



پوهنتون کاردان
KARDAN UNIVERSITY

Master of International Relations Program

3-Year Strategic Plan

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1.1 Overview

Master in International Relations is among the top departments of the Faculty of social sciences of Kardan University. Kardan University is an internationally recognized university renowned for its academic excellence. It brings together seasoned industry experts, government leaders and distinguished faculty members to create a rigorous learning environment for students. A National Leader in Higher Education Kardan University is an ideal university for individuals who are passionate about international affairs, research and excellence. The program underscores self-study assignments, case studies, research – intensive work and concentrated classroom interactions. In every stage, peer-to-peer interactions promote mutual collaboration, learning and problem-solving skills.

Learning Environment

Our graduates are among the most sought after professionals working in public, private and non- profit sectors in Afghanistan

1.2 Why choose us

- We have a reputation for excellence in teaching with strong links between course content and the work of our research-active academic staff.
- This course covers the central foundations of the contemporary study of International Relations which has grown beyond the traditional concern with inter-state relations. It also provides a range of optional modules that allow you to focus on particular areas of interest such as national security and peacebuilding and diplomacy.
- You will have access to excellent learning resources such as JSTORE Library as well as the extensive use of e-learning facilities to complement your time in the classroom.



1.3 Vision

Setting a standard of excellence and growth in the interdisciplinary graduate study of International Relations

1.4 Mission

Preparing future leaders by means of education, research, and counselling.

1.5 Our Values

Striving to acquire and utilize knowledge of International Relations with **academic freedom, critical thinking, methodological and theoretical pluralism** and encouraging **disciplinary collaboration**.

- We value excellence in education facilitated through:
 - Outcome based education, which is active student-teacher engagement and academic achievement in a rigorous and challenging course of study that emphasizes the development of critical and analytical thinking and writing.
 - Student exposure to a variety of theoretical and political perspectives for the purpose of enhancing critical and analytical thinking and writing skills.
 - A comprehensive coverage of the disciplines and access to a wide variety of advanced level courses.
 - Emphasis on empirical skills, extra- and co-curricular activities and civic education opportunities in domestic, regional and international level.
- Excellence in faculty scholarship
- Service to the discipline, university and community
- Student development as an informed citizens of a democratic and progressive society.

1.6 Program Objectives

- Graduating from Masters in International Relations program with an in-depth knowledge in IR, students will be able to:
- Understand in depth significance of a role played by an IR expert in shaping foreign relations of a country
- Learn to analyse and develop economic and diplomatic policies at the international level
- Acquire knowledge of politics to be able to contribute in strengthening aid organizational work at both national and international level
- Acquire knowledge and expertise in political issues at regional and international level to be able to contribute to the development of national response strategies.



- Learn academic theories in the field of IR and contribute to the field as researchers and experts.
- Acquire analytical skills to review policies and decision making processes of diplomatic processes.

1.6 Three Year Strategic Goal

The three year strategic goals of the department are to achieve the establishment of a master's degree program that delivers a standard of excellence and growth in Peace Building & Diplomacy and National Security as its two core concentrations/majors within the interdisciplinary studies of international relations.

1.7 Strategic Priorities

1.6.1 Strategic Priority Area 1: Actively engage learners at all levels

Objective

The Department of International Relations focuses on professional growth through practical work, critical thinking development and analysis with strong theoretical foundations for students.

Actions:

Students will be involved in different co-curricular and extra-curricular activities such as competitions, debates, exposures and other related academic activities.

1.6.2 Strategic Priority Area 2: Further Develop the Exceptional Faculty

Objective

To attract and maintain a diverse and balanced pool of talented faculty members who are set with the international standards of excellence and are educated at standard domestic, regional and international institutions. Kardan University is diverse and inclusive welcoming faculty members from all regions and nationalities.

Actions (2017 & 2018)

Faculty members holding Ph.D. and Master's degrees from Asia, U.S, Europe and other countries are actively recruited and are continuing to be recruited.

1.6.3 Strategic Priority Area 3: Ensure Alignment of Institutional Structures and Functions

Objective

To put in place a strongly established department of MIR complying with university's institutional structure and functions, MoHE (Ministry of Higher Education) policies as well as international standards.



Progress (2018)

A Quality Assurance and Accreditation Committee is established in 2018 at the department level to ensure department's function in accordance with the university and MoHE's requirements.

Actions:

The department will focus on institutional development by prioritizing documentation and other paper work.

1.6.4 Strategic Priority Area 4: Enhance the Institution's Image and Reputation

Objective

To establish and sustain excellence in innovation and growth that leads to fostering positive image of the university not only in the Afghan community, but also at the regional and international level.

Actions (2018-19)

Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and Instruments of Collaboration (IoCs) signed and implemented with several government entities as well as national and international organizations to collaborate with MIR and Kardan University.

Guest speakers and experts will therefore be invited to speak at the university to students and faculty and promote university's programs and development.



1.8 Outcome:

An established department of MIR that reflects market needs and offers cutting edge academic program with potential to expand..

Presenting a batch of highly skilled and well trained future peace builders, diplomats, and security experts.



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