



پوهنتون کاردان
KARDAN UNIVERSITY

2-Year Strategic Plan

**Bachelor of Political Science & International Relations
Program**

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INTRODUCTION

In November 2018, the Department of Bachelor of Political Science & International Relations (BPS&IR) endorsed the Academic Strategic Plan. This plan is inspired and adopted in light of the strategic plan of Kardan University, i.e. Vision of Excellence.

The Plan was developed in the context of recent changes the Department has witnessed, for instance, the medium of instruction was changed from Dari and Pashto into English, curriculum is revised and the teaching methodology is changed into Outcome Based Education (OBE) and Student Centered Learning (SCL).

The University deemed these changes vital for sustainability of the program, enrich the educational experiences it offers and support the transformation of students for coping with the modern challenges they have to cope with. It enables BPS&IR to fulfil the mandate it has been entrusted and prepare a generation that will contribute to welfare of the society and the country.

This Plan encompasses the Department's vision, mission and values. It identifies the key goals and objectives that will help it focus on attaining its objectives. In addition, it will guide decision-making and resource allocation in the right direction over the next years.

BPS&IR has turned its attention into engaging its faculty members, staff and students in identifying means and methods through which they can successfully attain the goals and objectives set in light of Kardan University's vision and mission.

BACKGROUND

Universities in Afghanistan offer law and political science as one degree program where students are required to take courses of law, Shari'ah, political science and international relations as part of the same degree during the initial two years. In the fifth semester, the universities offer them two choices: law or diplomacy.

For obvious reasons, Kardan University tended to follow international standards and offer law as an independent degree program whereas offer a joint degree of political science and international relations as an independent degree program. The Faculty of Law therefore is separate from Faculty of Social Sciences, which covers BPS&IR and Masters' in International Relations.

BPS&IR, from its inception in 2016, is driven by a vision of setting up a vibrant and stimulating academic environment. Nonetheless, it was observed that curriculum of the program was influenced by the law subjects due to requirements of the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) which had not permitted establishment of a separate program of political science from law.



In order to modernize the program and bring it into compliance with international standards as well as to facilitate the alumni respond to the market needs, the medium of instruction of BPS&IR was changed into English. Moreover, the process of revision of the curriculum was commenced by a specially designated committee of experts to ensure the courses offered and the course contents delivered to the students were updated and responding to the realities of the 21st century.

VISION

To work towards making a difference in the lives of our students by empowering them with knowledge, competences and skills necessary to address present and future challenges at local, national and regional levels.

MISSION

The Department of Political Science & International Relations is dedicated to excellence in teaching, research by offering an undergraduate curriculum designed to provide students with a firm foundation and broad understanding of the discipline of political science and international relations.

CORE VALUES

- Academic excellence
- Critical thinking
- Creativity, innovation and originality through excellence in teaching and research
- Promoting, professing and performing ethical principles and Standards
- Promoting civic responsibilities
- Respect for faculty, students and staff.

KEY PRIORITIES

Although BPS&IR is a newly established department with limited resources, it strives for promoting innovative thinking that responds to Afghanistan's and international issues. Innovative ideas are only relevant if communicated properly, teaching and knowledge dissemination are useful if put to discussion and reflection, and hence research is the only way in which knowledge is disseminated as well as put forth for discussion, critique and reflection. Due to this reasons, research remains the key priorities of not only this department but of the university as a whole.



Towards 2020, two strategic priorities and relevant objectives guide our efforts at the Department. These are:

- To develop the curriculum as per accepted standards; and
- To enable the degree program through research, extra- and co-curricular activities as well specialized certificate courses attract more students and ultimately respond to the market needs.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

To maintain and increase the Department's national visibility associated with hiring exceptional faculty members, the faculty have identified several associated objectives, which are created in the light of the objectives mentioned in the Vision of Excellence of Kardan University.

OBJECTIVE 1

To increase focus on the quality of education in order to enhance capacity of the students to present capable leaders, political analysts and researchers.

OBJECTIVE 2

To recruit highly qualified faculty members and further develop their capacity to ensure best learning outcome for our students

OBJECTIVE 3

To enhance and promote research capabilities of our faculty and students alike, so that we could address the political and social challenges of our society through genuine research and publication.

OBJECTIVE 4

To broaden our relationsa with national and international universities/ institutes and organizations, to pursue student exchange programs and seek opportunities for our graduates.

OBJECTIVE 5

To make sure that all our students are getting the necessary help in their capacity building and to build a long term mentorship for them.