

事例 9 ラオス

Case Study on Faculty of Economics and Business Management (FEBM) of the National University of Laos (NUOL)

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1. The credit and the grading systems in Lao PDR

In the past, the studies in higher education of Laos were translated from the French model and based on the examination system. The students must have passed successfully the annual examination before being allowed to enter the upper class.

Since the establishment of NUOL in 1995, the examination system is replaced by the credit system. This is an important component of the higher education reform in order align the studying system of Laos with those of other countries in the region.

The credit system of the higher education formulated in three minister decrees was finalized and approved by the minister of education on the 17th July 2001: (1) the minister's decree concerning the national standard of the higher vocational diploma programs No. 0922/Ed.Vo./2001, (2) the minister's decree concerning the national standard of the bachelor degree programs No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2001, and (3) the minister's decree concerning the national standard of the master degree's programs No. 0924/Ed.Vo./2001.

- (1) The minister's decree concerning the national standard of the higher vocational diploma programs No. 0922/Ed.Vo./2001:
- * The duration of the study is in general 3 academic years.
 - * An academic year is divided into 2 semesters. Each semester is composed of at least 16 weeks, and a week is composed of maximum 35 hours.
 - * One credit is equivalent to:
 - 1 hour of lecture per week during 1 semester totaling at least 16 hours, or
 - 2-3 hours of tutorial works per week during 1 semester totaling at least 32-48 hours, or
 - 3-6 hours of practical works or internship per week during 1 semester totaling at least 48-96 hours.
 - * The total number of credits of the program is between 90 and 120.
 - * The program's structure must be composed of:
 - General education subjects: 18-30 credits,
 - Basic technical subjects: 30-36 credits,
 - Specialized subjects: 40-50 credits,
 - Facultative subjects: 2-4 credits.
 - * Students admitted in the programs are upper secondary education graduates or equivalent.
 - * The following student evaluation system must be utilized:

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Grade	Meaning	grade's mark
A	Excellent	4.0
B+	Very Good	3.5
B	Good	3.0
C+	Fairly good	2.5
C	Fair	2.0
D+	Poor	1.5
D	Very Poor	1.0
F	Fail	0

(2) The minister's decree concerning the national standard of the bachelor degree programs No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2002:

* The duration of the study is in general 5 academic years including the preparatory year of foundation studies.

* One credit is equivalent to:

- 1 hour of lecture per week during 1 semester totaling at least 16 hours, or
- 2-3 hours of tutorial works per week during 1 semester totaling at least 32-48 hours, or
- 3-6 hours of practical works or internship per week during 1 semester totaling at least 48-96 hours.

* The total number of credits of the program is between 150 and 190.

* The program's structure must be composed of:

- General education subjects: 60-70 credits,
- Basic technical subjects: 50-65 credits,
- Specialized subjects: 37-50 credits,
- Facultative subjects: 3-5 credits.

* Students admitted in the programs are upper secondary education graduates or equivalent.

* The student evaluation system is the same as mentioned earlier.

(3) The minister decree concerning the national standard of the master degree programs No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003:

* The duration of the study is 1.5 to 2 academic years

* One credit is equivalent to:

- 1 hour of lecture per week during 1 semester totaling at least 16 hours, or
- 2-3 hours of tutorial works per week during 1 semester totaling at least 32-48 hours, or
- 3-6 hours of practical works or internship per week during 1 semester totaling at least 48-96 hours.
- 3-4 hours per week totaling 48-64 working hours per semester of independent study or thesis.

* The total number of credits of the program is between 36 and 48 for the one and a half year program, and between 40 and 54 for the two year program.

* The program's structure can be designed in 2 options:

- Option 1: Thesis writing or research works which can be organized in 2 sub Options:
 - Sub Option 1: Thesis writing equaling at least 36 or 40 credits
 - Sub Option 2: Thesis writing equaling 6-12 credits plus the course

work which is composed of compulsory subjects equaling 20-32 credits and facultative subjects, 10-20 credits.

- Option 2: Course work which is composed of compulsory subjects equaling 20-32 credits, facultative subjects, 12-28 credit and an independent study, 3-6 credits.
- * Students admitted in the programs are bachelor degree's holders or equivalent.
- * The student evaluation system is the same as mentioned earlier.

2. Credit transfer and quality assurance systems in Lao PDR

(1) Credit transfer system:

Up to the present time the credit transfer system applies only within the universities in the country: National University of Laos, University of Champasack, Souphanouvong University, University of Savannakhet and some private colleges which are recognized by the ministry of education.

The case of FEBM-NUOL:

In the past years, they were several cases of students moving from the Faculty of Management of the University of Champasack and Souphanouvong to the FEBM-NUOL in Vientiane and vice versa.

(2) Quality assurance system:

The establishment of the quality assurance system of the National University of Laos is under process. For the purpose, the personnel training were organized through series of seminars. The quality assurance unit is created at the ministerial level as well as at the university level. To the present time, the quality assurance is based mainly on the minister's decree concerning the national standard of the programs (minister's decrees No. 0922/Ed.Vo./2001., No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2001, and No. 0924/Ed.Vo./2001) and the constitution and regulations of the National University of Laos (Decrees, Constitution and Regulations concerning the National University of Laos, 2nd edition, June 2007, National University of Laos).

The case of FEBM-NUOL:

The development of a new educational program follows the followings steps: (1) New program identification from tracer study and employers' survey, (2) The FEBM Academic Council approves, (3) the new program is developed by the lecturers of a Faculty, (4) submission to FEBM Academic Council, (5) submission to the NUOL Academic Committee, (6) submission to the University Council, and finally, the approved program is sent to the minister of education through the department of higher education for final approval.

The new educational program documents are composed of:

In principle, part of the syllabi (teaching subjects' content) can be modified every year, the existing curricula can be modified or suppressed and the new ones can be developed every 4 to 5 years to fit with the changing situation. For these purposes, every 4-5 years, Faculty should organize the tracer study of its graduates and the employers' surveys in order to collect

the necessary information on the quality of the education and on the needs of the labor market.

The class attendance control, the teachers' evaluation, and the grading systems are functioning at FEBM.

Every year the FEBM organizes the pedagogical training for its newly recruited teachers.

3. Case study on Faculty of Economics and Business Management (FEBM)

(1) Introduction on FEBM

Source: FEBM Brochure

NUOL founded nine faculties including Faculty of Economics and Business Management under the decree of Prime Minister No. 50/PM/95 and with the loan from Asian Development Bank under Post-Secondary Education Rationalization Project. Till date, FEBM has received assistance from seven projects initiated by governments, international organizations and universities. This include FEBM building construction by Japanese government, 5 years of technical cooperation with Japan International Cooperation Agency, JICA, national universities of Vietnam, scholarships from Germany for studies in two universities in Thailand, SEAMO-UNESCO for staff training, research and fellowship in Belgium from French Community University Council of Belgium and others. The FEBM at present is located in Dong Dok campus, Vientiane.

Currently, FEBM offers 8 bachelors courses under two departments (Economics and Business Management) for the undergraduate program. As for graduate program, the faculty offers three masters degree courses.

FEBM also provides "Special Programs and Bridging" for working adults and those with working experiences in related field since 2000. Previously, FEBM had offered joint master program with National Economic University of Hanoi. From 2007-2008, MBA program is made available as a result of collaboration with Lao-Japan Center. Later from 2008-2009, FEBM was able to launch its own masters program in economics.

With regard to teaching staff, FEBM initially started with 7 staff. At present, the faculty staff has expanded to 76 members (as of 2008). Most of them have attained qualification of masters and three members have obtained PhD degree.

At present as of 2008, there are 4200 students enrolled in the faculty, of which 1200 are attending regular course and 3000 special courses.

(2) Basic data

- Name: Faculty of Economics and Business Management (FEBM) of National University of Laos
- Year of Establishment: 1996
- Number of departments: 2 (Economics; Business Administration)
- Number of degrees: Bachelor and Masters

- Number of students (B: 4,000 - M: 160 - D: 0)
- Number of international students (B: 20 – M: 0 – D: 0) All are Vietnamese students
- Existence of International Office: Yes, we have an International Cooperation Unit which is in the FEBM Administration Office.
- Existence of student exchange program: No
- Number of International curriculum (conducted in foreign languages): None

(3) Academic Credit System

1) General information on academic

- Our academic year is divided into 2 semesters. Each semester is composed of 5 months' working and 1 month's vacation. The academic year starts on the 1st October for year 1, and Mid September for the rest (year 2, 3, 4, 5)
- The years of undergraduate programs are so far 5 years; but they are reduced to 4 years from 2010 as the years of secondary education will change from 6 to 7. From 2010, the years of basic education will become: primary, 5 years + Lower Secondary, 3 years + Upper Secondary, 4 years)
- The years of graduate programs (master degree's programs) are 2 years or 1.5 year (See "The minister decree concerning the national standard of the master degree programs No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003" mentioned earlier).
- Number of average credit needed for graduate (undergraduate, graduate) (See "The minister's decree concerning the national standard of the bachelor degree programs No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2002" and "The minister decree concerning the national standard of the master degree programs No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003" mentioned earlier).
- Percentage of average credit for required subject (courses) and elective subjects needed for graduation (undergraduate, graduate) (See The minister's decree concerning the national standard of the bachelor degree programs No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2002" and "The minister decree concerning the national standard of the master degree programs No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003" mentioned earlier)
- Academic field which requires the least credit for graduation and most number of credit for graduation are more or less the same for different programs or departments.
- Average number of credit per subject is 3 credits and there are a few difference of the average credit number per subject between academic fields, in our Faculty.
- The graduating thesis of undergraduate program has the most number of credits: 10 (equivalent to 3 subjects)

2) Credit conversion and accreditation system

- The credit conversion is based mainly on contact hours (lecture and tutorial), and is the same for undergraduate and graduate programs.
- The credit allocation for subjects is according to the minister's decrees (No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2002 and No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003)

3) Credit Transfer System

- It is possible to transfer the credits of general education subjects and of common courses between the Department of Economics and the Department of Management, at undergraduate level.
- In practice, we take into account both the nature of the subject and the number of teaching hours in credit transfer.
- Currently, there are domestic credits transfer are between the public universities, between private colleges, and between private colleges (which are officially recognized by the ministry of education) and public universities, as all these institutions follows the same credit system issued by the minister of education.
- There is no cross-listing subjects system.
- There is no international curriculum in the faculty.
- To the present time, there is no specific regulation on the credit transfer from universities in foreign countries.
- There is no credit transfer for double degree and/or joint degree program at present.
- There is nothing to mention on the different reactions among departments on credit transfer system.

4) Credit notation system and Others

- The notation of credits on course catalogue, syllabus and academic report can be referred in Appendix 1 and 2.
- As for calculation of Grade Point Average, see copy of transcript in Appendix 3 and 4.
- There is no subject without credit.
- There is no other different credit system for the courses.

5) Academic Grading System

① Academic Assessment Regulations

- Both relative and absolute assessment is permitted. Most of the time lecturers use “absolute” assessment when the result of the examination is normal and “relative” when the results are very bad.
- The faculty keeps the original score electronically.
- The grading scale is described in the minister’s decrees (No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2002 and No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003)
- The grade is based on all mentioned the question, level of achievement and learning outcome stated in syllabus.
- Normally, it requires 1 month after the end of the examination to issued grade certificate. If the grade is not submitted in time, the concerned lecturer has to explain to the head of department.
- There is no difference in grading system between undergraduate and graduate programs.
- The GPA does have a significant influence on students in both, employment and further study.
- At present, there is no university educational program with other universities within the country.
- There is no student exchange program with universities overseas, thus the accreditation of grade does not apply.

② Description of credit

- The grading system is yet to be explained in Home Page of the University.
- The syllabus indicates the grading system.
- For the format of grades indication in grade certificate, see copy of transcript in Appendix 3)

6) International Curriculum, International Education Program

- There is no international curriculum and international educational program.
- There is no information on the international programs in English on the Internet and printed materials.

7) Additional information: Undergraduate Program of Business Management

Basic Information:

- Name of the curriculum: Undergraduate program of business management.
- Name of the graduating certificate: Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.)
- Executing Unit: the Department of Business Management of the Faculty of Economics and Business Management, the National University of Laos.
- Rationale and Objectives of the curriculum

Rationale

Since 1986, the Lao Government commenced to implement the New Economic Mechanism aiming at gradually transforming the economy of the country from centrally planned to market oriented. In this enterprise, our country is facing with difficulties among which a fundamental and crucial one is the lack of the qualified human resource in running businesses. Therefore in June 1995, the Faculty of Economic and Business Management (FEBM) was established and was given a mission of training quality human resource in the field of economics and management to meet the changing needs of the country.

Objectives

Characteristics of the curriculum:

The curriculum has the following characteristics:

- Responding to the requirement of the strategic mission of the nation that is safeguarding and developing the country.
- Having the quality and relevance that fit the realities of the Lao society as well as the principles of the pedagogy.
- Being compatible with the regional and international standards:
 - * The graduates from FEBM, if desire, should be able to further study abroad.
 - * The graduates from FEBM should be capable to work efficiently in the inter-cultural context, within the international cooperation agencies or within an international team.
 - * FEBM itself should be capable to cooperate and have the exchange programs with the foreign universities or institutions.
- Emphasizing at producing broad profile business managers possessing an interdisciplinary knowledge, a solid basis of business management fundamentals and of emerging business sectors of the country. They must be capable to adapt themselves to diverse situation they will face in their professional life.

- Respecting the international trends by giving importance to the international dimension, the communication skills, and the necessary of modern information technology.

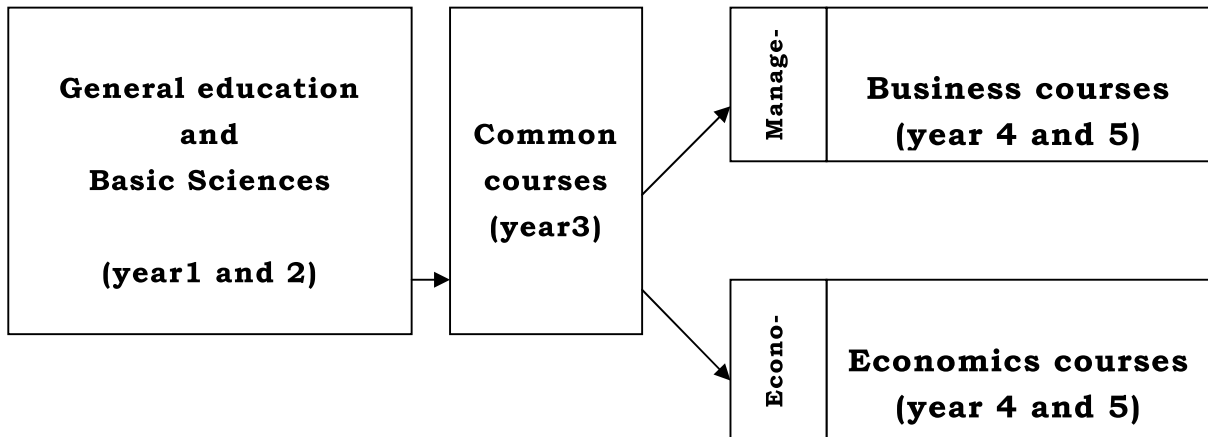
Profile of the graduate:

- *Human qualities:*
 - * Having a high sense of patriotism and the virtue of the good citizen
 - * Respecting professional and social ethics
 - * Being aware of and acting to preserve Lao cultures and the environment.
 - * Having a spirit of team work, of solidarity within the working unit, the organization and outside.
 - * Having initiative and responsibility vis-à-vis the jobs confided and paying continuously attention to self-development.
- *Skills and knowledge:*
 - * Having a solid knowledge in business management principles and in contextual knowledge of the emerging business sectors of the country.
 - * Having good skills and knowledge in management for these emerging sectors.
 - * Being capable to utilize theoretical principles and quantitative techniques learnt for analyzing and solving the real problems.
 - * Having a good basis of a cross-disciplinary knowledge, good communication skills in writing, speaking, and the basic modern IT
 - * Always open to the “new”.
- Starting date: Academic year 1998/99
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- Students enrollment:

AY	Number of students (drop rate 10%)					Total	Expected graduates
	Year1	Year2	Year3	Year4	Year5		
98-99	200					200	
99-00	200					380	
00-01	200	180				550	
01-02	200	180	170			710	
02-03	200	180	170	160		865	
03-04	200	180	170	160	155	865	155

- Admittance: In accordance with the regulations concerning the conditions of admittance issued by the National University of Laos.
- Selection: In accordance with the regulations concerning the students’ selection issued by the National University of Laos.
- Educational system: In accordance with the regulations concerning the undergraduate programs issued by the National University of Laos
- Duration of the study: The duration of the undergraduate program in business management is 5 years

- Structure of the program:



- General education courses 30 credits
 - Basic sciences courses 40 credits
 - Business management courses:
 - * Common courses (with economics) 37 credits
 - * Core courses 58 credits
 - * Facultative courses 6 credits
 - * Internship and graduating project: 9 credits
- Total: 180 credits

4. Syllabus of Faculty of Economic and Business Management

SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to management	CODE: MG2002
2 CREDITS	
NAME OF LECTURER(S) : Khamlusa Nouansavanh	
CONTACT ADDRESS: FEBM, Dongdok, Tel 720160	
PRE-REQUISITE: no	
PRE-REGISTRATION: no	
COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduction to basic principles and techniques of management: production, finance, accounting, investment, marketing and personnel management.	

REQUIRED DOCUMENT		
Document title: Textbook - Introduction to business administration	Author: Urs Brumbacher & M. Giger, Revised by: Khamlusa Nouanasavanh and Khampheui Phommachanh	Imprint: FEBM library
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENT		
Document title: to be recommended later when the lists of books at FEBM library will be known	Author:	Imprint:

LAB MANUAL: no
OTHER MATERIALS: no

COURSE OBJECTIVE: By the end of the course, students will understand what business management is, its role and importance; and acquire basic principles and techniques in management (production, finance, accounting, marketing, personnel)
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EVALUATION:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 Quizzes: 15% + 15% = 30% - 2 Homework: 10% + 10% = 20% - 1 Examination: 50%

LESSONS' CONTENT & ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE		
Week	TOPIC	READING & ASSIGNMENT
1	<u>Lesson1: Organizations and Structures:</u> - Classification of businesses - Organizational structures - Criteria governing the foundation of a company	Textbook chapters 3 and 4
2	<u>Lesson 2: Management:</u> - Role, functions, levels - Strategic management	Textbook chapter 4
3	Lesson2 (continued) - Politics and Policies - Operational management	
4	<u>Lesson 3: Production:</u> - Production system and process - Important conceptual elements in the theory of production: concept of cost	Textbook chapter 6 Giving Homework 1

5	<p>Lesson 3 (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important conceptual elements in the theory of production: concept of sale revenue, concept of profit - Calculus examples <p><u>Lesson 4: Procurement and Inventory</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procurement and Purchase - Procurement Planning - Inventory types and functions 	<p>Textbook chapter 5</p> <p>Collecting Homework 1</p>
6	<p>Lesson 4 (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ABC analysis - Economic Ordered Quantity Model - Calculus examples 	<p>Announcing Quiz 1</p>
7	<p>QUIZ 1 (50mn)</p> <p><u>Lesson 5: Marketing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marketing? - Market exploration 	<p>Textbook chapter 7</p>
8	<p>Lesson 5 (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marketing plan - Marketing Mix 	
9	<p><u>Lesson6: Financing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concept, types - Debt financing - Special case: Refinancing based on depreciation 	<p>Textbook chapter 8</p> <p>Giving Homework 2</p>
10	<p>Lesson 6 (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Financing and profitability, liquidity -Financial planning and policy - Calculus example 	<p>Collecting Homework 2</p>
11	<p><u>Lesson 7: Investment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concept, purposes and forms - Evaluation of individual assets of a company - Evaluation of a company as a whole 	<p>Textbook chapter 9</p>
12	<p>Lesson 7 (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investment calculus - Calculus examples 	<p>Announcing Quiz 2</p>
13	<p>QUIZ 2</p> <p><u>Lesson8: Accounting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purpose - Balance sheet, Income statement, Ledgers 	<p>Textbook chapter 10</p>

14	Lesson 8 (continued) - Balance account of a business unit - Costing and costing methods - Calculus example <u>Lesson9: Personnel management</u> - Leadership -Tasks of personnel manager	Textbook chapter 11
15	Lesson 9 (continued) - Management tools to lead - Personnel policy Recommendation on final examination	
16	Final writing examination (90 min)	

5. Sample of Faculty of Economics and Business Management Transcript



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY
 Ministry of Education
 National University of Laos
 Faculty of Economics and Business Management

No:.....FEBM/.....

Date:.....

DEGREE AWARD: Business Management

TRANSCRIPT

Name: Date of Birth: Place of Birth: ID:

Course Code	Course Title	Credit	Grade	Course Code	Course Title	Credit	Grade
	Begin (2006-2007)				Sem.GPA=	17	2.68
811MI222	Micro Economics 1	3	1.00		Cum.GPA=	97	2.56
811MA222	Macro Economics 1	3	2.00		First Term (2008-2009)		
811EC221	Introduction Economics	2	2.00	820GP509	Graduating Project (for Business)	10	3.50
820IM201	Introduction to Management	2	3.00	820SM509	Strategic Management	3	2.50
820OM200	Office Management	2	3.50	821EP517	Entrepreneurship	3	3.50
820AC201	General Accounting	3	3.00	821IB519	International Business Management	3	2.50
210ST101	Statistics	3	3.50	821PM519	Project Management	3	2.50
820MT201	Mathematics for Business I	3	2.50		Sem.GPA=	22	3.09
	Sem.GPA=	21	2.52		Cum.GPA=	119	2.66
	Cum.GPA=	21	2.52				
	First Term (2006-2007)						
800EL303	English III	2	3.00				
811MA223	Macro Economics 2	3	2.00				
811MI223	Micro Economics 2	3	2.00				
812CE321	Comparative Economics 1	2	2.50				
820MA302	Managerial Accounting	3	2.00				
820MK301	Principles of Marketing	3	2.50				
820OB301	Organisation Behavior	3	3.00				
	Sem.GPA=	19	2.39				
	Cum.GPA=	40	2.46				
	Second Term (2006-2007)						
800EL304	English IV	2	3.00				
812IE331	International Economics 1	3	1.00				
820BF302	Business Finance	3	3.00				
820BL303	Business Law	3	3.00				
820HR302	Human Resource Management	3	3.50				
820MM302	Marketing Management	3	2.00				
820QA303	Quantitative Analysis	3	3.50				
	Sem.GPA=	20	2.70				
	Cum.GPA=	60	2.54				
	First Term (2007-2008)						
820EB401	English Business I	2	3.50				
820MS409	Management Information System	3	2.50				
820PO404	Production and Operation Management	3	2.50				
820RM409	Research Method	3	2.50				
822AF422	Advance Financial Management	3	2.00				
823IK433	International Marketing	3	2.00				
812IE432	International Economics 2	3	3.00				
	Sem.GPA=	20	2.53				
	Cum.GPA=	80	2.54				
	Second Term (2007-2008)						
820BE402	English Business II	2	2.50				
820TM400	Tourism Management	3	2.50				
821AB419	Agribusiness Management	3	2.50				
821SB418	Small Business Management	3	1.50				
822BK429	Banking Management	3	3.50				
823LM433	Logistics Management	3	3.50				

NOTES: Grading System

A = 4.00; B+ = 3.50

B = 3.00; C+ = 2.50

C = 2.00; D+ = 1.50

D = 1.00; F = 0.00

Head of Business Management Department

Dean

6. Academic Grading System of NUOL

- Grading System

Grade	Grade Point	Mean/Signification
A	4.00	Excellent
B+	3.50	Very Good
B	3.00	Good
C+	2.50	Fairly Good
C	2.00	Fair
D+	1.50	Poor
D	1.00	Very Poor
F	0.00	Fail

- Other signification.

Sign	Description	Remark
<i>I</i>	Incomplete	
<i>P</i>	Pass	Credit uncounted
<i>W</i>	Withdraw	
<i>S</i>	Satisfactory	
<i>U</i>	Unsatisfactory	
<i>IP</i>	In Progress	
<i>V</i>	Visitor	
<i>AU</i>	Audit	Credit uncounted
<i>CR</i>	Credit	Credit counted

- GPA and CGPA calculations.

GPA – Grade Point Average (in each semester/term)

CGPA – Cumulative Grade Point Average

Example : To calculate the GPA and CGPA for Mr XXX

1st semester

n ₁			N ₁		G ₁
No.	Course ID	Course Name	Number of Credit	Grade	Grade Point
1	A01	Lao language & culture	2	B	3.00
2	A02	Lao studies-1	3	C+	2.50
3	A03	Environment & development	1	C	2.00
4	A04	Math-1	3	D+	1.50
5	A05	Physics	3	C+	2.50
6	A06	English-1	2	B+	3.50
7	A07	World history	3	B	3.00

$$\text{Semester GPA is : } \text{GPA1} = \frac{\sum(G_1 \times N_1)}{\sum(N_1)}, \quad n_1 = 1, 2, \dots, 7$$

$$\text{GPA1} =$$

$$= \frac{(3.00 \times 2) + (2.50 \times 3) + (2.00 \times 1) + (1.50 \times 3) + (2.50 \times 3) + (3.50 \times 2) + (3.00 \times 3)}{17}$$

$$= \frac{6 + 7.50 + 2 + 4.50 + 7.50 + 7 + 9}{17} = \frac{43.50}{17} = 2.56$$

$\text{GPA1} = 2,56$

7. Comparative information on National Universities in Laos

- National University of Laos (All Faculties)
- National University of Laos (Faculty of Economics and Business Management)
- Souphanouvong University (All Faculties)

(1) Basic data

University name	National University of Laos	National University of Laos (FEBM)	Souphanouvong University
Year of Establishment	5th November 1996	5th November 1996	4 th November 2003
# of departments	11 Faculties, 43 Divisions Departments and 6 -Faculty of Sciences -Faculty of Engineering -Faculty of Agriculture -Faculty of Letters -Faculty of Education -Faculty of Economics and Business Administration -Faculty of Architecture -Faculty of Laws and Political Science -Faculty of Forestry -Faculty of Social Sciences -Environment and Development	2 Departments -Economics -Business Management	6 Faculties and 17 Departments University started with 3 departments and 7 departments: -Faculty of Education -Faculty of Tourism and Economic -Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry Later expanded to include -Faculty of Engineering -Faculty of Architecture -Faculty of Linguistic
# of degrees	6 1) Higher diploma only exist for certain subjects of certain faculties, 2) Bachelor, 3) Master, 4) Doctor, 5) Expert 1, 6) Expert 2	2 1) Bachelor, 2) Master	1 Bachelor
# of students	As of 2008 -Higher diploma: 4,062 -Bachelor: 30,920 -Master: 466	Bachelor: 4,000 Master: 160	Bachelor: More than 4,500
# of international students	As of 2008 -Higher diploma: 0 -Bachelor: 549	Bachelor: 20 (All are Vietnamese students)	Bachelor: 24 (23 Vietnamese, 1 South Korean).
Existence of International Office	Yes, (International Relation Office)	Yes, (International Cooperation Unit of FEBM Administration Office)	Yes, (newly established International office with 5 staff)
Student exchange program	No	No	No
International curriculum	Cooperation on curriculum program	No	No
Languages taught in international	English, Vietnamese, Thai	No	English

curriculum # of international curriculum	4 (project basis)	No	No
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(2) Academic Credit System

1) General information

University name	National University of Laos	National University of Laos (FEBM)	Souphanouong University
Academic calendar	2 semesters in a year. 1 semester is 5 months working and 1 month vacation.	2 semesters in a year. 1 semester is 5 months working and 1 month vacation.	2 semesters in a year. 1 semester is three months.
Undergraduate program	Bachelor (5 years of general studies + specialized field)	Bachelor (5 years = 2 years general studies + 3 years specialized field)	Bachelor (5 years = 1 year general studies + 4 years specialized field) or (5 years = 2 years general studies + 3 years specialized field)
Graduate program	Masters (1.5 – 2 years)	Masters (1.5 – 2 years)	None
Average credits to graduate	Undergraduate Programs : - Higher Diploma: 90 to 120 credits - Bachelor Degree Program: 150 - 190 credits (5-years program) 210 - 230 credits (6-years program) 230 - 265 credits (7-years program) Postgraduate Programs : - Master Degree Program : 36 - 40 credits (Plan-A1) 51 - 64 credits (Plan-A2) 50 - 66 credits (Plan-B)	Bachelor Degree Program 150 - 190 credits (see minister decree No.0923/Ed.Vo./2002) Master Degree Program 36 - 48 credits 40 - 54 credits (see minister decree No.0923/Ed.Vo./2003)	Bachelor Degree Program 150 - 190 credits
Percentage of average credit for required subjects and electives to graduate	Undergraduate Programs : - Higher Diploma : 96.66% of required courses 3.34% of elective courses - Bachelor Degree Program : 97.36% of required courses 2.64% of elective courses Postgraduate Programs : - Master Degree Program : 50% of compulsory courses 31.25% of elective courses 18.75% of Thesis/self study	Bachelor Degree Program (see minister decree No.0923/Ed.Vo./2002) Master Degree Program (see minister decree No.0923/Ed.Vo./2003)	Depending on different departments
Academic field which requires least and	Least credit in Bachelor Degree (5-year Program):	It is more or less the same for different programs or departments	Economic and tourism (161 credits) Education (more than 180 credits)

most credit to graduate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science - Building Management - English, Chinese - Tourism, Hotel, Sociology and Development - Economics, International Economics, Developing Economics, Business Management, Accounting, Marketing, Trade - International relation <p>Most credits in Bachelor Degree (5-year Program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electrical Engineering, Mining Engineering, Electrical Power Engineering, Environment Engineering - Environmental Science - Lao Language and Culture, Communication Mass, Russian - Geography, History - Administration/Political Science 		
Average credit per subject and difference between other academic fields	2-3 credits	3 credits. There is few difference of average credit number per subject between academic fields in the faculty	2 credits. Other academic fields are similar.
Subjects with least and most credit	Same as the above academic fields with least and most credits required for graduation.	Graduation thesis (10 credits, equivalent to 3 subjects)	Graduation thesis and internship (5-6 credits)

2) Credit Conversion System

University name	National University of Laos	National University of Laos (FEBM)	Souphanouong University
Credit allocation method	Both undergraduate and graduate program have same system	Based on contact hours (lecture and tutorial). Both undergraduate and graduate program have same system	Based on lecture hours, assignment and final exam
Credit allocation for subjects and newly established subjects	<p>Definition of 1 credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 hour on lecture seminar per week (16-17 weeks) - 2 to 3 hours on tutorial work per week (16-17 weeks) 	<p>According to ministers decree (Bachelor, No.0923/Ed.Vo./2002) (Masters, No.0923/Ed.Vo./2003)</p>	Credit allocations for both new and current subjects are the same. The weight of each credit is dependent on departments

	- 2 to 3 hours on laboratory work per week (16-17 weeks) - More than 3 hours on field training per week (16-17 weeks)			
3) Credit Transfer System				
University name	National University of Laos	National University of Laos (FEBM)	Souphanouvong University	
Credit transfer within university	-It is possible to transfer credit, but under consideration of University's Academic Office and accepted faculty. So far, the cases are only students who changed program of study and between departments having similar specialized subjects	It is possible to transfer credit of general education subjects and common courses between Department of Economics and Department of Management, at undergraduate level In practice, we take into account the nature of the subject and number of teaching hours in credit transfer	It is possible with departments which have similar subjects -The cases till date are students who changed their specialized field within same faculty -Credit transfer is determined by comparing list of subjects taken with the department subjects list, category of the subjects and difficulty of subjects. It is judged case by case -The subjects fall under two categories: natural science and social science	
Cross listing of subjects	No	No	Cross listing subjects exist within same faculty. i.e. within faculty of tourism and economics, the subjects cross list between Dept. of Management, Dept. Economics, Dept. of Tourism, Dept. of Business Technology	
Credit transfer among universities within country	NUOL is an affiliate university of other young universities in Laos. Automatically, the credit transfer is performed for student changing university (from NUOL to others, and otherwise to be considered)	Currently, there are domestic credit transfer between public universities, between private colleges which are officially recognized by Ministry of Education and between private colleges and universities, as all these institutions follows the same credit system issued by ministry	Credit transfer exists among national universities. It has to follow the National University of Laos system (main national university) and Ministry of Education policy (maximum credit transfer is 34-36 credits)	
Existence of International curriculum	No	No	No	
Regulation on credit transfer with overseas universities	No	No	No	
Difference/gap among departments on credit transfer	Not available	Not available	All departments have positive response because they support the students to pursue their area of interests	

4) Credit Notation System and Others

University name	National University of Laos	National University of Laos (FEBM)	Souphanouong University
Credit notation in course catalogue, syllabus, academic report and class schedule tables	Details of credit are clearly indicated in study programs and academic report except for class schedules	Notation of credit in courses catalogue and syllabus	2 credits (2-1-0) which mean two hours lecture, one for assignment and zero for lab.
Credit notation in website	No	No	No
Calculation of GPA	See Appendix	See Appendix	See Appendix
Subjects with no credit	Defense sports, the notation is "Pass" or "Don't Pass"	Not available	Physical education, a compulsory subject for all. The notation for the subject is "Pass" or "Don't Pass"

(3) Academic Grading System

1) Academic Assessment Regulation

University name	National University of Laos	National University of Laos (FEBM)	Souphanouong University
Type of academic assessment	All teachers use absolute assessment	Both absolute and relative assessment is permitted. Most of the time lecturers use "absolute" assessment when the result of the examination is normal and "relative" when the results are very bad	Absolute assessment
Original score of grade	100 point scale	100 point scale	100 point scale
Academic grading scale	Minister decrees (No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2002 and No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003)	Minister decrees (No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2002 and No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003)	Minister decrees (No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2002 and No. 0923/Ed.Vo./2003)
Academic assessment	Not available	Based on academic achievement and learning outcome	Based on academic achievement and learning outcome
Time taken to issue grade certificate at the end of semester	About 2 weeks at least. We have a clear schedule. 1 week to submit student's grade to department/university.	Normally, it requires 1 month after the end of the examination to issued grade certificate. If the grade is not submitted in time, the concerned lecturer has to explain to the head of department.	Attendance (10%) + Assignment (20%) + Midterm exam (30%) + Final (40%) = 100% It required one month to issue grade certificate which include submission of grades from lecturer to department head, then to academic affairs Lecturers submit scores to the Head of Department within 3 weeks after examination. The departments will then submit to Faculty, Faculty will submit to

Influence of GPA on students employment and further study	The GPA/CGPA has influence especially on further study.	The GPA does have a significant influence on students in both, employment and further study.	Academic Affairs. The Academic affairs will notify students through bulletin score boards. Finally within a week after the score announcement, the confirmed and final scores will be reported to the Dean
Joint program and grade accreditation with other universities in country	Among universities in Laos, we use the same system.	No	No
Student exchange program with overseas university	No	No	No (MOU with universities in China, Cambodia, South Korea, Vietnam and Thailand are under discussion. Other ASEAN countries are also under consideration)

2) Description of Credit

University name	National University of Laos	National University of Laos (FEBM)	Souphanouong University
Credit description in University Home Page	No	No	No
Credit indication in syllabus	Syllabus indicates the grading system	Syllabus indicates the grading system	Syllabus indicates the grading system
Credit indication in grade certificate	See appendix	See appendix	See appendix

(4) International Curriculum and Education Program

University name	National University of Laos	National University of Laos (FEBM)	Souphanouong University
Existence of international curriculum and education program	No	No	No
Information in internet/printed materials in English	Not available	Not available	Not available