



**Study on Entrepreneurial Intention among Undergraduates and Graduates  
Specialized in Entrepreneurship; A case of Sri Lanka**

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## ABSTRACT

Entrepreneurial intentions are considered as more accurate predictors of entrepreneurial behavior. Given the paucity of empirical evidence and the contradictory findings on entrepreneurial intention, this study identifies the determinants of entrepreneurial intention among Sri Lankan undergraduates and graduates specialized in entrepreneurship. A sample of 160 undergraduates and graduates of the four main entrepreneurship degree offering universities were selected in terms of systematic sampling. Primary data were collected by using a structured questionnaire. A hierarchical regression was employed where attitudes towards behavior, perceived social norms and perceived behavioral control were served as the independent variables while entrepreneurial intention was the dependent variable. Also, the test was controlled for gender, nationality and education level. The results indicated a high level of entrepreneurial intention. Attitudes towards behavior, social norms and perceived behavioral control were found to be statistically significant determinants of entrepreneurial intention. Besides, perceived behavioral control creates the highest influence on the level of entrepreneurial intention. Further, male undergraduates and graduates tend to have a higher level of entrepreneurial intention than that of female. Nationality and the education level had no effect on the investigated link. Therefore, the curriculum of these degree programs should be improved to cultivate a higher sense of attitude towards behavior and perceived behavioral control. This study informs the researchers on the dynamics of entrepreneurial venture creation process.

**Keywords:** Attitudes towards Behavior, Entrepreneurial Intention, Perceived Behavioral Control, Perceived Social Norms, Theory of Planned Behavior