Combating Education Fraud

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Head of Policy and Communications, UK NARIC

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providing clarity. releasing potential

Education Fraud

No developed country is safe from the risk of falling victim to fake credentials unless they have the knowledge and skills to combat education fraud and safeguard genuine and good quality education

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What is Education Fraud?

Education fraud falls into two areas:

- By an individual
- By an institution

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Who commits fraud

Individuals wishing to ‘improve’ themselves through claiming to have qualifications

Mainly they believe they are doing no harm; it is merely in order to gain access to jobs, education or to entry to countries

In fact they are committing a crime;

‘…if a person applies for an advertised job which demands that the applicant holds a particular degree, they commit the offence of obtaining a pecuniary advantage by deception if they dishonestly obtain the job as a result of a deception that they have the degree…’

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Who commits fraud (cont)

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Who commits fraud (cont)

DILBERT

By Scott Adams

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Working with bogus qualifications

Education fraud can effect us all; it is important that regulated professions are protected by increasing awareness of bogus qualifications and how to combat them.

'Bogus forensic expert bought degree on web' Manchester Evening News, Jan 2007

Bogus Doctor Convicted

'…provide safeguards for the UK public, so that such unfortunate events will not occur in future …' Detective Sergeant, Manchester Police, Dec 2007

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Not Forgetting…

A TV presenter

A ‘magician’

A presidential candidate

Senior advisors to a major European government

Senior members of the Intelligence community

The ‘odd’ academic at recognised institutions

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Degree Mills

Degree Mill: An Institution of higher education operating without supervision of a state or professional agency and granting diplomas which are either fraudulent or worthless because of the lack of proper standards

Degree Mills do not equal *Unrecognised Institutions*

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Degree Mills (cont...)

Common features:

- Strong emphasis on fee levels and payment plans. Often prices are very low
- Short duration of courses – days or weeks
- Long list of accreditation agencies and affiliated bodies
- Offer to accredit life experience
- Links such as ‘Order Now’ and ‘free evaluation forms’ are often found at the lower end of the market
- Unlikely degree titles
- No contact address
- Contact details that differ from claimed location of the institution

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Examples of Degree Mills

Legal Loopholes Exposed

College Degrees

Bachelors, Masters & Doctorates

Boost your CV, Resumé or Prestige **NOW!**

1. All degrees are registered
2. Legal and Verifiable
3. No coursework required
4. Express Dispatch

QUICKLY succeed by getting a Bachelor, Master or Doctorate College Degree in JUST DAYS with no coursework.

Legal Loopholes Exploited

Tired of being passed over for promotions because you don't have a degree?

Discover a little known secret to ENERGIZE your employability and prestige.

Instantdegrees.com has the ultimate solution for anybody who needs to get a degree instantly!

NO attendance requirements or hassle of any kind.

Student Transcripts and Records are also available.

To get your college degree, click here.

If you want to	Can we help?
Get a College degree legally in a matter of days.	Yes

Advantages of using using our excellent service

Legality of the College Degrees

We check out the legality of every institution we act as an agent for. They give us a fees discount for providing the with Benefactors, our services are free to you. Instantdegrees.com is an authorize escrow agent for Institutions that grant instant and legal college degrees in return for a fee. No coursework involved.

Degrees are Registered and Verifiable.

We only deal with legally operating Colleges and Universities that provide a FREE Verification Service for all awards which meets the criterea of standard academic norms.

This means that anyone can verify your degree if required by contacting the Institution directly by mail. The fact that you have acquired your degree via Instantdegrees.com is NEVER mentione

Client Security

NONE of the Universities or Colleges we represent advertise their "alternative" services anywhere else. The name of th institution is only revealed to you once you graduate to ensure a confidential service for all our clients.

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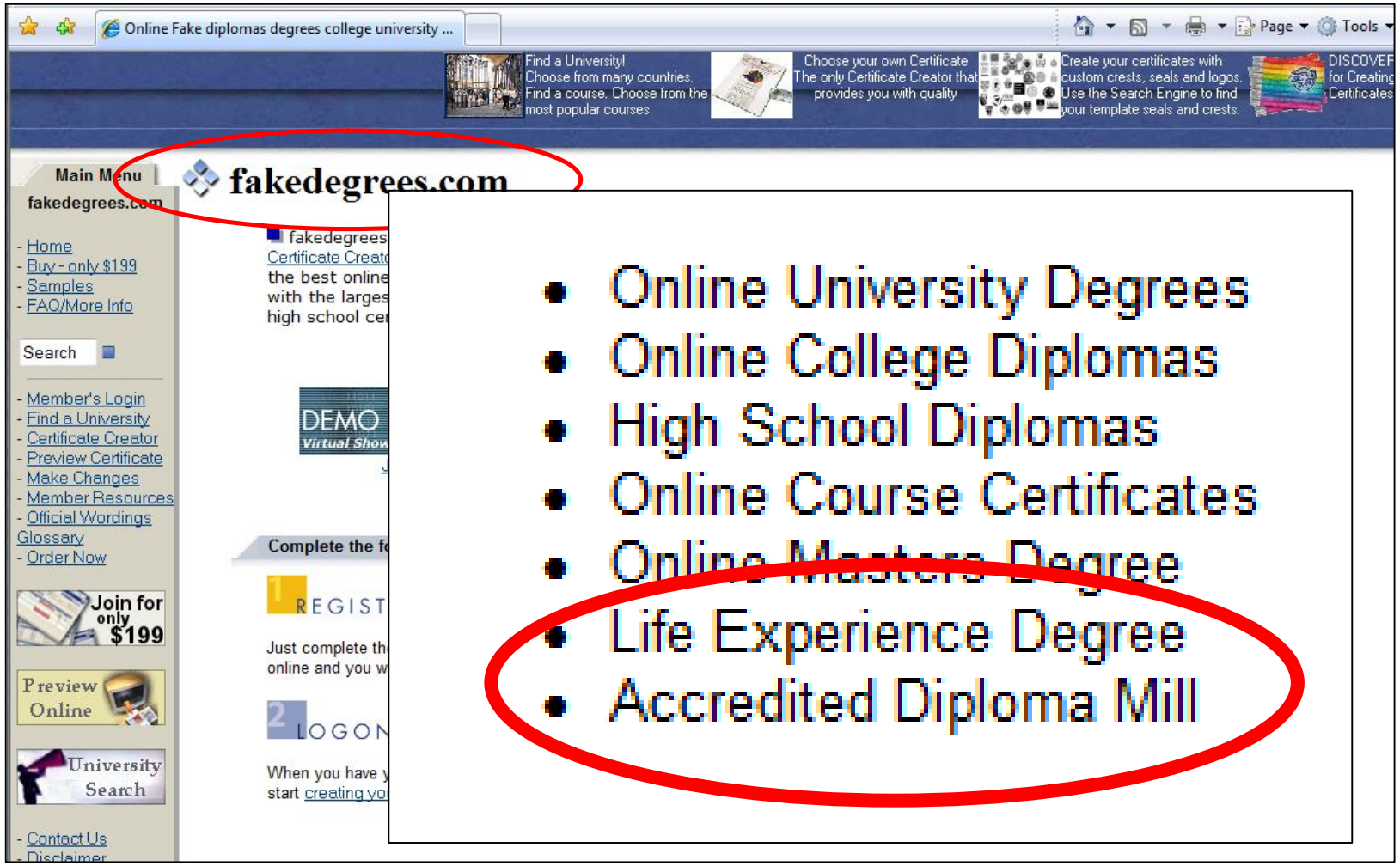
My particular favourite!



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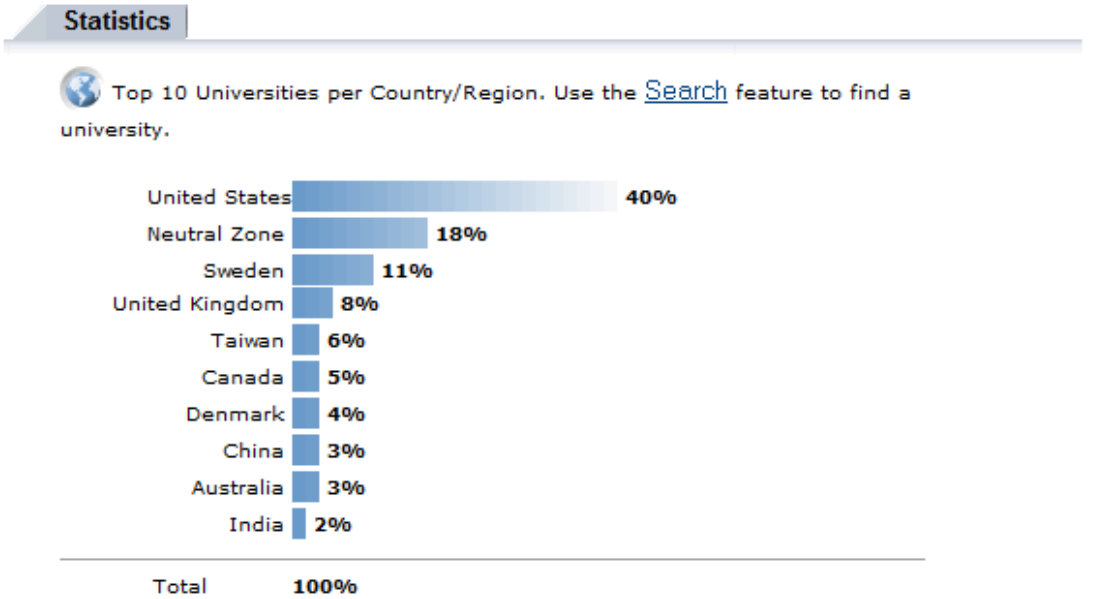
Stats



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Warning!!

Warning: These certificates are extremely high quality and are intended for novelty purposes only. They are not intended for, and we take no responsibility for, their use in any matters perpetrating fraud or dishonesty. See the Disclaimer and Terms & Conditions.

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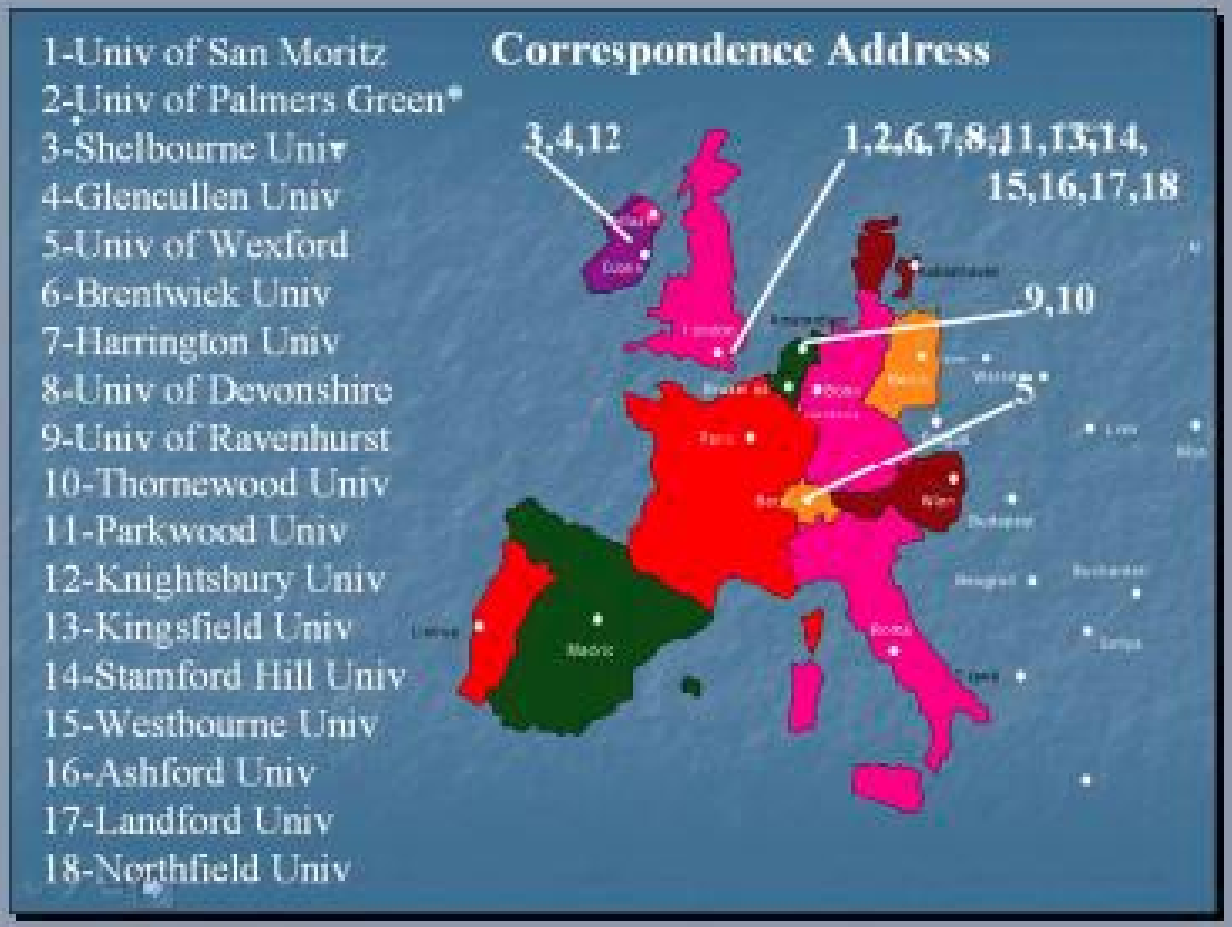
Institutions



Source: Allen Ezell April 2007

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More institutions

Bogus university scam uncovered

Investigation
By Nigel Morris
BBC London Investigations Producer

An international education scam that targets foreign students who come to study in the capital has been exposed by a BBC London investigation.

Prof Sandhu and Prof Wooller shake hands

The bogus Irish International University (IIU), which offers sub-standard and worthless degrees, has been allowed to flourish in the UK - virtually unchecked by the government - for the last seven years.

Source: BBC News January 2008

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Examples of Degree Mills (cont)

(16)

Pacific Western University

800-423-3244

Records and Administration
600 N. Sepulveda Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90049
Phone: 310-471-0306
Fax: 310-471-6456

Campus Office
1210 Auahi Street, #104
Honolulu, HI 96814-4922
Phone: 808-597-1909
Fax: 808-597-8603

Please reply to:
Los Angeles ☐
Honolulu ☐

Los Angeles and Honolulu! It is unusual to have the records office and the campus over 1000 miles apart!

So many campuses in all these countries!

Los Angeles • London • Honolulu • Barcelona • Hong Kong • Seoul • Milan • Tokyo • Cairo

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Examples of Degree Mills

The brochure

The reality

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Degree Mills - Accreditaion

In order to operate as a successful degree mill, accreditation is necessary. Reputable accreditation agencies and ministries of education cannot be approached, leaving the prospective degree mill with 4 choices:

- Lie
- Pay bribes
- Gain accreditation from a body that does not provide accreditation
- Invent an accreditation agency

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Educational Fraud

Commonwealth Open University?

BVI

Ukraine

Ukrainian Diplomas services
www.diplomy.name/zakaz
www.uadiplom.com
www.dip-loms.ru/examples2

China

免试本科学历学位，２１１院校，轻松入学快速毕业！！有问题请找我

０１０-８８１４６１２６

South Korea

Lecturers with bogus degrees teaching students

Out of 60,000 full-time professors in Korea, one in 30 has a dubious diploma…

Belize

Degrees from Schools of Medicine and Dentistry including Ashwood

Nigeria

Public warning of 15 universities operating illegally in various parts of the country:

- The Illegal Universities
- National University of Nigeria, Keffi, (Nassarawa)
- Houdegbe North American University, Mushin (Lagos)
- North Central University, Oturpko (Benue)…

Combating Fraud

- No single organisation's responsibility
- Met Police
- Trading Standards
- UK NARIC
- HEFCE
- UCAS

- ECOs under the new PBS system

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UK BA’s view on fraud

UKBA would encourage Sponsors to take all reasonable steps to verify the authenticity of a document; it is in the Sponsor’s interests to do so

Rooting out the non bona fide applications before issuing a CaS would save them from paying a CaS fee for a student who won't enter the UK

If an institution repeatedly sponsors applicants with non bona fide documents it may affect their Sponsor rating and could ultimately lead to their removal from the register

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Combating fraud

Red flags

Lack of official stamp
Signatures
Misalignment
Spelling mistakes
Variety and types of fonts
Paper quality
Hand writing
Unlikely degree titles
Inconsistent terminology

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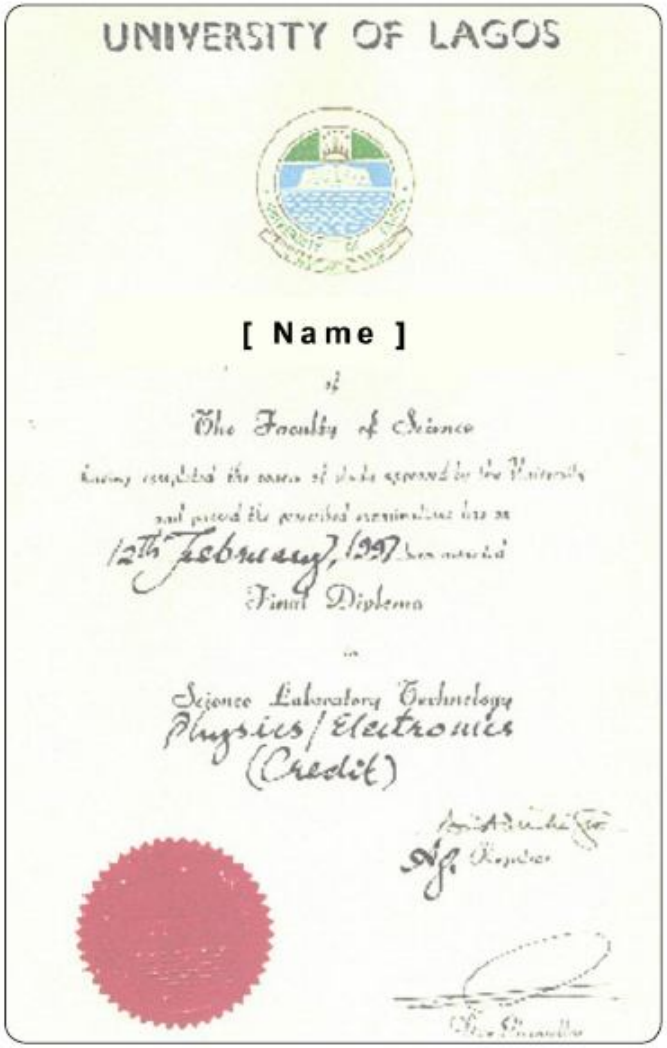
Genuine



UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS

[Name]

of

The Faculty of Science

Final Diploma

Science Laboratory Technology
Physics / Electronics
(Credit)

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Fake

INSTITUTE OF MANEGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION ENUGU

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Higher Diploma in Education

This is to certify that

[N a m e]

Has been awarded the Higher Diploma in Education (Business Studies & Information Technology) with Merit

July 1976

CHAIRMAN EXAMINATION BOARD

REGISTRAR

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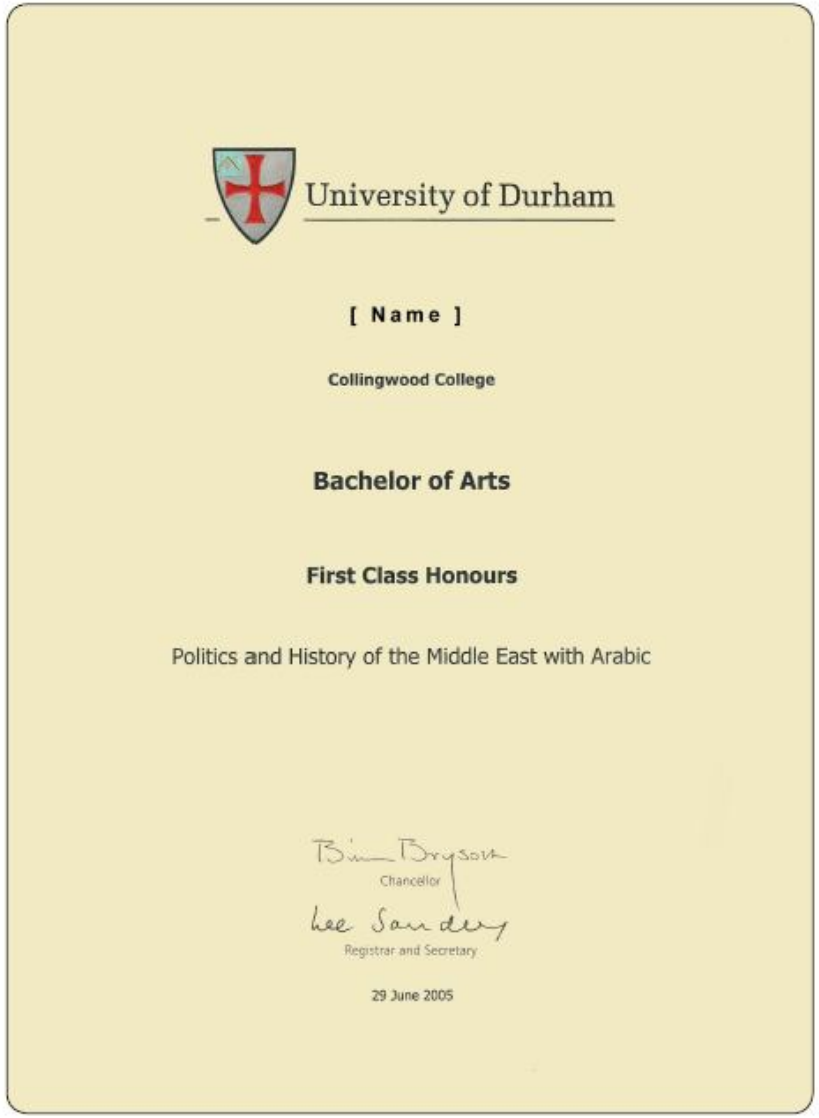
Genuine or Fake



University of Durham

[Name]

Collingwood College

Bachelor of Arts

First Class Honours

Politics and History of the Middle East with Arabic

Chancellor

Registrar and Secretary

29 June 2005

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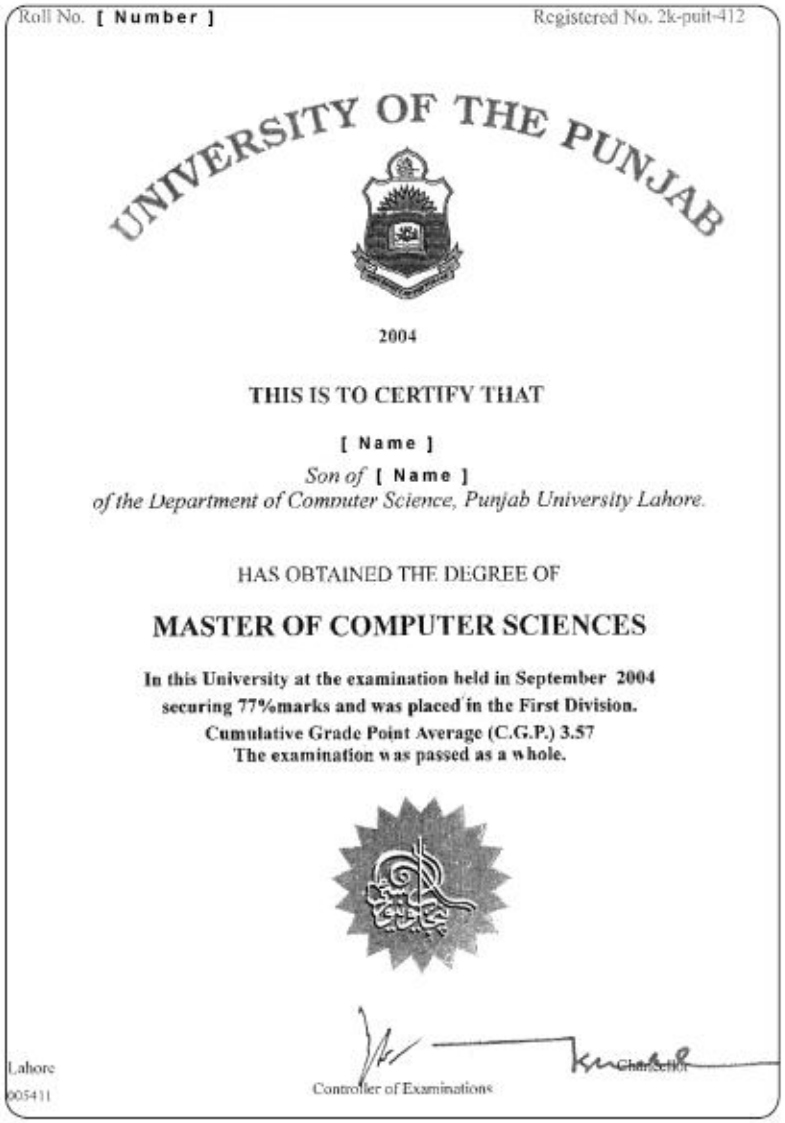
Genuine or Fake?



Roll No. [Number] Registered No. 2k-puit-412

UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB

2004

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

[Name]

Son of [Name]

of the Department of Computer Science, Punjab University Lahore.

HAS OBTAINED THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF COMPUTER SCIENCES

In this University at the examination held in September 2004 securing 77%marks and was placed in the First Division.

Cumulative Grade Point Average (C.G.P.) 3.57

The examination was passed as a whole.

Lahore

005411

Controller of Examinations

Chancellor

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Fake 1

Fonts

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

[Name]

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Cumulative Grade Point Average (C.G.P.) 3.57
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UK NARIC

Fake 2

Spacing

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

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of the Department of Computer Science, Punjab University Lahore.

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MASTER OF COMPUTER SCIENCES

In this University at the examination held in September 2004

securing 77% marks and was placed in the First Division.

Cumulative Grade Point Average (C.G.P.) 3.57

The examination was passed as a whole

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Fake 3

Wording

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

[Name]

Son of [Name]

of the Department of Computer Science, Punjab University Lahore.

UK NARIC