,800/= for EN6502 : Introduction to Entrepreneurship

Fees in respect of referred course/project examination(s) are same as above.

8.2 MISCELLANEOUS FEES

Miscellaneous fees for Sri Lankan Citizens (in Sri Lankan Rs.) are given in Table 6.

Sit/Re-sit the e-Selection Test	1,000
To issue a duplicate BIT Identity Card	500
Academic Transcript with Grades	500
Academic Transcript with Grades & Marks (Sent only to Foreign Institutions named by the student)	750
Certificate for Diploma in Information Technology	1,000
Certificate for Higher Diploma in Information Technology	1,000
BIT Degree Certificate	2,500
Resubmission of Final Report (major corrections)	1,000
Surcharge Fee (late submissions/payments)	Double the relevant fee
Request letters to certify current registration status	100
Fee for the participation of the Awards Ceremony	1,500
Fee for the participation of the Convocation	1,500
Deferment Fee	250

Table 6: *Miscellaneous fees for Sri Lankan Citizens*

NB

1. All payments can be made to any People's bank branch on prescribed vouchers that can be downloaded from the BIT website (Please use all 4 copies of the voucher) or online payment.
2. Cash/Money Orders/Postal Orders will not be accepted
3. All fees are subject to revision.

8.3 FEES & PAYMENT FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS

Applications of the foreign students should be sent with the recommendation of the relevant foreign mission in Sri Lanka. The course fee for the foreign students from SAARC countries will be Rs. 50,000/= per year. The course fee for the students from other countries will be Rs. 100,000/= per year. The foreign students who repeat the courses should pay the charges defined by the External Degree Centre (EDC).
* All foreign students' applications will be especially scrutinized

SECTION 9

TRAINING INSTITUTES

Many training institutes have offered face to face classes and learning support for the BIT candidates. Over 200 institutes have participated in this process with around 50 institutions in some academic years. UCSC does not accredit any of these institutions but have recognised their contributions for the success of the programme. Each year UCSC publishes the summary of examination results of each institute for each course so that the candidates can identify the available institutions and plan their learning mode. More than half of the candidates study on their own with the help of the VLE and online/recommended material. In the academic year 2016, 31 institutions from 12 districts conducted training programme for five or more candidates. Among them 14 institutions were involved in all six semesters (marked * in Table 7)

*Latest list will be available on the BIT web site : *http://bit.cmb.ac.lk/institutes*

DISTRICT	INSTITUTE NAME
AMPARA	(1) Global Institute Of Professional Education
BATTICALOA	(1) *ESOFT Computer Studies
COLOMBO	(1) *Aurora Computer Studies, Maharagama
	(2) *E-Academy, Colombo 06
	(3) *Earth International, Colombo 08
	(4) Easl J Lanka
	(5) *ESOFT Computer Studies, Colombo 04
	(6) ESOFT Computer Studies, Colombo 06
	(7) ESOFT Computer Studies, Nugegoda
	(8) Foundation Of It Professionals, Pannipitiya
	(9) Foundation Of It Professionals, Colombo 08
	(10) *IDM Computer Studies, Colombo
	(11) *Matrix Institute of IT, Colombo 04
	(12) Openarc School of Business and Technology, Colombo 06
	(13) Wideawake Solutions, Pepiliyana
GALLE	(1) ESOFT Computer Studies
GAMPAHA	(1) Earth International
	(2) ESOFT Computer Studies, Gampaha
	(3) ESOFT Computer Studies, Kiribathgoda
	(4) *ESOFT Computer Studies, Negombo
JAFFNA	(1) ESOFT Computer Studies
	(2) *MIS BIT Campus
	(3) *Mobile@Net Computer Services
KANDY	(1) *ESOFT Computer Studies
KEGALLE	(1) Institute of Computer Studies
KURUNEGALA	(1) *ESOFT Computer Studies
MATARA	(1) Dbase School of Computing
	(2) ESOFT Computer Studies
	(3) IDM Computer Studies
RATNAPURA	(1) ITsoft Computer Studies, Balangoda
TRINCOMALEE	(1) ESOFT Computer Studies

Table 7: *Institutes involved in the BIT Programme in 2014/15*

SECTION 10

CONTACT

10.1 EXTERNAL DEGREE CENTRE

External Degrees Centre (EDC) is located at No 17, Swarna Road, Colombo 06. (Opposite Havlock City). Refer Figure 2 for the location of the BIT office.



Figure 2: *External Degree Centre (EDC) of the UCSC*

POSTAL ADDRESS : Coordinator,
External Degree Centre of UCSC,
No 17, Swarna Road, Colombo 06.

TEL : +94-11-4720511
FAX : +94-11-2682331

BIT WEB SITE : *http://www.bit.lk*
UCSC WEB SITE : *http://ucsc.lk*
VLE WEB ADDRESS : *vle.bit.lk/*

10.2 STAFF

Following staff members are directly connected with the BIT programme. However, you may directly communicate only with those listed with email or telephone and it should be for appropriate purpose.

Director of UCSC

Prof. K.P.Hewagamage

email : director@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk

Head of External Extention Programmes

Dr. D.A.S. Atukorale

email : eep@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk

Coordinator, External Degree Centre

Mr. L.P. Jayasinghe

email : edc@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk

Tel : (+94) 011-4720511

Senior Assistant Registrar, External Degree Centre

Ms. S.D. Chandralatha

email : saredc@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk

Tel : (+94) 011-4720511

Academic Coordinator of BIT

Prof. G. N. Wikramanayake

email : acc@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk

Coordinator, e-Learning Centre/ FIT

Dr. D.D.Karunarathne

email : elc@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk

10.3 OTHER PERSONNEL

Web Master for www.bit.lk web site

email : web@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk

e-Testing Administrator (Online Examinations)

email : gsh@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk

Tel : 011-2694391/ 011-2158949

VLE Administrator (Access to VLE)

email : admin@lms.bit.lk

Tel : (+94) 011-2158948

VLE Facilitator (VLE Content)

Web site : vle.bit.lk/

Tel : (+94) 011-2158948

Note: While all necessary information pertaining to students reading for the BIT degree is included in this handbook, the UCSC of the University of Colombo reserves the right to revise such information without prior notice.

APPENDIX A: APPRECIATION OF PROF. V. K. SAMARANAYAKE

An appreciation of the founder Director of the UCSC
Vidya Jyothi Professor V. K. SAMARANAYAKE
(1939 – 2007)



Vanniarachchige Kithsiri Samaranayake was born on the 22nd of May 1939 and had his early education in Hewavitharana Vidyalaya, Rajagiriya where his father was the principal and his mother was a teacher. He entered Ananda College in 1948 and then Royal College through a competitive examination in 1950.

Prof. V.K.Samaranayake entered the University of Ceylon to read for a degree in Science in 1956 having completed his secondary education at Ananda and Royal Colleges. He was selected to do a Special degree in Mathematics and obtained a First Class Honours degree in 1961.

Prof. Samaranayake entered the Imperial College, London in 1963 on a state scholarship for his postgraduate studies and then moved on to University College, London to complete his PhD in record time before returning home in 1966. At the age of just 35, in recognition of his great scholarship, the University of Colombo appointed him to its highest Academic position of Professor of Mathematics in 1974. He was subsequently appointed Senior Professor of Mathematics in 1984, invited to be the first Senior Professor of the newly created Chair in Computer Science in 1996 and appointed Emeritus Professor of the University of Colombo after his retirement in 2004. In recognition of which the University honoured him with the title Professor Emeritus of Computer Science, and conferred on him the Degree of Doctor of Science, Honoris Causa at its subsequent Convocation.

As it is not possible to confine the appreciation of his enormous service to the nation and his illustrious career as an academic and an administrator to a few pages, some of the significant milestones of his illustrious career are outlined below.

- 1987- He was appointed as Chairman of the Computer and Information Technology Council of Sri Lanka (CINTEC), which he served for 12 years. During this period he was also tasked with chairing the Presidential Task Force on Integrated R & D in Science & Technology 1997-2000 and the National Y2K Task Force in Sri Lanka 1998-2000.

- 1992 - He initiated the participation of Sri Lankan school children in Computer Programming by committing CINTEC funds for sending teams of 4 to the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI). Sri Lanka has been able to secure 3 Gold, 5 Silver and 13 Bronze medals at successive IOI's with a record of never returning without a medal since 1994

- In 1995 he was instrumental in setting up intensive discussions with Sri Lanka Telecom, to commence Internet services in Sri Lanka. These discussions eventually brought LEARN and Internet connectivity to Sri Lanka in 1996.

- He was instrumental in forming associations for Computer Training Organizations (ACTOS), for the Software Industry (SLASI), and the Computer Vendors (SLCVA). He also created the umbrella organization for these associations in the form of the Federation of IT Industry Associations (FITIA) which recently hosted the largest ICT event in Sri Lanka – the ASOCIO ICT Summit. He has also been involved with the well known ICT Trade Exhibition organization, INFOTEL whose Chairmanship he has held from 1997. INFOTEL has in turn been the major funding organization for many industry and human resource development efforts in the field of ICT.

- In 1984 he had his first major breakthrough with the full backing of the then Chancellor, Dr. P. R. Anthonis and Vice Chancellor Prof. Stanley Wijesundera in the form of a substantial JICA grant from the Government of Japan. Almost simultaneously, the UNDP provided some much needed research funding to build up Academic Faculty in Computer Science at the University of Colombo. Starting with the Statistical Unit and the Statistical Computing and Data Processing Centre within the Mathematics Department, Prof. Samaranayake first convinced the University to set up a Department of Statistics and Computer Science in 1985, the first of its kind in Sri Lanka, and then went onto create the first School in the university system in the form of the University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) in 2002.

- Commencing in the year 2000, Prof. Samaranayake initiated another major milestone in ICT HRD in Sri Lanka with the launch of the innovative Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT) External Degree programme which provides an ultimately scalable mechanism for affordable ICT education in a way that incorporates the private sector – a feat no other degree programme has been designed to do.

- Prof. Samaranayake's involvement in the scientific community has been no less impressive with the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS) electing him to the office of General President in 1994 and the National Academy of Sciences of Sri Lanka electing him as a Fellow of the Academy, its Vice President and finally its President for 1998-99.

- Commencing with the meagre funding resources extended by donors in the 1970's in an era when the developed countries themselves were just getting into the area of serious ICT human resource development, Prof. Samaranayake commenced his quest of directing all local and foreign funding to develop ICT Human Resource development at the University of Colombo.´´

- Prof. Samaranayak has been bestowed with several national awards in the form of the Lions' Club Gold Medal for the Most Outstanding Citizen of Sri Lanka in 1986, the Vishva Prasadini Award in 1996 on the occasion of the 80th birthday of the then Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike and the VidyaJyothi Presidential Award in 1998.

- Prof. Samaranayake's characteristic skill at excelling in multiple tasks is also demonstrated by his continuing involvement in research, being named a Fellow of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, USA in 2001, Research Fellow at the National Centre for Digital Government at Harvard University, USA in 2003 and the impending appointment as Visiting Fellow in the Digital Vision Programme at Stanford University, USA in 2005. A particularly high point of this role was when he simultaneously chaired two International Conferences while playing a key role in the whole of the Government declared Information Technology Week in December 2004. He also continued as Chairman of the International Information Technology Conference till his untimely demise.

APPENDIX B: MILESTONES in the pioneering efforts in Computing of the University of Colombo

1967	Teaching in Computing began at then the University of Ceylon, Colombo
1968	Establishment of the Statistical Unit
1974	Establishment of the Statistical Consultancy and Data Processing Service
1980	Establishment of Computer Centre
1985	Establishment of the Department of Statistics and Computer Science (DSCS)
1986	Introduction of the first ever Postgraduate Degree in Computing in Sri Lanka
1987	Establishment of the Institute of Computer Technology (ICT) (Supported by JICA)
1989	Introduction of the first ever M.Sc. Degree in Computer Science (Supported by UNDP)
1989	Occupation of the Computer Science Building Complex
1992	Commencement of Third Country Training Programs (TCTP) (Supported by JICA)
1997	Director ICT Presented with JICA President's Award for International Co-orporation
1998	Commencement of Graduate Training Programme
1999	ICT Presented with JICA President's award
2000	Introduction of the Bachelor of information Technology (BIT) External Degree
2001	Commissioning of Campus Wide Fiber Network (Supported by Sida)
2001	Establishment of the Department of Computer Science (DCS) by splitting DSCS
2002	Establishment of the Advanced Media Technology Centre (ADMTC) (Supported by JICA)
2002	Establishment of the UCSC by merging the ICT & DCS
2002	Commencement of Advanced M.Sc. (Research based) and Master of Information Technology
2002	Implementation of Virtual Learning Environment for BIT (External Degree) using Software System called The Education
2004	Introduction of the ICT degree programme for students following any of the streams at GCE A/L
2004	Implementation of Virtual Learning Environment for Internal Undergraduates using Moodle
2005	Implementation of Virtual Learning Environment for all UCSC Students
2010	Commencement of Master of Science in Information Security Degree Programme
2011	Establishment of the Center for Digital Forensic
2012	Commencement of Masters in Bioinformatics jointly with IBMBB
2012	Software Engineering Specialization was added to the Computer Science Degree Programme
2012	Changing the name of BICT Degree Programme in to Information System after the Curriculum Revision of BICT.
2013	Started Student Exchange Programme with Umea University, Sweden



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