

Masters in Development Practice (MDP) at the University of Peradeniya

Information for Foreign Students

Partners: University of Peradeniya, Foundation for Environment, Climate & Technology, Earth Institute at Columbia University, Maldivian Ministry of Environment, and Open University of Sri Lanka

A new Masters in Development Practice (MDP) shall be launched at the University of Peradeniya in collaboration with the FECT, Columbia University, Open Universities and others starting in October 2011. The program is hosted by the Department of Economics at the University of Peradeniya.

VISA's – International students can apply for two different kinds of visas. Details at <http://www.immigration.gov.lk/>

Student Visa

A student visa gives residency rights. Student visas could be issued to persons who have registered as a student in the University of Peradeniya.

The visa fee is waived if the Ministry of Higher Education recommends a free visa.

You may obtain a tourist visa initially and convert it to student visa once you have registered for the MDP at University of Peradeniya.

<http://www.immigration.gov.lk/web/index.php?lang=en>

Tourist Visa

There are two categories of visit visas to Sri Lanka – tourist and business. A tourist visa is issued for a short period of time. **Visa fee is approximately \$40**

However once the prospective student is admitted to the University of Peradeniya, tourist visa can be converted into a student visa easily by visiting Ministry of Higher Education (<http://www.mohe.gov.lk/>) and Department of Immigration and Emigration.

Requirements to apply for the Tourist Visa

Sri Lanka Immigration and Emigration may grant or issue a visa to you if -

- I. Sri Lanka Immigration & Emigration is satisfied that you are suitable to enter Sri Lanka.
- II. Sri Lanka Immigration & Emigration approves the purpose for which you are entering Sri Lanka. *(Once you have selected to follow MDP, University of Peradeniya will issue a student identity to process visa)*
- III. You hold a passport valid for a minimum period of six months from the date you arrive in Sri Lanka.
- IV. Sri Lanka Immigration & Emigration is satisfied that you have adequate funds for your maintenance whilst in Sri Lanka and for the payment of your return passage to the country which issued your passport.
- V. You are in possession of a written assurance (ticket) to return to the country of domicile or a visa to the next country of destination if you are a visit visa holder.

Applying for Driving License in Sri Lanka

Unofficial information is available at

<http://www.simonshareef.com/2011/02/convert-your-driving-license-to-sri-lanka-license/>

Further information can get from MDP Coordinator, FECT, Sri Lanka

For further information please contact:

Address: FECT,
MDP Office, c/o Maintenance Office,
Mahaweli Headworks Division, Digana Village,
Rajawella, Sri Lanka.

Email : mdpfect@gmail.com

Telephone: +94-81-2376746

| Accommodation | Health Care | Transport |
|--|--|---|
| <p>University does not provide accommodation to foreign students. But students have access to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boarding houses: \$50*/month • Apartment: \$150*/month • Full House: \$250*/month <p>* Minimum cost</p> | <p>Students can get emergency treatment from University Health Center located within the University premises.</p> <p>For further treatment both national and private hospitals are nearby.</p> | <p>For \$55* students can arrange taxis from Katunayake International airport to the University of Peradeniya which is about 3 hours away and about 110 km. The fare for local public transport is much lower. Buses, Rail travel are generally much lower.</p> |

What can you do when you are staying in Sri Lanka?

Here are some options:

| Visit Sri Lanka | Learn more languages |
|--|---|
| <p>Sri Lanka is endowed with plenty of places of interest from aesthetic, ecological, archaeological, and cultural sights.</p> <p>Some useful private websites are http://www.srilankatourism.org/ http://www.srilanka.travel/ http://goldensrilanka.com/</p> | <p>Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya</p> <p>Students can apply for an additional subject to the MDP curricular and follow the subject with other students in the University of Peradeniya.</p> <p>The University has an English Language Teaching Unit and a Department of English, Sinhala, Tamil, Arabic and Islamic Civilization, Classical languages, Pali and Buddhist Studies etc.</p> <p>http://www.arts.pdn.ac.lk/ http://www.pdn.ac.lk/arts/ www.arts.pdn.ac.lk/eltu/arts.html www.arts.pdn.ac.lk/eltu/contact.html</p> <p>There are private institutions in Kandy offering language courses</p> |
| <p>Information Technology facilities</p> <p>University of Peradeniya has its own computer unit which is open 24 hours a day. Student will get a private account with access to the Internet.</p> <p>University IT Center offers courses related to information technology. See http://www.ceit.pdn.ac.lk/</p> <p>MDP students shall have access to the computer lab of the Department of Economic and Statistics.</p> | <p>Theological Studies and Meditation</p> <p>The Kandy region is a center for religious activity (especially Buddhism). These include the Sri Lanka International Buddhist Academy (SIBA). http://www.siba.lk/ http://www.vipassana.com/ http://www.dhamma.org/ http://www.nilambe.org/</p> |
| <p>Library facilities</p> <p>University has one of the best libraries in Sri Lanka. It holds over 400,000 volumes in its collection. There is one main library and 8 branch libraries located across the campus. http://www.lib.pdn.ac.lk/</p> | <p>Entertainment Opportunities at University of Peradeniya</p> <p>University students organize cultural and sport activities such as dramas at Open Air Theater, musical programs, university games, and film festivals. Students have privileges to use indoor and outdoor gymnasium for the physical activities. http://www.pdn.ac.lk/uop/cl/Cultural_activitiesn.html</p> |