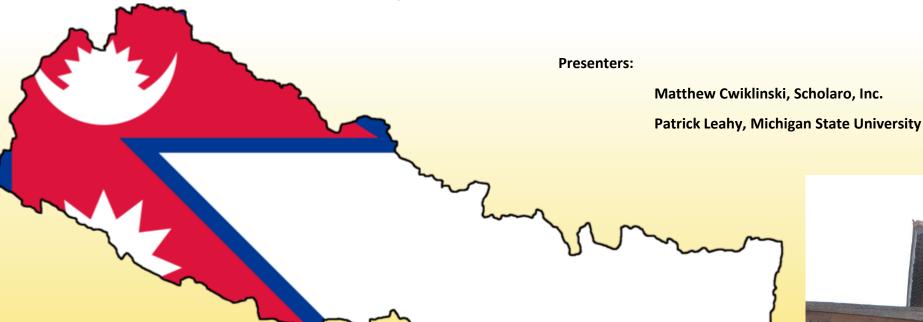


# Changes and Policies for Education in Nepal







By Christopher Macsurak (Flag of Nepal Uploaded by Smooth\_O) [CC BY 2.0 (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0)], via Wikimedia Commons



#### The Gurukula

Referenced in the Upanishads, the Gurukulam of Nepal and India are some of the oldest recorded Education systems in the world. It was not until 1853 that its first formal school was established by the newly-founded Rana regime, reserved primarily for nobility and the elite during the next 100 years.



Gurukula Building (top) and Students Performing Homa (right) <u>The Arya Samai</u> by Lajpat Raj, 1915



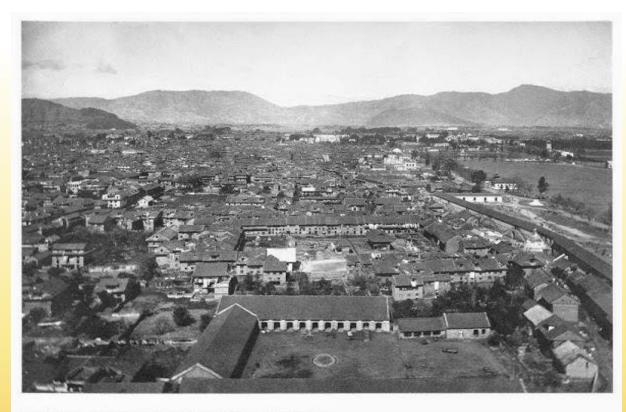


Gurukula buildings, 2007 source: http://malolamusic.blogspot.com/2007/07/mayapur-gurukula-part-1.html



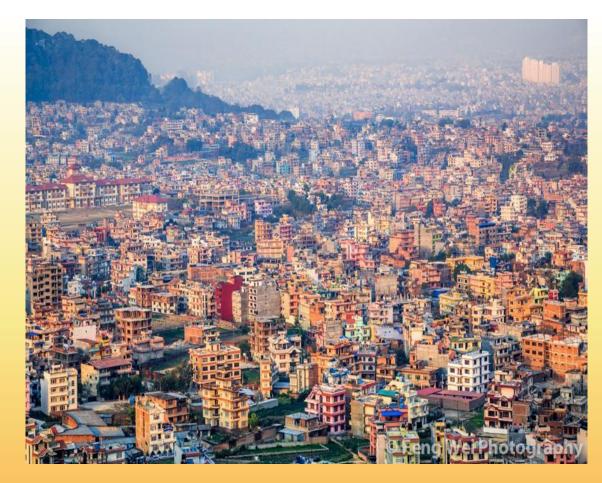
Ananda Marga Gurukula, 2018 source: gurukul.edu/newsletter/issue-45/45-teacher-training-for-amsai-schools-innepal/





A northern view of central Kathmandu and the Tundikhel from atop Dharahara in the late 1920s. The core of Kathmandu consisted of a mass of brick and roof-tiled structures. Bahadur Bhawan, Seto Durbar and the Clock Tower are in the background.

Kathmandu Valley 1920s



Kathmandu Valley (2016):

source: livingnomads.com/2016/05/my-trip-to-nepal-blog/kathmandu-nepal-2/



## Emergence of Modern Education in Nepal

- o In 1951, the Rana regime was overthrown, giving way to democracy in Nepal, as well as setting the stage for a national education system. A planning commision was formed in order to assess public opinions and establish a public structure of education in 1955.
- While the first college in Nepal, Tri-Chandra College, was founded in 1918, Nepal's first University, Tribhuvan University, was not opened in 1959. It remained the only University in the country until 1985.



## Top 3 Universities :



Tribhuvan University



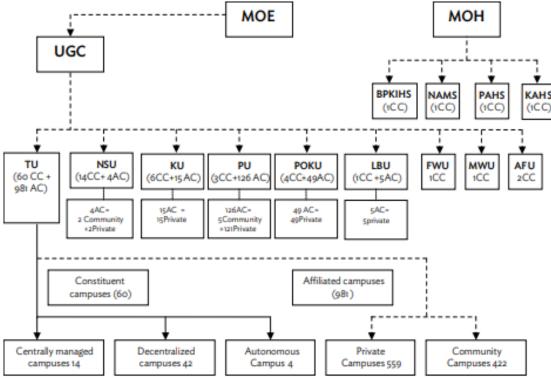
Pokhara University



Kathmandu University



#### Current Organizational Management of Higher Education System



AC = affiliated campus, AFU=Agriculture and Forestry University, BPKIHS = B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, CC = constituent campus, FWU= Far-Western University, KAHS= Karnali Academy of Health Sciences, KU = Kathmandu University, LBU = Lumbini Buddhist University, MOE = Ministry of Education, MOH = Ministry of Health, MWU= Mid-Western University, NAMS = Nepal Academy of Medical Sciences, NSU = Nepal Sanskrit University, PAHS = Patan Academy of Health Sciences, POKU = Pokhara University, PU = Purbanchal University, TU = Tribhuvan University, UGC = University Grants Commission.

Note: "Campus" is synonymous here with "college."

Source: The Author, based on UGC 2014. Education Management Information System, 2012/13. Kathmandu.

#### **Higher Education Institutions**

		Number of Ca	mpuses				
Institution (name and year established)	Constituent Campuses	Affiliated Community Campuses	Affiliated Private Campuses		Total Number of Programs	Total Student Enrollment	Number of Teachers
Tribhuvan University, 1959	60	422	559	1,041	173	382,927*	13,679*
Kathmandu University, 1991	6	0	15	21	153	12,954	341*
Pokhara University, 1997	4	0	49	53	43	24,380	119
Purbanchal University, 1993	3	5	121	129	76	25,796	61
Nepal Sanskrit University, 1986	14	2	2	18	9	1,691	770
Lumbini Buddhist University, 2004	1	0	5	6	5	302	60
Agriculture and forestry University, 2010	2	0	0	2	4	140	81
Mid-Western University, 2010	1	0	0	1	27	2,472	100
Far-Western University, 2010	1	0	0	1	21	787	71
B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, 1993	1	0	0	1	10	1,155*	164
National Academy of Medical Sciences, 2002	1	0	0	1	14	115	221
Patan Academy of Health Sciences, 2009	1	0	0	1	1	60	114
Karnali Academy of Health Sciences, 2013	1	0	0	1			

Note: The figures referring to the number of programs and student enrollment include Proficiency Certificate Level courses.

Source: University Grants Commission. 2014. Education Management Information System: Report on Higher Education 2012/13. Sanothimi, Bhaktapur, Nepal.

Additionally, the Nepal Academy of Tourism and Hotel Management (NATHM) operates under the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, authorized through affiliation with Tribhuvan University, to provide tertiary education (BHM- Bachelors of Hotel Management, BTTM- Bachelors of Travel and Tourism Management, MHM- Master of Hospitality Management)

<sup>\*</sup> University Grants Commission. 2013. Education Management Information System: Report on Higher Education 2011/12. Sanothimi, Bhaktapur, Nepal.



**Planning Commission, 1955** 

TABLE VI. EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF POPULATION SAMPLE

	Sim	rongadh	Во	nepa	Г	otal	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total
Able to read	36	3	132	13	168	16	184
Able to read and write	97	11	791	41	888	52	940
Completed primary school	6	_	50	9	56	9	65
Completed middle school	5	1	17	2	22	3	25
Completed high school	1		3	1	4	1	5
Now in higher education	1	_	_	_	1	_	1
Total literate	146	15	993	66	1139	81	1220
Total population	3120	3134	3299	3324	6419	6458	12,877
% Literate	4.7%	.5%	30.%	1.9%	17.8%	1.3%	9.5%
Total number of school age*	720	723	761	766	1481	1489	2970
Number in school	7	1	50	9	57	10	67
% in school	1%	.14%	7%	1.2%	4%	.7%	2.3%

As might be expected, Bonepa, the town, has a much more favourable educational status than Simrongadh, the rural area, both in terms of literacy and percentage of children in school. However, these samplings are too limited and the accuracy of the data too questionable to attach much significance to them. Certainly they cannot be considered representative of all Nepal. For example, the literacy rate for Nepal as a whole has been estimated to be no more than 2%, although these areas show 9.5%.

Nepal had a little more than 10,000 students in 1951 Literacy rates estimated to be ~5%

**Population** 

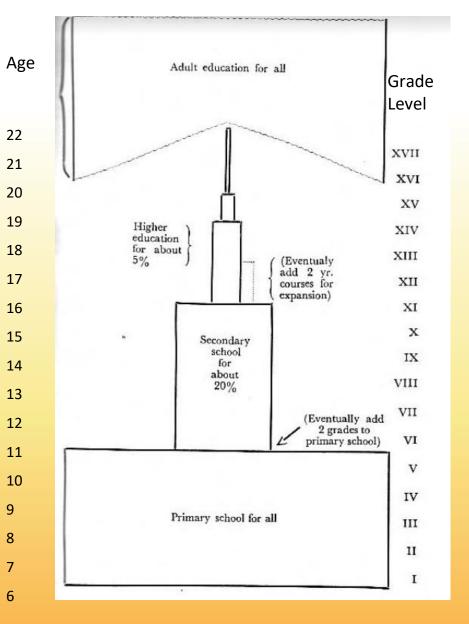
1950: ~8 million 2019: ~30 million



## Public Opinion on preferences for national school structure, 1955

	No. Years	Kathmandu Valley	West Nepal	East Nepal	Terai	Average
Primary School	2	46%	26%	25%	30%	32%
	3	39%	30%	38%	31%	35%
	4	14%	19%	9%	34%	18%
Middle School	2	44%	28%	25%	29%	32%
	3	43%	33%	65%	12%	38%
	4	15%	12%	25%	29%	20%
High School	2	35%	33%	13%	39%	30%
	3	38%	22%	38%	40%	35%
	4	34%	24%	65%	86%	52%

Outline of the basic proposed structure of the education system



Initial Educational Structure, Planning Commission, 1955



# **Continued Reforms**

- A number of educational reforms since (1961, 1971, 1982, 1992, 2002...) have seen dramatic growth in Nepali education.
- From 10,000 to more than 6 million primary and secondary students in 2006.
- Gender disparity essentially erased, going from roughly 17 girls for
   every 100 boys in 1973 to 108 girls for every 100 boys in 2016
- Numerous new institutions of higher education created.



6th grade		7th	grade
Nepali I		Nepali II	
Social Studies I		Social Studi	es II
Applied Science I		Applied Scient	ence II
Applied Mathema	tics I	Applied Ma	athematics II
Personal-Physical	Devel. I	Personal-Ph	ys. Development II
One Vocational Su	ibject	One Vocati	ional Subject
One Avocational S	Subject	One Avoca	tional Subject
8th grade	9th gr	ade	10th grade
Nepali III	Nepali IV		Social Studies V
Social Studies III	Social Studie	s IV	Applied Science III
Applied Mathematics	III Personal-Phy	s. Devel, IV	Personal-Phys, Devel. V
Personal-Phys. Devel	III Three Vocat	ional Subject	s Three Vocational Sub.
Two Vocational Subje	ects One Avocat	ional Subject	One Avocational Sub.
One Avocational Subj			

	Nun	iber of wee	kly period	s in each g	rade
Subject		wer second			ndary
	6	7	8	9	10
Nepali language	5	5	5	5	5
Mathematics	5	5	5	5	5
English language	5	5	5	5	5
Social sciences/studies	6	6	6	5	5
Science	6	6	6	5	5
Health and physical education	3	3	3	_	_
Population and environmental education	3	3	3	-	-
Health, population and environment	_	-	-	4	4
Art or pre-vocational education	3	3	3	_	_
Sanskrit	3	3	3	_	_
Elective first paper (*)	_	_	_	5	5
Elective second paper (**)	_	_	_	5	5
Total weekly periods	39	39	39	39	39

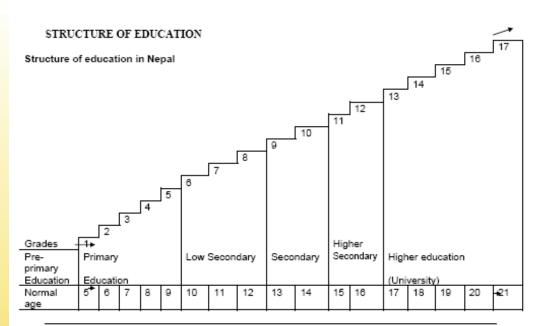
National Curriculum, 1955

**UNESCO, 2011** 



### **Recent Changes to the structure of Education**

### Nepal: structure of the education system



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Excluding proficiency Certificate and based on available data

IBE-UNESCO

2006



#### **American Journal of Educational Research**

Vol. 4, No. 4, 2016, pp 314-319. doi: 10.12691/education-4-4-4 | Case Report

2016



### Recent Changes to the structure of Education (contd.)

- Compulsory primary education changes from 5 to 8 years
- Secondary Education changes from 10 to 12 years
- General trend toward more 4-year (vs. 3-year) Bachelor Degrees
- Introduction of native language (non-Nepali) curriculum
- Much more teacher education
- Developing NVQS

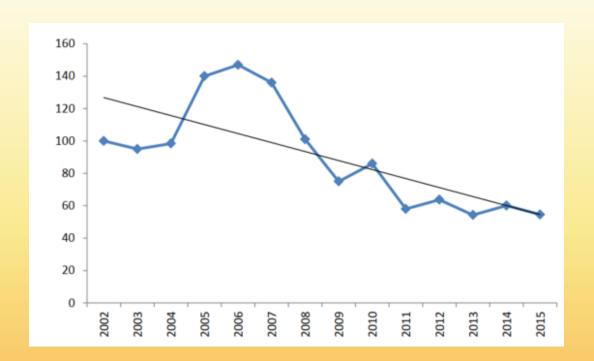
Net primary enrollment:

1999: 64% 2016: 97%

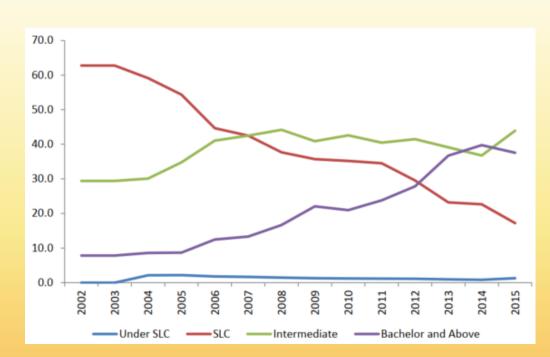


## **Enrollment of Students in Primary Grades**

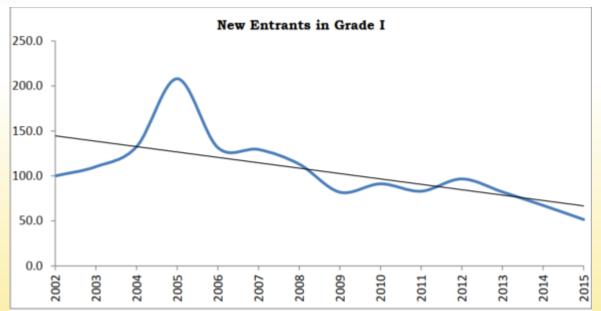
MOE, Nepal, 2016

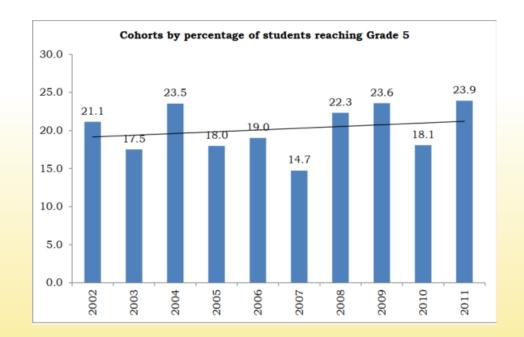


# **Teacher Qualifications** MOE, 2016

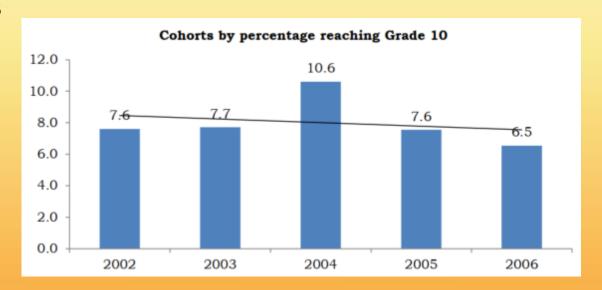






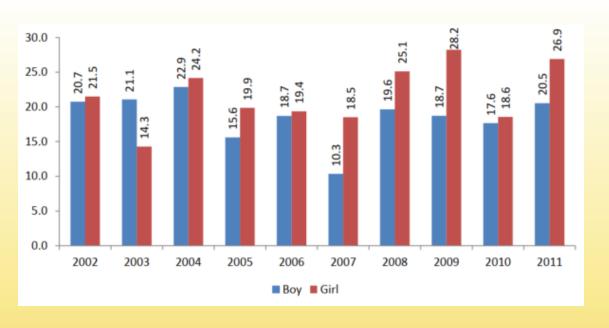


MOE, 2016

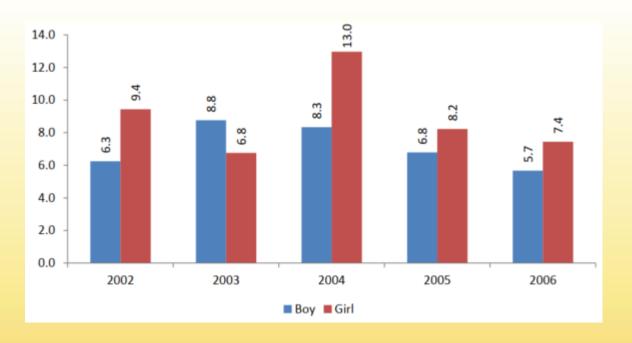


There is still some work to be done in terms of retention rates.





Students reaching Grade V by cohort and sex



**Students reaching Grade X by cohort and sex** 



While Nepal shows relatively consistent growth in over-all outbound students, there seems to be more correlation with recent national instability and growth in the US market.

## **U.S.-bound Nepali International Students**



source: WES, 2018

Monarchy Abolished (2006-2008)

Nepal Earthquakes (2015)



## **Grading Scales**

#### GRADING INFORMATION

Secondary (before 2016)

occonduit	(DOIOTO ZOTO)
Marks	Description
75-100%	Distinction
60-74%	First Division
45-59%	Second Division
33-44%	Pass

Secondary (after 2016)

Secondary	(aitel Zulu)
Marks	Description
90-100%	A+ (outstanding)
80-89%	A (excellent)
70-79%	B+ (very good)
60-69%	B (good)
50-59%	C+ (above average)
40-49%	C (average)
20-39%	D (below average)
1-19%	E (insufficient)
0%	N (not graded)

Postsecondary

1 0010000111	aur y
Marks	Description
75-100%	Distinction
60-74%	First Division
45-59%	Second Division
35-44%	Pass

### **Most Common**

Scale	<b>Grade Description</b>	Division	US Grade
80.00 - 100.00	Distinction	Division I	A+
60.00 - 79.99		Division I	Α
46.00 - 59.99	Merit	Division II	В
32.00 - 45.99	Pass	Division III	С
0.00 - 31.99	Fail		F

# Secondary School

Scale	Grade Description	US Grade
80.00 - 100.00	Division I with Distinction	Α+
60.00 - 79.99	Division I	Α
45.00 - 59.99	Division II	В
32.00 - 44.99	Division III	С
0.00 - 31.99	Fail	F

## University Level

Grade	Grade Description	US Grade
Α	Outstanding	Α
A-	Excellent	Α-
B+	Very Good	B+
В	Good	В
B-	Fair	B-
C+	Fair	C+
С	Fair	С
C-	Poor	C-
D+	Poor	D+
D	Poor	D
F	Failure	F
NC	Non Credit Course	Р
IN	Incomplete	
W	Withdrawn	

While there are some current cases where number grades are still used, most institutions are using the new letter-grade system, as opposed to the older numerical grading scale.



# **Examples of Credential Documentation**



# 10th and 12th grade

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	MARKS	1ST DIV	2ND DIV	3RD DIV 256	GR	AND TOT	AL	PASS			

(Estd. Under the Higher Secondary Education Act 1989)

Academic Transcript School: Name of the Student : ACADEMY H S SCHOOL, DAMAK, JHAPA Date of Birth : 2044/09/17 Pass Marks Subjects Marks Marks Secured Grade XI Grade XI Symbol Number COR 63 Year 35 100 English 56 2066 100 35 075 025 100 45 27 COMPUTER SCIENCE (TH) 10 35 35 23 COMPUTER SCIENCE (PR) ACCOUNTANCY 55 46 100 ECONOMICS 500 288 Total Grade XII Grade XII Symbol Number Year 100 35 60 English 2067 100 075 27 E COMPUTER SCIENCE (TH) 025 10 35 20 COMPUTER SCIENCE (PR) 50 E ECONOMICS 100 35 35 52 MARKETING Percentage of aggregate marks secured in Grade XI and XII: 55, 40 Total 500 266 Grand Total Division: Second 1000 Year of Completion: 20 67 ( 2010 ) Checked by Verified by (Deputy Controller) Date of Issue : 20 67/09/12 Controller of Examinations Grading System: To pass the examination candidates must secure

HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION BOARD

HSEB Registration No.

10th grade Certificate

Issue No. Ko -74284



# **Vocational/ Alternatives to HS**

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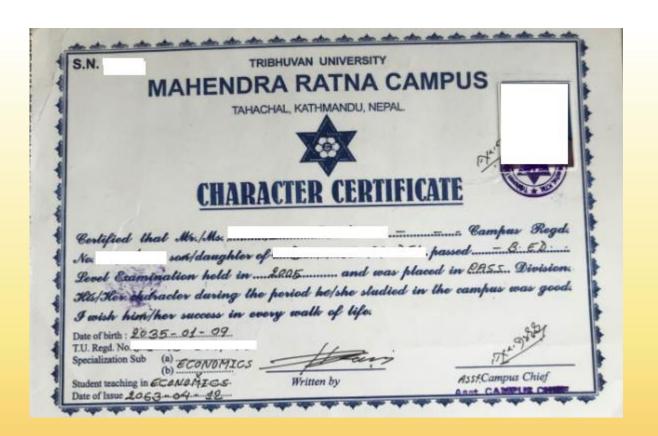
# Bachelor

1980s

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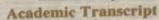


Issue number



# Tribhuvan University

Office of the Controller of Examinations Kathmandu, Nepal



Student's Name : Mahandra Ratna Campus, Tahachal

Institute/Faculty : Education

Bachelor's Degree Examination

Course Duration : 3 Academic Years

Regd. #

Subjects appeared in the First Year Examination	Foll Marks	Pass Marks	Marks Obsumed	Remarks		Fuil Marks	Pan Marki	Marks Obtained	Remarks			
Englobrideneral English Neglobrideneral Negali Es201sPhil.8 Notio, Found. of Edu. Ecs.Es.301sEconomic Analysis Ton.Ed.302:Nep Economics & Stat	100 100 100 100	35 35 33 33 35 35	39 41 35 39 41	н	Ed392:Educational Psychology Ed303:Curriculum and Evaluation Ecc305:Uovt.Fin,Fin.Sys % Int.Trade Ecc305:Ecc. of Dev. and Planning Ecc390:Methods of Teaching Economics				100 100 100 100 100	35 35 35 35 35 35	39 35 35 36 37 38	
Total	500	175.0	195			Total			500	175.	198	
Subjects appeared in the Third Year Examination	Full Marks	Poss Marks	Marks Obtained	Remarks	-	nme starting year	E cond Yea	nding yes	_	Third	04	
Eco,Ed306:Rural Economics	100	35	39 46 45 36	•	Year	Roll Number	Year	Roll Nu		Year	-	Numbe
Eco. Ed000 Hours teconomics Fup. Ed000 Hours teconomics Fup. Ed000 Hours and Population Edu. 100 Pop. Ed000 Hours and Late Education 100 Ed. Studger Teaching Social Studies 100 Ed. 100 Population Teaching 100	100	35			2002		2003			2004		
	100	35 40			2004		2004			2005		
					Percent	1880 CC 34	11.27 Pass	E.S.				t
Total	500	180.0	236	111	Passed Year : 2005							
GRAND TOTAL	1500	530.0	619	-	_	-						

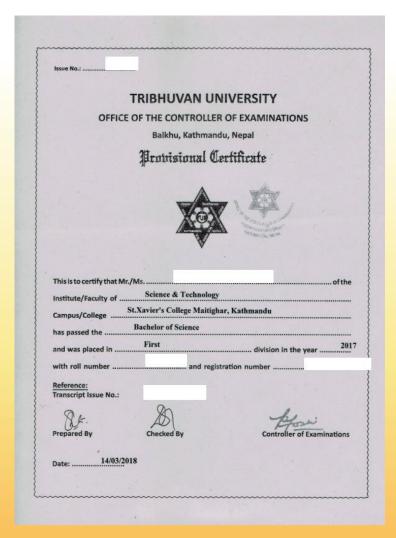
NOTE: \* means the student has passed in the second attempt

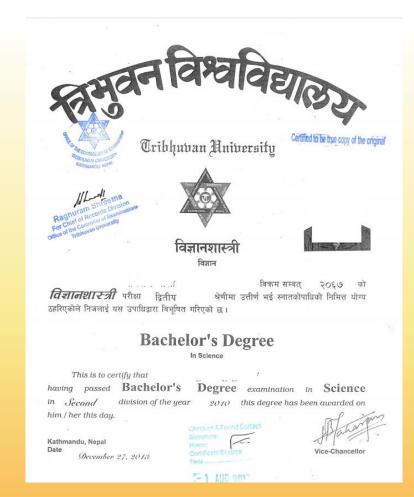
Date of lune 05/12/2005

\*\* means the student has passed in more than two attempts

Controller of Examinations











#### Master Degree



### Doctor of Philosophy (Phd)

S. No.

Registered No.



## Tribhuvan University





## विद्यावारिधि उपाधि

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विषयमा

सालमा विद्यावारिधि

उपाधिद्वारा विभूषित गरिएको व्यहोरा प्रमाणित गरिन्छ।

#### Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.)

This is to certify that having been examined and found qualified has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in in the year

Kathmandu, Nepal

A akay

# Scholaro Michigan State University - A Perspective on Credentials for Admission

- Education Reforms: Look at credentials based on appropriate system at time, also note uneven implementation of reforms
- Academic or vocational routes?
- Subjects studied and grades received?
- Completion of studies?
- Comparability to other systems, in this case India.
- Benchmark by years usually.
- Institutional recognition (postsecondary institutions)?





# Recent Reform - 2016 onwards



Prior to recent reforms, lower secondary education (grades 9 and 10) culminated in the school leaving certificate ("iron gate"). Upper secondary school (academic track, grades 11 and 12) culminated in the higher secondary certificate.

Currently, lower and upper secondary school combined into a four year track. Grade 10 concludes with the SEE (Secondary Education Exam, now held at regional level) and now only one final, national school leaving exam held at the end of grade 12. Signed into law in 2016 - currently being implemented.



# For Undergraduate Admission



- (Prior to 2016/17): Request official copy of secondary school leaving certificate, indicating marks and considered completion of 10th grade.
- (Prior to 2016/17): Request official copy of higher secondary certificate, indicating marks and considered completion of high school (12th grade).



# For Undergraduate Admission



- (Starting 2017): Request official copies of SEE exam certificate, comparable to 10th grade completion.
- (Starting 2017): Request official copies of national exam board certificate or similar (e.g., higher secondary education exam board certificate, proficiency certificate) comparable to completion of 12th grade if completed. Alternatively, if not yet finished, ask for latest internal marks sheets available (indicating 12th grade first semester marks or final 11th grade marks, whichever is the latest and available). Not looking for program specific exams like those needed to access tertiary studies in medicine, veterinary science, etc.



# For Undergraduate Admission



 Academic curriculum, core areas of study (e.g., science, math, English, social sciences), grades are strong and at least of an equivalent "B" average - which is 3.0 by MSU terms.

 Consider credentials that would allow for access to academic, higher education undergraduate studies in Nepal.



# For Graduate Admission



- With limited exceptions, MSU does not accept three year bachelor's degrees as equivalent to four year, US bachelor's degrees.
- A three year degree earned at a recognized institution in Nepal we would not deem equivalent. A four year degree, however, we would.
- If applicant completed a three year bachelor degree plus a two year master degree from Nepal, we would likely deem that equivalent to a four year, US bachelor degree.
- Parallels our policy towards India, Bologna Countries, etc.



# Undergraduate and Graduate Admission

- Need ELP exam with appropriate passing scores
- Need financial statement showing proof of funds (program specific)
- Completed application and fee
- Undergrad paid deposit
- Degree waiver approval on file (if applicable for grad)
- Any graduate departmental requirements on top of university requirements for grad

\*Challenges obtaining academic records? Flexibility...





# Questions?





# Thank You!



Patrick Leahy - Michigan State University

leahypat@msu.edu

Matthew Cwiklinski - Scholaro, Inc. mattc@scholaro.com



**Resources:** 

**AACRAO EDGE: Nepal** 

**WENR: Education in Nepal (2018)** 

WES Webinar: The Education System in Nepal and Student Mobility Trends (10/17/2018)

Nepal School Sector Development Plan, 2016-2023, globalpartnership.org

