

Course Catalogue

Bachelor of Political Science & IR Program





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Program Introduction

Most of the universities of Afghanistan study law and political science under one title and in one degree. Then in the third year, they have two specializations of law and diplomacy. Kardan university wanted to be different, because the mixture of law and political science in one program is an outdated program and we must change as the world has changed.

The problem in the mixture of the two is that law produces principle-based mentalities and political science produces policy based mentality which focuses more on the consequences and outcomes. Therefore, the university separated law from the political science and created the Department of Political Science and IR under the faculty of Social Sciences in 2016.

The Department of Bachelor of Political Science & International Relations, from its beginning in 2016, is driven by a common vision to set up a vibrant and stimulating academic environment, the 'founding fathers' successfully designed a full study program that was launched the same year. However, the curriculum was influenced by the subjects of law, therefore the need for assessment and re-assessment is always felt.

In the Spring of 2018, the department changed its language of instruction from Dari to English, as the first step towards modernization and high quality education. It will make our alumni capable of resorting to firsthand information of the subject.

However, our department is small and with limited resources, still we aim for innovative thinking that provides answers to real Afghanistan and world problems. Second, to produce through highquality study program and various knowledge dissemination activities. Innovative ideas are only relevant if communicated; teaching and knowledge dissemination is only useful if rooted in strong research. Our value to society is determined by our ability to provide first-rate answers to societal challenges and by our ability to transmit those answers.



General Curriculum

		Kardan University			
		Faculty of Social Sciences - Department of Pol	itical Science and IR		
	Curriculum				
Core	Courses				
No.	Code	Course Name	Pre-requisite	Credits	
1	IR-351	Afghanistan and Regional Politics	Not Applicable	4	
2	PS-201	Comparative Constitutional Law	Introduction to Law	4	
3	IR-350	Contemporary Muslim Movements	Muslim Political Thought	4	
4	IR-352	Foreign Policy Analysis	Introduction to International Relations	4	
5	IR-450	Foreign Policy of Major Powers	Foreign Policy Analysis	4	
6	IR-250	Globalization in International Relations	Introduction to International Relations	4	
7	IR-251	Human Rights in International Relations	Introduction to International Relations	4	
8	PS-300	International Conflict Resolution	International Law	4	
9	IR-152	Public International Law	Introduction to Law	4	
10	PS-301	International Security	Introduction to International Relations	4	
11	IR-151	Introduction to International and Regional Organizations	Not Applicable	4	
12	IR-150	Introduction to International Relations	Not Applicable	4	
13	PS-100	Introduction to Law	Not Applicable	4	
14	PS-202	Introduction to Political Geography	Not Applicable	4	
15	PS-101	Introduction to Political Science	Introduction to Political Science	4	
16	PS-200	Muslim Political Thought	Introduction to Political Science	4	
17	IR-252	Principles of International Relations	Introduction to Political Science	4	
18	PS-400	Public Administration	Not Applicable	4	
19	PS-102	Western Political Thought	Introduction to Political Science	4	
20	PS-302	World Political Issues	Introduction to International Relations	4	
Tota	l Credits			80	

Gene	General Courses			
No.	Code	Course Name	Sub	Credits
1	CA-006	Computer Application	Not Applicable	3
2	PS-008	Constitutions of Major Powers	Not Applicable	3
3	PS-009	Development and Change	Not Applicable	3
4	LG-003	English	Not Applicable	3
5	PUL-002	Environmental Law	Not Applicable	3
6	ECO-011	Fundamentals of Economics	Not Applicable	3



7	HIS-007	History of Afghanistan	Not Applicable	3
8	PS-010	Introduction to Diplomacy	Not Applicable	3
9	ISS-001	Islamic Studies	Not Applicable	3
10	MGT-036	Management	Not Applicable	3
11	PR-042	Mass Media	Not Applicable	3
12	RM-014	Research Methodology	Not Applicable	3
Total Credits		36		

No.	Code	Course Name	Pre-requisite	Credits
1	IR-451	Arms and Disarmament	Not Applicable	4
2	IR-452	Defense and Strategic Studies	Not Applicable	4
3	IR-453	International Political Economy	Not Applicable	4
4	IR-454	The Anatomy of a Super Power: US since 1945	Not Applicable	4
5	IR-455	Theories of International Relations	Not Applicable	4
6	IR0456	Use of Force in International Relations	Not Applicable	4
Tota	Credits			24
* Stu	dent has t	o complete minimum 4 IR Specialization Courses (16 C	Credits) from the above 6 available	e courses.

3PS-403Political & Economic Challenges in 3rd WorldNot Applicable44PS-404Political SociologyNot Applicable45PS-405Political Systems in Central AsiaNot Applicable46PS-406Politics and Government in Middle EastNot Applicable4	No.	Code	Course Name	Pre-requisite	Credit
3PS-403Political & Economic Challenges in 3rd WorldNot Applicable44PS-404Political SociologyNot Applicable45PS-405Political Systems in Central AsiaNot Applicable46PS-406Politics and Government in Middle EastNot Applicable4	1	PS-401	Comparative Governments and Politics	Not Applicable	4
4PS-404Political SociologyNot Applicable45PS-405Political Systems in Central AsiaNot Applicable46PS-406Politics and Government in Middle EastNot Applicable4	2	PS-402	Media and Politics	Not Applicable	4
5PS-405Political Systems in Central AsiaNot Applicable46PS-406Politics and Government in Middle EastNot Applicable4	3	PS-403	Political & Economic Challenges in 3rd World	Not Applicable	4
6 PS-406 Politics and Government in Middle East Not Applicable 4	4	PS-404	Political Sociology	Not Applicable	4
	5	PS-405	Political Systems in Central Asia	Not Applicable	4
	6	PS-406	Politics and Government in Middle East	Not Applicable	4
Total Credits 2	Total	Credits	•		24

Proje	Project Report - Political Science & International Relations			
No.	Code	Course Name	Pre-requisite	Credits
1	THS-480	Thesis	Not Applicable	6



Summa	Summary		
No.	Category	Credits	
1	Core	80	
2	Specialization	16	
3	General	36	
3	Thesis	6	
Total		138	

Grad	Graduation Requirements		
No.	Category	Criteria	
1	University Orientation	Pass	
2	Credit Requirement	138 Credits	
3	Thesis Defense	Pass	
4	English Competency Test	Pass	
5	Professional Seminars	6 Hours	



Core Courses

Afghanistan aı	Afghanistan and Regional Politics	
Course Code	IR-351	
Credits	4	
Pre-requisite		
Description	This Course describes and critically analyses the impact of regional politics, particularly politics in South Asia and Central Asia, on Afghanistan. In addition, it briefly discusses foreign policy of Afghanistan towards the two regions in the period post-2001.	

Comparative C	Comparative Constitutional law	
Course Code	PS-201	
Credits	4	
Pre-requisite	Introduction to Law	
Description	This course reviews and analyzes the need for constitution and its role in political and legal life of a nation. It is designed to assist students in understanding concepts related to constitutions, constitutional interpretation and focuses on UK and US Constitutions in general and covers major part of the Constitution of Afghanistan 2004.	



Contemporary	Contemporary Muslim Movements	
Course Code	IR-350	
Credits	4	
Pre-requisite	Muslim Political Thought	
Description	This course will review and critically analyze the roots, activities and the worldview of Islamic movements and parties around the world. Although the course will examine the roots and traces the development of movements in North Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia, it will also lay emphasis on the Parties' reach to Afghanistan and the major movements operating in the country.	

Foreign Policy Analysis	
Course Code	IR-352
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Introduction to International Relations
Description	This course focuses on how states formulate and implement their foreign policies. Our orientation in this course is more theoretical and process- oriented than substantive or interpretive. We focus on policy inputs and the decision-making process rather than on policy outputs. An important assumption underlying this course is that the processes through which foreign policy is made have a considerable impact on the substantive content of policy.



Foreign Policy of Major Powers	
Course Code	IR-450
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Introduction to Political Science
Description	This course is designed to review and analyze the foreign policy of great powers since 194, objectives and realities as well as relations between these powers.

Globalization and International Relations	
Course Code	IR-250
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Introduction to International Relations
Description	This graduate course is in three Parts. Together they are intended to provide theoretical, empirical, and policy perspectives on source and consequences of globalization, focusing on emergent structures and processes, and on the implications of flows of goods and services across national boundaries – with special attention to the issue of migration, on the assumption that people matter and matter a lot. An important concern addressed pertains to the dilemmas of international policies that are shaped by the macro-level consequences of micro-level behavior.



Human Rights and International Relations	
Course Code	IR-251
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Introduction to Law
Description	This course examines the interaction between politics and law and aims to give a general understanding of the role of human rights in the international society. It discusses relations between order, stability and justice and pays considerable attention to issues of the universality of human rights and particularly the problem of enforcement.

International Conflict Resolution	
Course Code	PS-300
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	International Relations
Description	This course focuses on the means and methods of international conflict resolutions and it covers types and principles of conflict resolutions that include negotiation, mediation, conciliation and reconciliation as well as major case studies in South Asia, Middle East, Central Asia, Africa and Latin America.



Public International Law	
Course Code	IR-152
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course reviews and provides a comprehensive analysis of the major topics of international law with focus on international relations. It examines the roots and traces the development of international law and its importance in dealing with states during war and peace.

International Security	
Course Code	PS-301
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	 Introduction to Political Science Introduction to International Relations
Description	This course offers an overview of theoretical debates and empirical themes in the field of international security studies. The participants will learn the different theoretical frameworks informing our understanding of security issues, including realism, liberalism, Copenhagen theory Feminism and constructivism, as well as scholarly efforts to bridge theoretical divides.





Introduction to International and Regional Organizations	
Course Code	IR-151
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	To better understand the arena of international relations, understanding International Organizations is important, therefore understanding basic concepts and terminologies of this field of study is necessity. In addition to that, understanding the theories which explain the activities of supranational actors is also important.

Introduction to International Relations	
Course Code	IR-150
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course introduces students to the major theoretical approaches to international relations, Realism, Liberalism and Marxism, and uses these approaches to address a variety of issues. For instance, we will discuss the rise of the modern state system, the origins of World War one, the Cold War, the Gulf and Iraq Wars, genocide in Rawanda, free trade globalization, North South Relations, the environment, and human rights. The primary aims of the course are to demonstrate how theory influences our explanations; to familiarize students with some important issues in international Politics; and most important, to help students evaluate contemporary issues in international Politics.



Introduction to Law	
Course Code	PS-100
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course is designed to give a general picture of what "law" is and how it operates. It commences with discussion on the definition of law and gets into the discussion on legal systems of the world, sources of law and general division or classifications of law.

Introduction to Political Geography	
Course Code	PS-202
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	PS-202
Description	Fundamental to the course is a geographical and historical background of the state as an institute and relations between states. We start with history of the statehood and explain how and when the states we see nowadays appeared. We will consider questions of space and power in contemporary political geography, territoriality, the state, geopolitics. The course gives a clear understanding of the world's regional diversity. It can help students to choose regional specialization and at the same time to decide what area of international relations they want to focus on.



Introduction to Political Science	
Course Code	PS-101
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	Introduction to Political Science is a Core Course which deals with major and fundamental concepts of Political Science such as; State, Government, Distribution of Power, Theories of Origin of State, Forms of Government and State and thorough analysis and synthesis of few dominant and influential forms of Governments exist in the world as a case study. Students would have proper understanding of above topics and concepts as well as students would be able to evaluate current situation of Afghanistan and they would also be able to suggest which form of Government is more suitable for Afghanistan.

Muslim Political Thought	
Course Code	PS-200
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Western Political Thought
Description	The early Islamic tradition is particularly rich in material that addresses political questions. This reflects the importance of such questions to many Muslims in the first community in West Arabia, in the Muslim empire of the caliphate, and in the "commonwealth" of Islamic societies stretching from Spain to Central Asia that it left behind.



Principles of International Relations	
Course Code	IR-252
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Introduction to International Relations
Description	This course focuses on how states formulate and implement their foreign policies. Our orientation in this course is more theoretical and process- oriented than substantive or interpretive. We focus on policy inputs and the decision-making process rather than on policy outputs. An important assumption underlying this course is that the processes through which foreign policy is made have a considerable impact on the substantive content of policy.

Public Administration	
Course Code	PS-400
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	Public administration is a course which enables you to manage public agencies, set budgets, and creates government policies. The function of public administration is important because that is what makes the government perform the services that the lawmakers say the government should provide.



Western Political Thought	
Course Code	PS-102
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	Political Thought briefly discusses ideas and philosophies behind political decisions. It also discusses how Philosophy was brought to politics in different times (ancient times, medieval ages, modern ages and postmodern ages) and how political philosophies were transformed as political science. It also discusses prominent philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Saint Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Nicola Machiavelli, Thomas Hobbes, John Lock, and J.J. Rousseau.

World Political Issues	
Course Code	PS-302
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Introduction to Political Science
Description	World Politics continuously and considerably evolve and thus students of political science and international relations need to remain aware of the contemporary issues in the field. This course updates the students on the political issues, such as globalization, poverty, fundamentalism, weapons, mercantilism and others that the world has to cope with as a whole.



General Courses

Computer Application	
Course Code	CA-006
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Basic Knowledge of English Language
Description	This course covers the fundamental concepts of Computer Introduction. It will prepare students for later use in field of Political Science by providing them the basic understanding of core concepts. Students will also have the opportunity to apply their skills to address various problems and develop solutions. Students will also be able to use the Microsoft Packages for instance (Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Power Point) to be able to use the Microsoft programs in Thesis Writing CV Writing , doing the daily Assignments, Calculations , Presentation of the Assignments with Practical work in the Lab.

Constitutions of Major Powers	
Course Code	PS-008
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Introduction to Law Constitutional Law
Description	Comparative Constitutional Law is a course that focuses on study of constitutional law in a comparative manner so that students examine the limits of modern constitutions such as constitution of US, UK, France, Russia and Turkey in order to understand, <i>inter alia</i> , the scope of judicial review, individual freedoms, separation of powers, centralization of decision making, pluralism and the protection of democratic principles.



Development and Change	
Course Code	PS-009
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	Development and Change explores the process of modernization of the societies, with special focus on the third world countries. Different countries have joined the process of democratization and many are still on the part towards becoming democratized countries. The subject tries to explain the reasons for the process, obstacles, and outcomes. In general, the subject of development and change encompasses the broad discourse of traditionalism and modernity and related discussions.

English II (Composition)	
Course Code	LG-003
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course is designed for BPS and IR students considering their level of knowledge and understanding of English language. The program is designed for Elementary or upper level students in order to enhance the students' fundamentals of writing skill. On other hand, the program focuses on improvement of student's main composing proficiencies on its appropriate manner.



Introduction to Environmental Sciences	
Course Code	PUL-002
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	Environmental Sciences is a multi-disciplinary science. This subject describes all the sciences that relate to life and Environment. However, the term Environmental Sciences is usually restricted to refer particularly to hydrosphere, atmosphere and lithosphere (biosphere) as it relates directly to human activities.

Fundamentals of Economics	
Course Code	ECO-011
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course is suitable for non-economics majors as gives an overview of economics as a social science for those wishing to learn the basics of economics while pursuing other undergraduate majors, however at the same time, the course provides a solid grounding in microeconomics for those wishing to pursue further education in economics. The class as well gives an overview of "thinking like an economist" and as such provides a solid grounding in economic thought and not just microeconomics as a sub-field.



Contemporary History of Afghanistan	
Course Code	HIS-007
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course will study Afghanistan – including its history particularly contemporary history, Governments from 1747 to 2019, – in order to better understand why this region has known centuries of conflict. We will also look closely at various facets of the ongoing conflict during the new starting in Afghanistan after bon 2001 agreement.

Introduction to Diplomacy	
Course Code	PS-010
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	The overall aim of this course is to introduce students to the art of diplomacy in the Western tradition with an emphasis on the beginning of the 19 th century through to contemporary international politics.



Islamic Studies	
Course Code	ISS-001
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	In this course, the focus is on advance discussions in Islamic Studies. Students get to study the Islamic democratic system along with <i>Maqasid al-Shariah</i> , Muslim Contribution to the Science and Arts, Islam and Women Rights, and the scope and importance of <i>Ijtihad</i> and <i>Taqlid</i> in the contemporary world.

Management and Administration	
Course Code	MGT-036
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	The following course has been designed to give the students an overview of basic functions of management such as, planning, organizing, staffing, leading and controlling. As well as a superficial review of evolution of management in different eras will be discussed. Moreover, at least two lectures will discuss leadership and leadership related topics.



Mass Media	
Course Code	PR-042
Credits	3
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course provides an introduction to key topics, debates, issues, and theoretical approaches in Communication Studies. In this course, we explore questions of communication and map the contours of the field. We particularly examine the role the mass media play in society and the ways they are shaped by politico-economic and socio-cultural factors.

Research Methodology	
Course Code	RM-014
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course discusses approaches, strategies, and methods relating to research in social sciences, with focus on political science and international relations. It aims at guiding all students towards achieving competence and proficiency in the theory and practice of research.



International Relations Specialization Courses

Arms & Disarmament	
Course Code	IR-451
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course will review and analyze why and how arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation have become important issues in modern diplomacy. It will examine the progress made in agreeing in global and regional agreements, in verification and compliance techniques, and the role such agreements play in post-cold war security discussions. It will focus on the impact that the weapon of mass destruction has had on this process; how globalization have facilitated transfers of key weapons technologies and led to complex international trade controls.

Defense & Strategic Studies	
Course Code	IR-452
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	The aim of this course is to create a better-structured vision and improved understanding of national and international security issues within the students. It commences in the field of security studies with the key conceptual and theoretical debates.



International Political Economy	
Course Code	IR-453
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	The aim of this course is to gain a better understanding of the tensions and interactions between politics and the economy on an international scale. We will be analyzing the roles of states, corporations, international and domestic institutions, and other factors in creating and/or managing conflicts and facilitating cooperation in international political economy (IPE). The course will be divided into three main sections. The first will deal with theoretical assessments of IPE – Realism, Liberalism and Critical perspectives. The second part will apply these perspectives to various topics such as international trade, investment, integration, debt and financial crises and economic development. The third part will focus on the problems and debates associated with IPE.

The Anatomy of a Super Power: US Since 1945	
Course Code	IR-454
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course is a survey of the period since the end of World War Two, when the United States was the world's dominant economic and military power having finally assumed the position of international leadership that it had hitherto spurned. Internationally, the post-World War Two period was dominated by the Cold War and, in the past two decades, by all the uncertainties that have followed in its wake.



Theories of International Relations	
Course Code	IR-455
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course serves as an introduction to theories of International Relations (IR). The objective of this course is to help students to interpret and describe IR in terms of different types of theoretical approaches. We will assess dominant paradigms (liberalism, realism, constructivism) as well as their competitors (post-modern, feminist and critical theories). In addition to exploring the social- and meta-theoretic foundations of the different approaches, we will also assess their ability to explain and understand the world around us.

Use of Force in International Relations	
Course Code	IR-456
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	The purpose of this course is to provide an understanding about the legality and legitimacy of 'Use of Force in International Relations. The question of the use of force is one of the most controversial both in international law and international relations. Different states, civil society and international lawyers have held over time (wildly) diverse opinions about the legality and the legitimacy of events such as the bombing of Syria by the US/UK/France in early 2018, Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014, the exercise of the international community's 'responsibility to protect' in Libya in 2011 and the 2003 invasion of Iraq, as well as debates over the possibility of a 'pre-emptive strike' against North Korea or Iran.



International Relations Specialization Courses

Comparative Governments and Politics	
Course Code	PS-401
Credits	4
Pre-requisite	Nil
Description	This course describes democratic political institutions, the process of democratization, and international political economy in order to assist the students understand comparative methods of reading political systems and governments and to analyze politics in a diverse set of countries from developing world to advanced industrialized democracies.

Media and Politics		
Course Code	PS-402	
Credits	4	
Pre-requisite	Nil	
Description	The purpose of this course is to provide an understanding of the role of the media in the political system. Both historical and current political trends will be highlighted as they are deliberated and analyzed by the media as well as the advantages and challenges that come with digital media and the 24/7 news cycle.	



Political and Economic Challenges in the Third world		
Course Code	Ps-403	
Credits	4	
Pre-requisite	Nil	
Description	Political and Economic challenges in third world is a specialized course for students of Political Science in Political Science and International Relations department. The course mainly aims to provide students a cultural, political and economic structures and systems of the "Developing World" countries. We will mainly deal with common features of the current Developing World states, modernization and dependency approaches to them. In the case studies, main problematic issues and conflicts of the selected states will be examined in detail.	

Political Sociology		
Course Code	Ps-404	
Credits	4	
Pre-requisite	Nil	
Description	Sociology is the systematic study of interactions within and among social groups and related human behavior that define social life. Political Sociology is a rich subfield of sociology with its own proud traditions and literature. Political Sociology has historically examined the elites, social class, the state, political parties and processes, the media, and social movements and related organizations – events, and thought that have informed the politics of history and of our time.	



Political Systems in Central Asia		
Course Code	Ps-405	
Credits	4	
Pre-requisite	Nil	
Description	Political Systems in Central Asia is a Specialized Course for students of Political Science in department of Political Science and International Relations. This course aims to present students with an advanced introduction to the politics and international relations of post-Soviet Central Asia – a region that is here defined as the ensemble of the former Soviet republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.	

Politics and Government in Middle East		
Course Code	PS-406	
Credits	4	
Pre-requisite	Nil	
Description	This course offers an introduction to the complex world of Middle Eastern politics. It covers major areas of political science research on the Middle East region and also builds specific knowledge about the politics of individual countries.	





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