



# Siddhartha Academy of Higher Education

An Institution Deemed to be University

(Under Section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

Kanuru, Vijayawada- 520 007, AP. [www.vrsiddhartha.ac.in](http://www.vrsiddhartha.ac.in)

(Sponsored by Siddhartha Academy of General and Technical Education)



**ACADEMIC REGULATIONS**

**LL.M DEGREE PROGRAM – SCHOOL OF LAW**

**SAHE – LL.M - SU24**

(2024-25 admitted batch)

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## **PREAMBLE**

Siddhartha Academy of Higher Education (SAHE), a Deemed to be University, emphasizes the transformative power of education and the pivotal role of higher learning in fostering an enlightened, equitable, and prosperous society. Established with a commitment to academic excellence, innovative research, and holistic development, SAHE provides a supportive and inclusive environment where diverse ideas thrive, empowering every member to achieve their fullest potential.

Guided by principles of integrity, respect, and social responsibility, SAHE aims to contribute meaningfully to the global community for the common good. The University, with its experienced faculty, offers a top-notch education integrating theory and practical skills, preparing students for success in a rapidly evolving world through engaging lectures, hands-on learning, and advanced research opportunities.

This document outlines the academic culture, procedures, and regulations of the courses taught at SAHE, specifically for the PG program Master of Laws (LL.M, Corporate & Security Laws), effective from the academic year 2024-25.

## **1. ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Siddhartha Academy of Higher Education (SAHE) aims to promote educational excellence with a holistic approach. Sponsored by the Siddhartha Academy of General and Technical Education (SAGTE), formed in 1975 by 250 philanthropists, the University aims to promote educational excellence with a holistic approach.

Catering to the educational needs of the region, 18 academic institutions have been established, offering education from kindergarten to postgraduate levels. With the evolving academic landscape and regulatory requirements, SAGTE established Siddhartha Academy of Higher Education (SAHE) as a deemed-to-be University in 2024 to further its mission of providing impactful and innovative education. SAHE provides a comprehensive experience to its students, promoting research, skill development, real-life problem-solving, and entrepreneurship.

### **1.2 Vision**

To be a center of excellence in education, innovation, and research with a global presence in arts, science, technology, medicine, management, legal studies, and social studies, enriching the frontier areas of national and international importance.

### **1.3 Mission**

- To create a transformative educational experience for students focused on problem-solving skills, communication abilities, interpersonal relations, and leadership.
- To cultivate a vibrant university community that attracts and retains diverse, world-class talent, creating a collaborative environment open to the free exchange of ideas where research, creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship can flourish, ensuring individuals achieve their full potential.
- To impact society pragmatically—regionally, nationally, and globally—by engaging with industry, outstanding national and international universities, and research organizations.
- To be a global university that nurtures excellence in education and innovation, fostering a knowledgeable society.

### **1.4 Academic Planning**

The Academic Council, chaired by the Vice-Chancellor and comprising Deans, HoDs, selected faculty members, external experts, and special invitees, governs the academic activities of SAHE. The Council oversees teaching, learning, and evaluation, while academic administrators handle curriculum revision, assessment procedures, and the introduction of new programs. The University monitors academic progress, faculty performance, and student discipline, providing guidelines for teaching and learning processes and framing rules for program implementation, leading to degrees and certificates.

### **1.5 Quality Policy**

The University strives to impart knowledge, skills, and attitudes through continuous improvement to meet the ever-changing needs of industry and promote the sustainable development of society.

## **2. ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF LAW AND LL.M. PROGRAM**

### **2.1 Introduction**

The School of Law is dedicated to provide high-quality legal education through a dynamic curriculum. With a focus on academic excellence, the school offers an environment that fosters critical thinking, legal research, and practical application of law. It aims to develop well-rounded legal professionals who are equipped to navigate the complexities of modern legal systems. The School of Law emphasizes ethical legal practice, social responsibility, and interdisciplinary learning to prepare students for successful careers in law and related fields.

### **2.2 Vision and Mission**

**Vision**

- To be a globally recognized center of excellence in legal education, research, and practice, fostering a community of innovative and ethical legal professionals acting as catalysts for promoting justice, policy reform, and societal impact.

**Mission**

- To provide a comprehensive and rigorous curriculum that equips students with the legal expertise, analytical skills, and ethical grounding necessary to excel in legal practice for the betterment of society.
- To encourage interdisciplinary learning by exploring the intersection of law, business, economics, sociology, technology etc to prepare students for the evolving challenges of the legal environment.

**2.3 The LL.M. (Corporate & Security Laws) Program****2.3.1 Program Educational Objectives (PEOs)**

The primary objectives of the LL.M. (Corporate & Security Laws) program are:

<b>PEO1</b>	To offer specialized academic and practical knowledge in corporate law disciplines.
<b>PEO2</b>	To develop the ability to analyze and address complex corporate legal issues with clarity and precision.
<b>PEO3</b>	To enhance research aptitude through in-depth exploration of contemporary challenges in corporate law.
<b>PEO4</b>	To foster professional skills, including legal writing and problem-solving, essential for corporate legal practice or academia.
<b>PEO5</b>	To instill ethical and professional values, ensuring graduates contribute positively to the field of law and society.

**2.3.2 Program Outcomes (POs)**

Upon successful completion of the LL.M. in Corporate & Security Laws program, graduates will be able to:

<b>PO1</b>	Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of corporate legal frameworks and their applications.
<b>PO2</b>	Analyze and interpret complex legal issues in corporate settings.

<b>PO3</b>	Apply legal principles to resolve real-world corporate legal challenges.
<b>PO4</b>	Make informed decisions based on ethical considerations in corporate legal practice.
<b>PO5</b>	Understand and navigate the complexities of corporate laws and regulations.
<b>PO6</b>	Develop interdisciplinary skills, integrating legal knowledge with other disciplines such as economics, business, finance, and technology to address multifaceted corporate challenges.

### **3. PURPOSE & SCOPE OF THE REGULATIONS**

#### **3.1 Academic Regulations**

The Academic Regulations provide a framework for academic progress and rules for obtaining a postgraduate degree from SAHE. The academic administration—Registrar, Deans, Controller of Examinations, and HoDs of the departments—is responsible for the implementation of the regulations. All registered students must agree and abide by these regulations as a condition of enrollment.

#### **3.2 Revision of Regulations**

Regulations are published at the start of the academic year and remain in force until a subsequent version is published. Revisions are communicated through circulars and the university website. The Dean of Academics maintains the revised version and the archives of all previous versions of regulations.

### **4. ADMISSIONS**

#### **4.1 Eligibility**

To be eligible for admission to the LL.M. in Corporate & Security Laws program, candidates must satisfy both the following requirements:

- Hold a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) degree from a recognized university. This degree can be either:
  - Three-Year LL.B.: A postgraduate law degree pursued after completing an undergraduate program in any discipline.
  - Five-Year Integrated LL.B.: An undergraduate program that combines law with another field, such as Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (BSc), Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), or Bachelor of Commerce (BCom).
- Be qualified in the AP PG LAW CET (Entrance Test) or SLCAT conducted by SAHE.

## 5. ACADEMIC PROGRAM

### 5.1 Semester System

The academic year consists of two semesters: Odd (I or III) and Even (II or IV). The odd semester usually runs from October to March, and the even semester from April to August. The University can accommodate deviations in schedule due to unforeseen circumstances. Students must register for courses each semester, meeting prerequisites. Continuous and Summative Assessments are conducted, and grades are communicated through the Student Information System.

### 5.2 Curriculum

The curriculum is developed with input from faculty, students, alumni, parents, industry, and regulatory bodies, ensuring alignment with Vision, Mission, Program Educational Objectives (PEOs), and Program Outcomes (POs).

#### 5.2.1 Curriculum Preparation

- Faculty members at the Department level initiate discussions on the program to be offered for the ensuing academic year based on stakeholder feedback and market trends.
- The Board of Studies (BoS) and the Academic Council (AC) approve the curriculum structure and syllabi, with the Head of the Department serving as the Chairperson.

### 5.3 Duration of the Program

**5.3.1 Normal Duration:** The duration of an academic program shall be two years consisting of four semesters.

**5.3.2 Maximum Duration:** The maximum period that a student can take to complete a full-time academic program shall be double the normal duration of the program, i.e., four years.

**5.3.3 Minimum Duration of a Semester:** Each semester consists of a minimum of 90 instruction days excluding examination days.

**5.4 Academic Calendar:** The University issues an annual Academic Calendar, considering specific departmental requirements and synchronizing with admission notifications.

## 6. CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

- The curriculum framework is designed to ensure that students attain the expected knowledge, skills, and attitudes by the time of their post-graduation, in alignment with stakeholder needs.
- It includes various course categories to provide the depth and breadth required for the program and for achieving the Program Outcomes. Each theory course comprises five units.

## 6.1 Program Structure

- The LL.M. course adheres to UGC norms as applicable but is not currently subject to the regulatory regime of the Bar Council of India (BCI).
- The program spans four semesters and includes:
  - Four core theory courses.
  - Six specialization theory courses.
  - Project work.
  - Dissertation.

## 6.2 Course Code and Numbering Scheme

The course numbering scheme consists of seven alphanumeric places as follows:

- **First two places:** Regulation Year
- **Third and Fourth places:** Department offering the course
- **Fifth place:** Level of the course (1-8: Undergraduate, PG, or research level)
- **Sixth and Seventh places:** Course Number

## 6.3 Course Distribution

The distribution of courses across semesters is as follows:

Semester	Course Name	Codes	Theory/Practical
FIRST	Indian Constitutional Law: The New Challenges	24SL501	Theory
	Research Methodology	24SL502	Theory
	Principles of Corporate Law I	24SL503	Theory
	Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility	24SL504	Theory
SECOND	Law and Social Transformation in India	24SL505	Theory
	Jurisprudence and Legal Theory	24SL506	Theory
	Principles of Corporate Law II	24SL507	Theory
	Commercial Arbitration	24SL508	Theory
THIRD	Corporate Regulation: Interface Between	24SL601	Theory
	Regulatory Framework over Banking and Insurance Sectors	24SL602	Theory
	Legal Education and Research Methodology II	24SL681	Practical
FOURTH	Dissertation	24SL682	Practical

## 6.4 Marks Distribution

The distribution of marks across the semesters is depicted in the following table:

Semester	Core Courses	Specialization Courses	Total Courses	Marks
First Semester	2	2	4	400
Second Semester	2	2	4	400
Third Semester	1 (Practical)	2	3	300
Fourth Semester	1 (Dissertation)	—	1	200
<b>Total Marks</b>				<b>1300</b>

## 6.5 Medium of Instruction and Examination

The medium of instruction and examination is English.

## 7. CREDIT SYSTEM AND GRADE POINTS

### 7.1 Credit Definition

Credits quantify and recognize learning, measured in contact hours per week in a semester.

- **1 Hour Lecture (L) per week = 1 credit.**
- **1 Hour Tutorial (T) per week = 1 credit.**

**7.2 Credit Distribution:** Credits are allocated as follows:

Semester	Core Courses	Specialization Courses (Including Project Work)	Dissertation	Total Credits
First Semester	2 × 6	2 × 6	—	24
Second Semester	2 × 6	2 × 6	—	24
Third Semester	—	2 × 6	1 × 6	18
Fourth Semester	—	—	14	14
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>80</b>

### 7.3 Grade Points and Letter Grades for a Course

Grading is based on a maximum of 100 marks for each course, as follows:

Marks Range	Grade Points	Letter Grade	Description
90% and above	10	EX	Excellent
80% to <90%	9	A+	Very Good
70% to <80%	8	A	Good
60% to <70%	7	B+	Above Average
55% to <60%	6	B	Average
50% to <55%	5	C	Below Average
<50%	0	F	Fail
Absent	0	AB	—

#### 7.4. Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) and Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)

##### a. Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA):

The Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) is calculated as the ratio of the sum of the product of the number of credits and the grade points scored in all the courses taken by a student to the sum of the number of credits of all the courses undertaken by the student. It is expressed as:

$$SGPA = \frac{\sum(C_i \times G_i)}{\sum C_i}$$

where  $C_i$  is the number of credits of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  course and  $G_i$  is the grade point scored in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  course.

##### b. Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA):

The Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is computed similarly, considering all the courses taken by a student across all semesters of a program. It is expressed as:

$$CGPA = \frac{\sum(C_i \times S_i)}{\sum C_i}$$

where  $S_i$  is the SGPA of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  semester and  $C_i$  is the total number of credits in that semester.

- Both SGPA and CGPA shall be rounded off to two decimal points and reported in transcripts.

- Courses in which a student is awarded zero grade points will be included in the SGPA/CGPA calculations.

### 7.5. Conversion Formula for CGPA to Percentage of Marks

The approximate equivalence of marks to a given CGPA is calculated using the formula:

$$\text{Percentage Equivalence of CGPA} = (\text{CGPA} - 0.75) \times 10$$

## 8. EXAMINATIONS AND SCHEME OF EVALUATION

### 8.1. Description of Evaluation

- Continuous Assessment (CA): Students' performance is evaluated continuously throughout the semester by the faculty or course coordinator using various methods including sessional examinations, project-based assessments/ assignments/ seminars, project reviews, viva-voce, laboratory assessments, and other activities covering the entire syllabus of the course.
- Summative Assessment (SA): SA shall be conducted by the controller of examinations at the end of each semester, as per the academic calendar and with a written examination for theory courses and practical/project examination, with an oral component for laboratory/project courses.

### 8.2. Theory Courses

Assessment of a student's performance in theory courses consists of two components:

- a) Continuous Assessment: 40% weightage.
- b) Summative Assessment: 60% weightage.

#### a) Continuous Assessment: 40 Marks

The Continuous assessment is designed to evaluate students' knowledge, engagement, and practical skills through various components:

- An internal test (10 marks) assesses conceptual understanding.
- seminar presentations (10 marks) enhance research and communication skills.
- Assignments or case analyses (10 marks) evaluate analytical thinking and real-world application.
- Group discussions and classroom participation (10 marks) encourage collaboration and active engagement.

Together, these elements provide a holistic assessment of student performance (40 Marks).

#### b) Summative Assessment: 100 Marks (60% weightage)

The Summative Assessment shall be conducted for a three-hour duration at the end of the semester for 100 marks with 60% weightage. The question paper consists of Part A with a

weightage of 20 marks (short answer questions) and Part B with a weightage of 80 marks (Legal Essays).

### **8.3. Project Work**

The assessment for the project work is divided into two main components: 50 marks for the mandatory Socio-Legal Project Work & Viva and 50 marks for either Clinical Legal Work or Law Teaching, with students having the option to choose between these two. The Socio-Legal Project Work is mandatory for all students, while the choice between Clinical Legal Work and Law Teaching allows students to focus on either practical legal experience or teaching pedagogy.

#### **8.3.1. Socio-Legal Project Work & Viva (Mandatory)**

Students are required to undertake empirical research in assigned legal areas using non-doctrinal methods, such as conducting surveys and interviews. The goal is to gather data and analyze it within the context of the legal issue being studied. Students shall prepare a detailed project report, presenting their findings and performing data analysis. Additionally, presentation cum viva voce will be conducted to assess the student's understanding of the research process and the content of their report. This component carries 50 marks.

#### **8.3.2. Clinical Legal Work (or) Law Teaching (one of the two options shall be chosen)**

- Clinical Legal Work: Students who choose Clinical Legal Work will gain hands-on experience in the legal field by participating in activities such as legal aid clinics, corporate compliance tasks, or other practical legal assignments. This work offers students the opportunity to apply their legal knowledge in real-world situations. They will be expected to document their work and provide a report detailing their contributions and insights.
- Law Teaching: Alternatively, students may opt for Law Teaching, where they will be responsible for preparing and delivering a teaching session on a corporate law topic to LL.B. students. This task will evaluate their ability to effectively communicate complex legal concepts, engage an audience, and structure a lesson. Students must also prepare a lesson plan and demonstrate creativity in their teaching methods.
- This component carries 50 marks.

### **8.4. Dissertation/Thesis**

The dissertation is a key requirement of the program, involving original research on a contemporary topic in corporate & securities laws. The word limit for the dissertation is set between 14,000 to 18,000 words, excluding the table of contents, table of cases, table of statutes, abbreviations, footnotes, bibliography, appendix, and other supplementary sections.

#### 8.4.1. Assessment

- **Thesis Report** (150 Marks): The thesis will be assessed based on the quality of research, depth of analysis, structure, and the relevance of the findings.
- **Viva Voce** (50 Marks): Students will defend their dissertation through a viva voce examination, conducted by external examiner.

#### 8.4.2. Dissertation Timeline and Approval Process

- The dissertation work shall be carried during the Fourth Semester, and the duration for completing the dissertation is one semester.
- Students are allowed 4 weeks to get the abstract approved by the department.
- The candidate may submit the dissertation only after obtaining approval from the department not earlier than 15 weeks from the registration of the project work.

**8.4.3. Plagiarism Check:** A plagiarism check is mandatory for all dissertation reports. The maximum allowable plagiarism index is 25% before submission.

### 9. ACADEMIC PROGRESSION

#### 9.1. Criteria to Attend Summative Assessment

- A student shall be eligible to appear for Summative Assessment if he/she acquires a minimum of 75% attendance in aggregate of all the courses in the semester.
- Condonation of shortage in attendance may be recommended by the faculty on genuine medical grounds, provided the students put in at least 65% attendance and the Dean of School is satisfied with the genuineness of the reasons and conduct of the student.
- A student will not be promoted to the next semester unless he/she satisfies the attendance requirements of the present semester, as applicable. They may seek re-admission for that semester when offered next.
- A stipulated fee shall be payable towards condonation of shortage of attendance to the School/University.

#### 9.2. Supplementary Examinations

- A Student must pass the failed course by appearing in the supplementary examination. In every semester, Supplementary examinations of even and odd semesters will be conducted.
- Supplementary Summative examinations shall be conducted in courses of each semester four times after the new regulations come into force. Thereafter, students must appear for Supplementary examinations in the equivalent courses as prescribed by the concerned Board of Studies (BoS).

#### 9.3. Re-Admission Criteria

### **9.3.1. Re-Admission after Detention Due to Lack of Attendance**

- A student detained in a semester due to lack of attendance must obtain prior permission from the Dean of School for re-admission into the same semester after duly fulfilling all the required norms stipulated by the University in addition to paying a requisite re-admission fee.

### **9.3.2. Re-Admission after Break in Study**

- Students, who discontinue their studies for any approved reason, can get re-admission into an appropriate semester of the LL.M. program after break-in study, with the prior permission of the Dean of School and following the transitory regulations applicable to such batch in which he/she joins.
- A requisite re-admission fee for each year of break in study in addition to the prescribed tuition fee and special fee has to be paid by the student to condone his/her break in study.

### **9.4. Transitory Regulations**

- A student detained or discontinued in a semester, upon re-admission, shall be required to pass all the courses prescribed to the re-admitted batch of students. The academic regulations which are in force at the time of his/her admission shall be applicable to them.
- However, exemptions will be given to the students who have already passed courses in the earlier semester(s) as per the regulation he/she was admitted and substitute courses are to be studied under transitory regulation as approved by the Academic Council.

## **10. AWARD OF DEGREE**

### **10.1. Eligibility for Award of LL.M. Degree**

- A student must register for 80 Credits and successfully earn all 80 credits to be eligible for the LL.M. Degree.
- Upon successful completion of all prescribed courses, the University will award the Postgraduate Degree in Master of Laws (LL.M.) with Corporate & Security Laws specialization, along with the division obtained.

### **10.2. Award of Division**

The criteria for the award of division after successful completion of the program are given in the following Table.

<b>CGPA</b>	<b>Division</b>
$\geq 7.5$	First Class with Distinction
$\geq 6.5$ and $< 7.5$	First Class
$\geq 5.75$ and $< 6.5$	Second Class
$\geq 5.0$ and $< 5.75$	Pass
$< 5.0$	Fail

- First Class with Distinction is awarded only if all courses registered are passed in the first attempt within two years.
- Detained and later continued students and students with a break in study are not eligible for the award of First Class with Distinction.
- Students who are absent for the Summative Assessment only once during their duration of the LL.M. program on valid medical grounds/humanitarian grounds will be considered for the award of First Class with Distinction, subject to the recommendations of the committee constituted by the Dean of School.

## 11. AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS

The Academic Council may, from time to time, revise, amend, or change the regulations, schemes of examination, and/or syllabi.

## 12. DEFINITIONS

- **Academic Program:** A combination of courses and requirements leading to the award of a degree.
- **Course:** A subject, either theory or practical, identified by its course number and course title, normally studied in a semester.
- **Degree:** An academic degree conferred by the university upon completing the postgraduate curriculum.

Dean, Academics

Dean, Examinations