

CURRICULUM

Master of Social Science

SESSION: 2025-2026

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE



UNIVERSITY OF RAJSHAHI
RAJSHAHI-6205, BANGLADESH

www.ru.ac.bd/politicalsc/

CURRICULUM

Master of Social Science

Session: 2025-2026



Department of Political Science
Faculty of Social Science
University of Rajshahi
Rajshahi-6205, Bangladesh

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CONTENTS

	Page No.
The Department of Political Science	4
The Faculty Members	5-6
Non-academic Staff	7
List of Ex-chairmen of the Department	8
Former Faculties of the Department	9
Curriculum	
Part A : Program Profile and OBE Framework	10-14
Part B : Academic Regulations and Programme Structure	15-21
Part C : Course Outlines	22-76
MSS 1st Semester	
Course 0312-501 Modern Political Thought	22
Course 0312-502 Problems of Government	25
Course 0312-503 Theories of Political Development	29
Course 0312-504 International Law and Organization	33
Course 0312-505 Genocide Studies	38
Course 0312-506 Advanced Research Methodology	41
Course 0312-507 Participatory Governance	44
MSS 2nd Semester	
Course 0312-508 Recent Political Thought	48
Course 0312-509 Bangladesh and her Neighbors	53
Course 0312-510 International Politics: Theory and Practice	56
Course 0312-511 Public Sector Management	60
Course 0312-512 Problems of Political Institutions	63
Course 0312-513 Foreign Policies of Major Powers	68
Course 0312-514 Viva-Voce	71
MSS 3rd Semester	
Course 0312-515 Master's Thesis	74
Course 0312-516 Thesis Presentation and Defense	74
Part D : Student Support, Development and Engagement	77-80

THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Political Science at the Rajshahi University has more than fifty years' glorious and affluent history of teaching and research. With the leadership of renowned Professor Badaruddin Umar, the department began its journey on September 25, 1963. In 2013, the department celebrated its Golden Jubilee. At different stages of its growth and development, it had homed intellectuals like Professor Badruddin Umar, Professor Talukdar Maniruzzaman, Professor A.N. Shamsul Haque, Professor Golam Morshed, Professor Abul Fazal Huq, Professor Muhammad Ayeshuddin, Professor Golam Kabir, Professor Habiba Zaman, Professor Shamsur Rahman, Professor Sayefullah Bhuyan, Professor Motiur Rahman who had conducted path breaking and influential research on important issues about politics and policy. The present teaching faculties (14 fulltime, 03 part-time) are seriously committed to innovative teaching and research work.

Currently the department accommodates about 600 students, among them 480 in under-graduate, 120 in Masters, 10 in M.Phil and Ph.D programs. Besides, the department offers evening masters program for the professionals coming from different disciplines. It also has collaboration with Open University and provides the necessary teaching staff and logistics for Open University Masters Program in Political Science.

The courses of the department incorporate a creditable range of areas in politics. Students here, study how power and authority pervade almost every aspect of our lives - from the state to the courtroom, class room, work place, community and the family. We believe Politics is not only about power and authority and how these are exercised but also it is about holding power accountable, exercising democratic rights and about active citizenship. It attempts to change the world for the better life. Our curriculum is annually reviewed to keep it updated, addressing national and international issues on politics and development.

The department is fully equipped and adorned with necessary digital facilities like a computer laboratory, overhead projectors and e-resources for students and the faculties. The seminar library, enriched with reference and text books and rare collections, provides an excellent environment for the students to study and research. On a regular basis, the department holds workshops on teaching-learning, innovative courses, ICT application and seminars on important and recent national and International issues. On 15 October 2015, The Department of Political Science was shifted from its formerly location Shahidullah Arts Building to Syed Ismail Hossain Siraji Building, level-03, Eastern part having almost the required facilities.

In sports and other co- curricular activities, The Department of Political Science has occupied a leading position within the university. Football, cricket, badminton players of the department have brought the glory of University Championship to the department for several times. Often, our students represent the Rajshahi University in inter-university tournaments and cultural competitions. Students are also showing their talents in indoor games and community activities.

The department is proud of having thousands of alumni among which a good number of them are well placed in nationally and internationally as successful bureaucrats and other civil servants, professors, researchers, bankers, entrepreneurs, journalists, civil society leaders and even politicians who have excelled themselves as mayors and ministers.

The university is located in the educational city of Rajshahi, a small peaceful setting, enriched with natural beauty. A famous River, the Padma (part of Ganges), runs by the city. The green beauty of the wide university campus adjacent to the Padma River provides a perfect environment for education and research.

THE FACULTY MEMBERS

Chairman of the Department:

Muhammad Mahmudur Rahman (MMR)

MSS (DU)

Areas of Interest/Specialization: Government and Politics of South and Southeast Asia, Information Society, Political Theory and Organization, International Politics, Major Foreign Governments and Politics, World Political History, Governance, Gender and Development, Comparative Politics, Bangladesh Politics.

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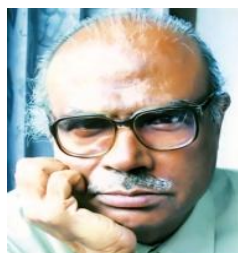
LIST OF EX-CHAIRMEN OF THE DEPARTMENT

Prof. Badruddin Umar



25.09.1963 to 26.12. 1968

Prof. Dr. Talukdar Maniruzzaman



27.12. 1968 to 30.09.1973

Prof. Dr. A. N. Shamsul Haque



04.12.1974 to 03.12.1977

Prof. Golam Morshed



04.12.1977 to 03.12.1980

Prof. Md. Abul Fazal Haq



04.12.1980 to 03.12. 1983

Prof. Md. Ayeshuddin



04.12.1983 to 03.12.1986

Prof. M. Shamsur Rahman



04.12.1986 to 03.12.1989

Prof. M. Sadequl Islam



04.12.1989 to 05.12.1992

Prof. Md. Nazrul Islam Mian



06.12.1992 to 05.12.1995

Prof. Md. Abdul Quasem



06.12.1995 to 05.12.1998

Prof. Dr. Md. Moksuder Rahman



06.12.1998 to 05.12.2001

Prof. Md. Ansar Uddin



06.12.2001 to 05.12.2004

Prof. Dr. Kafil Uddin Ahmed



06.12.2004 to 05.12.2007

Prof. Dr. Md. Aminur Rahman



06.12.2007 to 05.12.2010

Prof. Dr. S.M. Razy



06.12.2010 to 05.12.2013

Prof. Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin



06.12.2013 to 05.12.2016

Prof. Dr. Nasima Zaman



06.12.2016 to 31.01.2018

Prof. Dr. S.M. Akram Ullah



1.2.2018 to 31.1.2021

Prof. Dr. Farhat Tasnim



1.2.2021 to 31.1.2024

FORMER FACULTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT

Prof. Badruddin Umar
Prof. Dr. Talukdar Maniruzzaman
Prof. Dr. A. N. Shamsul Haque
Prof. Golam Morshed
Prof. Dr. Abul Fazal Haq
Prof. Md. Ayeshuddin
Prof. M. Shamsur Rahman
Prof. M. Sadequl Islam
Prof. Md. Nazrul Islam Mian
Prof. Md. Abdul Quasem
Prof. Dr. Md. Moksuder Rahman
Prof. Dr. Md. Aminur Rahman
Prof. Md Ansar Uddin
Prof. Dr. Nasima Zaman
Prof. Dr. Kafil Uddin Ahmed
Prof. M. Obaidul Haque
Prof. Syefullah Bhuiyan
Prof. Gias Uddin
Prof. Shamsul Haque Molla
Prof. Matiur Rahman
Prof. Syeed Kamal Mostafa
Prof. Golam Kabir (Bachhu)
Prof. A.A.M. Zahedul Haque (Tuku)
Prof. Habiba Zaman
Prof. Qamruzzaman
Prof. Moslem Uddin
Prof. A.K.M. Abdul Awal Mazumder
Prof. A.T.M. Obaidullah
Prof. Zaglul Haider
Prof. Syeed Iftekhar Ahmed
Prof. Farah Deeba Chowdhury
Prof. Rakiba Yasmin

Political Science Department combined with Sociology Department

Prof. Hasibul Hossain
Prof. Khalid Hossain
Prof. Bazlul Mobin Chowdhury
Prof. Abdul Qadir Bhiyan
Prof. Abdul Ohid Khan

CURRICULUM

Part A

PROGRAM PROFILE AND OBE FRAMEWORK

1. Title of the Academic Program: Master of Social Science

2. Name of the University: University of Rajshahi

3. Vision of the University: To pursue enlightenment and creativity for producing world-class human resources to cater for the needs of changing time.

4. Mission of the University:

UM1: To ensure a world-class curriculum with talented academicians and conducive academic and research environment for generation and dissemination of knowledge.

UM2: To maintain international standards in education with focus on both knowledge and skills, and humanitarian and ethical values to meet the needs of the society and state.

UM3: To develop strategic partnerships with leading national and international universities and organizations for academic as well as research collaborations

5. Name of the Program Offering Entity (POE): Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi

6. Vision of the Program Offering Entity (POE):

The Department of Political Science envisions itself as a center of excellence in teaching, research, and knowledge production in politics and governance. It aspires to nurture socially responsible, analytically skilled, and ethically grounded graduates capable of addressing evolving political and governance challenges in Bangladesh and beyond. Building on its legacy of critical scholarship, the department seeks to foster democratic values, human rights, and participatory governance, contributing meaningfully to national development and global political discourse.

7. Mission of the Program Offering Entity (POE):

POE-M1: To provide a rigorous, research-oriented curriculum in political science that equips students with theoretical knowledge and analytical skills relevant to national and global political systems.

POE-M2: To promote quality teaching and innovative research on governance, public policy, international relations, and political development, addressing contemporary national and international issues.

POE-M3: To cultivate ethical, socially responsible, and democratically conscious citizens capable of contributing to good governance, human rights, and active civic participation.

POE-M4: To build the capacity of students for successful careers in academia, public administration, civil service, research, journalism, and other allied professions through quality education and skill development.

POE-M5: To foster academic collaboration and partnerships with national and international institutions for the exchange of knowledge, joint research, and continuous curriculum development.

8. Objectives of the Program Offering Entity (POE):

POE-O1: To impart comprehensive theoretical and conceptual knowledge in political science, covering political theory, institutions, governance, and international relations.

POE-O2: To develop students' analytical and critical thinking skills for understanding complex political phenomena at the national, regional, and global levels.

POE-O3: To promote high-quality, ethically sound research on contemporary political, governance, and policy issues relevant to Bangladesh and the wider world.

POE-O4: To train students in advanced research methodologies, enabling them to independently design, conduct, and present academic research.

POE-O5: To instill democratic values, human rights awareness, and a sense of civic responsibility among students for active and informed citizenship.

POE-O6: To prepare graduates for diverse career pathways in public administration, civil service, academia, research institutions, journalism, and non-governmental organizations.

POE-O7: To strengthen students' communication, leadership, and professional skills necessary for effective participation in public and organizational life.

POE-O8: To establish and sustain academic linkages and collaborations with national and international universities and organizations for knowledge exchange and joint research initiatives.

9. Name of the Degree: Master of Social Science in Political Science/MSS

10. Description of the Program:

The Master of Social Science (MSS) in Political Science, offered by the Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi, is a graduate-level program designed to provide advanced theoretical knowledge and analytical competence in the study of politics, governance, and international affairs. Building upon the foundation laid at the undergraduate (BSS Honours) level, the program offers an in-depth exploration of political thought, comparative politics, public policy, international relations, and research methodology, enabling students to critically engage with contemporary political and governance challenges at the national and global levels.

The program is offered through two distinct streams to accommodate the diverse academic aspirations of students: the **Master's by Course Work**, completed within one academic year across two semesters, and the **Master's by Mixed Mode**, completed within one and a half academic years across three semesters, culminating in an independent research thesis. Both streams require the completion of 40 credits, integrating taught courses, a viva-voce examination, and, for the Mixed Mode stream, an original research dissertation supervised by faculty members.

The curriculum is regularly reviewed and updated to reflect emerging national and international developments in political science, ensuring that graduates are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and ethical grounding necessary to pursue careers in academia, public administration, civil service, research, journalism, and other allied professions, while contributing meaningfully to democratic governance and civic life.

11. Graduate Attributes (based on need assessment):

Based on an assessment of the needs of students, employers, alumni, and society, the graduates of the MSS in Political Science program are expected to possess the following attributes:

GA1: Disciplinary Knowledge — A comprehensive and in-depth understanding of political theory, institutions, governance, public policy, and international relations.

GA2: Critical and Analytical Thinking — The ability to critically analyze political phenomena, evaluate competing perspectives, and interpret complex national and global political issues.

GA3: Research Competency — Proficiency in research design, data collection, and analysis, enabling independent and ethically sound academic research.

GA4: Democratic and Civic Values — A strong commitment to democratic principles, human rights, good governance, and active, responsible citizenship.

GA5: Communication Skills — The ability to articulate ideas clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing, in academic and professional contexts.

GA6: Leadership and Teamwork — The capacity to work collaboratively, take initiative, and lead effectively in diverse academic, professional, and social settings.

GA7: Ethical Awareness and Social Responsibility — A strong ethical foundation and sensitivity to social justice, human rights, and public accountability.

GA8: Professional and Career Readiness — The skills and competencies required for successful careers in public administration, civil service, academia, research, journalism, and related fields.

GA9: Global and National Awareness — An informed understanding of national and global political dynamics, enabling graduates to engage meaningfully with contemporary political and policy debates.

GA10: Lifelong Learning — A commitment to continuous learning, adaptability, and intellectual growth beyond the classroom.

12. Program Educational Objectives (PEOs): Within a few years of graduation, graduates of the MSS in Political Science program are expected to:

PEO1: Apply advanced theoretical and conceptual knowledge of political science to analyze and address national and global political phenomena.

PEO2: Pursue successful careers in public administration, civil service, academia, research institutions, journalism, and other allied professions.

PEO3: Conduct independent, ethically sound research on contemporary political, governance, and policy issues.

PEO4: Demonstrate critical and analytical thinking in evaluating political institutions, processes, and policies at local, national, and international levels.

PEO5: Contribute to the promotion of democratic values, human rights, and good governance in their professional and civic lives.

PEO6: Exhibit strong ethical standards, social responsibility, and commitment to public accountability in personal and professional conduct.

PEO7: Engage effectively in leadership roles, teamwork, and communication within diverse academic, organizational, and social settings.

PEO8: Pursue continuous professional development and lifelong learning to remain responsive to evolving political, social, and global challenges.

13. Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs): Upon successful completion of the MSS in Political Science program, graduates will be able to:

PLO1: Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of political theories, institutions, ideologies, and governance systems at national and international levels.

PLO2: Critically analyze and evaluate contemporary political phenomena, policies, and institutional processes using appropriate theoretical frameworks.

PLO3: Apply advanced research methodologies to design, conduct, and present independent, ethically sound research in political science.

PLO4: Interpret and assess the dynamics of international relations, foreign policy, and global political developments, with particular reference to Bangladesh's regional and international position.

PLO5: Evaluate the structures, functions, and challenges of public sector institutions and governance mechanisms.

PLO6: Demonstrate awareness and understanding of democratic values, human rights, and participatory governance in political and social contexts.

PLO7: Communicate political ideas and research findings effectively through academic writing, presentations, and discourse.

PLO8: Collaborate effectively in teams and demonstrate leadership qualities in academic, professional, and civic engagements.

PLO9: Exhibit ethical reasoning and social responsibility in addressing political, governance, and policy-related issues.

PLO10: Apply acquired knowledge and skills to pursue professional careers or advanced studies in political science and allied disciplines, while committing to lifelong learning.

14. Mapping Mission of the University with PEOs:

Mission	Program Educational Objectives (PEO)							
	PEO1	PEO2	PEO3	PEO4	PEO5	PEO6	PEO7	PEO8
UM1	3	2	3	2			1	
UM2	2	3	1		3	3	2	1
UM3			2				2	3

3 Strong Correlation; 2 Moderate Correlation; 1 Weak Correlation; ☐ No Significant Correlation

15. Mapping PLOs with the PEOs

Learning Objectives (PLO)	Program Educational Objectives (PEO)							
	PEO1	PEO2	PEO3	PEO4	PEO5	PEO6	PEO7	PEO8
PLO1	3	1	1	2				1
PLO2	3	1	2	3	1			1
PLO3	2	1	3	1		1		2
PLO4	3	2	1	2	1			1
PLO5	2	2	1	3	1	1		1
PLO6	1	1		1	3	3		1
PLO7		2	2	1			3	1
PLO8		2	1		1	1	3	1
PLO9	1	1	2	1	2	3	1	1
PLO10	1	3	1	1		1	1	3

3 Strong Correlation; 2 Moderate Correlation; 1 Weak Correlation; ☐ No Significant Correlation

16. Mapping Courses with the PLOs:

Course Code	Course Title	PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5	PLO 6	PLO 7	PLO 8	PLO 9	PLO 10
0312-501	Modern Political Thought	3	2	–	1	–	2	1	–	1	1
0312-502	Problems of Government	2	3	–	2	1	2	–	–	1	1
0312-503	Theories of Political Development	3	2	1	2	2	1	–	–	1	1
0312-504	International Law and Organization	2	3	–	1	1	1	–	–	2	1
0312-505	Genocide Studies	2	2	–	1	3	2	1	–	3	1
0312-506	Advanced Research Methodology	1	–	3	1	–	–	1	1	1	2
0312-507	Participatory Governance	1	2	–	3	2	3	1	1	2	1
0312-508	Recent Political Thought	3	2	–	1	–	1	1	–	1	1
0312-509	Bangladesh and her Neighbors	2	2	1	3	1	1	–	–	1	1
0312-510	International Politics: Theory and Practice	2	3	–	2	1	1	–	–	1	1
0312-511	Public Sector Management	1	3	–	3	1	1	1	2	1	2
0312-512	Problems of Political Institutions	2	2	–	3	1	1	–	–	1	1
0312-513	Foreign Policies of Major Powers	2	2	–	2	–	1	–	–	1	1
0312-514	Viva-Voce	2	1	1	1	–	–	3	1	1	2
0312-515	Thesis (Mixed Mode)	2	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	3
0312-516	Thesis Presentation and Defense (Mixed Mode)	1	1	2	1	–	–	3	2	1	2

Scale: 3 = Strongly Correlated, 2 = Moderately Correlated, 1 = Weakly Correlated, – = Not Correlated

Part B

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS AND PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

1. **Course of Study:** The MSS degree programme offers two streams of study: Master's by Course Work and Master's by Mixed Mode.
2. **Admission Requirement:**
 - a. **Admission Eligibility:** To be eligible for admission to the MSS programme, a student must hold a four-year BSS (Honours) degree in the similar discipline from the University of Rajshahi or any other autonomous or/and public university. Students are eligible to enroll in the MSS programme within three academic years of completing their BSS (Honours) degree.
 - b. **Provisional Admission:** Students appearing at the BSS (Honours) final semester/year examination may provisionally be admitted to the MSS course, pending the publication of their examination results. Confirmation of their admission shall be contingent upon passing the examination.
3. **Duration of the Course:**
 - a. **Master's by Course Work:** The duration of the programme shall be one academic year, comprising two semesters. Students shall have a maximum of three (03) years from the date of admission to complete the programme and be eligible for certification.
 - b. **Master's by Mixed Mode:** The duration of the programme shall be one and a half academic year, comprising three semesters. Students will have a maximum of three (03) years from the date of admission to complete the programme and be eligible for certification.
 - c. **Duration and distribution of Semester for taught/theoretical course:** Each semester shall be of 26 (twenty six) weeks of which 14 (fourteen) weeks for teaching, 02 (two) weeks for Class Tests/Assessments/Mid-Term/Quizzes/Oral tests, 02 (two) weeks for preparatory leave, 02-04 (two-four) weeks for holding the Semester Final Examination, and 02-04 (two-four) weeks for publication of results.
4. **Types of Courses and Credits:** The department of political science offers the following types of courses in its programme:
 - a. **Theoretical course:** Any theoretical/taught course shall be in the range of 2-3 credits.
 - b. **Practical/Lab/Studio/Clinical Work:** Any Practical/Lab/Studio/Clinical Work course shall be in the range of 1-2 credits.
 - c. **Research/Internship/Fieldwork/Industrial Training/Industrial Attachment/Professional Training/In-Plant Training/Excursion:** A total of 2-4 credits shall be allocated for each course.
5. **Class Hours (Theory and Practical):**
 - a. Theory Class: 1 credit = 1 hour per week
 - b. Practical/Lab/Studio/Clinical Work: 1 credit = 1.5 hours per week
 - c. Research/Internship/Fieldwork/Industrial Training/Industrial Attachment/Professional Training/In-Plant Training/Excursion: 1 credit = 2 hours per week
6. **Language of Instruction:** The language of instruction for the MSS programme under the Faculty of Social Science shall be either Bangla or English, as may be prescribed by the Department of Political Science.

7. **Degree:** The MSS degree shall be a terminal degree and be named as ‘Master of Social Science’.

The name of the degree under the Faculty of Social Science shall bear the name of Political Science and stream of study :

- i. MSS in Political Science (Course Work)
- ii. MSS in Political Science (Mixed Mode)

8. **Distribution of Credits and Marks: Master’s by Course Work**

- a. The programme is designed to be completed within an academic year, spanning two semesters, and requires a total of 40 credits, including a viva-voce examination.
- b. In the first semester, students must complete 20 credits.
- c. In the second semester, students must also complete 20 credits including a viva-voce.

(General Mode)
Table: Semester-wise Programme Structure

Year & Semester	Course No	Title	Total Number	Credits	Course Teacher
MSS 1st Semester July-Dec. 2025	0312-501	Modern Political Thought	70+20+10	3	TR
	0312-502	Problems of Government	70+20+10	3	SMR
	0312-503	Theories of Political Development	70+20+10	3	AU
	0312-504	International Law and Organization	70+20+10	3	SM
	0312-505	Genocide Studies	70+20+10	3	TN
	0312-506	Advanced Research Methodology	70+20+10	3	Guest Teacher (GT)
	0312-507	Participatory Governance	70+20+10	2	MR
MSS 2nd Semester Jan.-June 2026	0312-508	Recent Political Thought	70+20+10	3	RA
	0312-509	Bangladesh and her Neighbors	70+20+10	3	MMR
	0312-510	International Politics: Theory and Practice	70+20+10	3	FT
	0312-511	Public Sector Management	70+20+10	3	BM
	0312-512	Problems of Political Institutions	70+20+10	3	MH
	0312-513	Foreign Policies of Major Powers	70+20+10	3	QN
	0312-514	Viva-Voce	100	2	
		Total	1400	40	

[Course Teachers (abbreviations): **SMR:** Dr. S.M. Razy; **RA:** Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin; **AU:** Dr. S.M. Akram Ullah; **FT:** Dr. Farhat Tasnim; **MMR:** Muhammad Mahmudur Rahman; **MH:** Dr. A.K.M. Mahmudul Haque; **SM:** Dr. Md. Sultan Mahmud; **TR:** Dr. Tareque M. Taufiqur Rahman; **QN:** Dr. Mst. Quamrun Nahar; **MR:** Dr. S.M. Mokhlasur Rahman; **TN:** Mr. Md. Tareq Nur; **BM:** Dr. Bibi Morium; **RP:** Dr. Most. Rukshana Parvin]

9. **Qualifications, Distribution of Credits, Marks, and Procedures: Master’s by Mixed Mode**

- a. **Qualification for the Students of Thesis:** Students shall be selected on the basis of cumulative grade point average (CGPA) obtained in the Honours examination. A student securing at least a CGPA of 3.25 (B⁺) in the Honours examination shall be allowed to opt for the programme.
- b. **Distribution of Credits and Marks:** The programme is structured to be completed within three semesters (one and a half academic years) and requires a total of 40 credits. This includes 18 credits from theoretical/taught courses and 22 credits for the dissertation including a 2-credit viva-voce on the dissertation.

(Mixed Mode)
Table: Semester-wise Programme Structure

Year & Semester	Course No	Title	Total Number	Credits	Course Teacher
MSS 1st Semester July-Dec. 2025	0312-501	Modern Political Thought	70+20+10	3	TR
	0312-502	Problems of Government	70+20+10	3	SMR
	0312-503	Theories of Political Development	70+20+10	3	AU
	0312-504	International Law and Organization	70+20+10	3	SM
	0312-505	Genocide Studies	70+20+10	3	TN
	0312-506	Advanced Research Methodology	70+20+10	3	Guest Teacher (GT)
	0312-507	Participatory Governance	70+20+10	2	MR
MSS 2nd Semester Jan.-June 2026	0312-508	Recent Political Thought	70+20+10	3	RA
	0312-509	Bangladesh and her Neighbors	70+20+10	3	MMR
	0312-510	International Politics: Theory and Practice	70+20+10	3	FT
	0312-511	Public Sector Management	70+20+10	3	BM
	0312-512	Problems of Political Institutions	70+20+10	3	MH
	0312-513	Foreign Policies of Major Powers	70+20+10	3	QN
MSS 3rd Semester July-Dec. 2026	0312-515	Thesis	100	20	
	0312-516	Thesis Presentation and Defense	100	2	

Students must complete all 18 credits of theoretical/taught courses within the first two semesters, **with taking a maximum of 12 credits per semester.**

c. Steps to be followed for the completion of dissertation:

1st Semester:

- The department will circulate a notice inviting eligible students to apply for the dissertation immediately at the beginning of classes of the MSS programme.
- Students must submit a preliminary proposal according to the department's prescribed format or instructions following the rules of circular.
- The department will accept proposal and select supervisor.
- Accepted proposal will be presented in a final proposal defense seminar at the end of the 1st semester in presence of the academic committee members and the respective supervisor.
- Students shall develop a final proposal incorporating feedbacks from the proposal defense seminar.

2nd Semester:

- Supervisor (s) shall provide a written progress report of the dissertation to the department at the end of the 2nd semester. In this report, the concerned supervisor shall inform/notify the department whether the student will complete the methodology, literature review; develop a theoretical/conceptual framework and conduct fieldwork by the end of this semester.

3rd Semester:

- A thesis student will give a presentation on the dissertation one month before the end of the semester or the date of final submission as fixed by the department. This pre-submission seminar will be arranged by the department. This seminar will be open for faculties and students.

- The examination committee shall arrange a viva-voce on the dissertation. Viva-voce shall be held within the week after the final submission or on the date fixed by examination committee. Submission of the dissertation and conducting Viva-Voce shall be held within this semester.

d. Dissertation Submission and Preservation:

Four copies of the dissertation shall have to be submitted to the Chairperson of the relevant Examination Committee within the scheduled date of submission with a plagiarism-check report. The Examination Committee will send one copy of the dissertation to the seminar library of the department and another to the university library for future reference after awarding the degree.

- e. Evaluation of the Dissertation:** There shall be two examiners for each dissertation who will be recommended by the Examination Committee and appointed by the Vice-Chancellor. The concerned supervisor shall not be an examiner of the dissertation. The arithmetic mean of the marks given by two examiners shall be taken. In case of the mean being a fraction, the next integer is to be accepted as the mean. In case of the marks awarded by two examiners differed by 20% or more, the examination committee shall recommend that the dissertation be re-examined by a third examiner and the arithmetic mean of the two nearest marks be taken. In case of both the extreme marks differ from the middle mark by exactly the same margin, the arithmetic mean of the middle and higher extreme shall be taken.

- f. Conversion of Credits to Marks:** All types of courses (Taught/Theoretical Courses, Dissertation, Viva voce) regardless of credit hours, are equivalent to 100 marks.

10. Evaluation of the Courses

Performance of the students in taught/theoretical courses shall be evaluated in the following ways:

- a. Taught/Theoretical Course:** Under the Semester Ordinance, students' evaluation of the taught/theoretical courses shall be based on continuous assessment and evaluation of the Semester Final Examination. In the marks of each taught/theoretical course unit, 10% shall be for class attendance, 20% for Class Tests/Assessments/Mid-Term/Quizzes/Oral tests, and the rest 70% for the Semester Final Examination. The duration of the Semester Final Examination shall be three hours for a 3-credit course and two hours for a 2-credit course. Marks obtained in Class Tests/Assessments/Mid-Term/Quizzes/Oral tests must be made known to the students before the beginning of Semester Final Examination.
- b. Conversation of Credits to Marks:** All type of courses (Taught/Theoretical Course, Practical Course, Research/Internship/Fieldwork/Industrial Training/Industrial Attachment/ Professional Training/In-Plant Training/Excursion, and Viva Voce) regardless of credit hours, are equivalent to 100 marks.
- c. Conversion of Attendance to Marks:** The marks for class attendance/participation shall be counted as per the following rule:

Attendance (%)	Marks (%)
90 and above	100
85 to below 90	90
80 to below 85	80
75 to below 80	70
70 to below 75	60
65 to below 70	50
60 to below 65	40
Below 60	0

- d. The scripts of the Semester Final Examination/Dissertation/Reports shall be examined by two examiners assigned by the Examination Committee from the 'Panel of Examiners' and the Arithmetic Mean of the marks given by the two examiners shall be awarded as the course marks.
- e. If the marks given by the two examiners differ by 20% or more, the script(s) in question shall be examined by a third examiner and the arithmetic mean of the two nearest marks shall be taken. The examination committee shall recommend the third examiner from the 'Panel of Examiners' other than the members of the examination committee or the tabulators.
- f. If a teacher is unable to examine the script or is restricted by the Examination Rules of the University, he/she shall not be allowed to evaluate Class Tests/Assessments/Mid-terms/Quizzes/Oral tests and Semester Final scripts.
- g. In each course, a total of the marks of (i) Semester final examination, (ii) Class Tests/Assessments/Midterms/Quizzes/Oral tests, and (iii) Class attendance/participation shall be converted into 'Letter Grades' as follows:

GRADING SYSTEM

Grading Interval (Marks Obtained %)	Letter Grade (LG)	Grade Point (GP)
80 and above	A+	4.00
75 to less than 80	A	3.75
70 to less than 75	A-	3.50
65 to less than 70	B+	3.25
60 to less than 65	B	3.00
55 to less than 60	B-	2.75
50 to less than 55	C+	2.50
45 to less than 50	C	2.25
40 to less than 45	D	2.00
Less than 40	F	0

- i. (a) The result of the Semester Final Examination shall be tabulated by three tabulators recommended by the Examination Committee.
- (b) In the tabulation process, only the total marks of a course shall be rounded-up and the results shall be published in 'Letter Grades' and 'Grade Points'.

11. Class Attendance Requirements

The general University Rules shall be applied to the department of Political Science for class attendance requirements. Accordingly, a student shall have to attend at least 75% of conducted classes, on an average, held in all courses to be eligible for appearing in the Semester Final Examination. However, a student having average attendance between 60% to less than 75% will be considered as 'Non-collegiate', and the Chairperson of the Department may recommend him/her for condonation on condition that he/she pays a fine as determined by the University Authority. A student shall not be allowed to appear in the Semester Final Examination if his/her average class attendance is below 60% and in such case he/she shall have to re-admit to the next available batch.

For assessment purpose, class attendance shall be considered course wise and a student shall be awarded class attendance marks only in the courses in which 60% or more attendance is achieved. The course teacher shall submit the class attendance register to the department before the Semester Final Examination. The Chairperson of the Department shall monitor holding of the class and attendance of the students.

12. Promotion for both Master's by Course Work and Master's by Mixed Mode

A student requires obtaining grade point average 2.25 and 17 credits to be promoted from one semester to the next.

13. Re-admission

- i. If a student fails to appear at the MSS Examination due to shortage of required percentage of class attendance or any other reason, he/she shall have to get him/her re-admitted as an irregular student with the batch that immediately follows on recommendation of and within the date fixed by the Academic Committee of the Department. He/she must have to fulfill the requisite class attendance for appearing at the examination as an irregular candidate.
- ii. A student may be allowed re-admission for not more than twice in the entire programme.

14. Course Improvement

- (i) A promoted student shall only be allowed to appear once for improvement of grades, and twice for clearing F grade in theoretical courses in the immediate next relevant semester. He/she shall be allowed to appear in maximum two theoretical courses in the immediate next relevant semester. This shall be applicable only to the MSS 1st Semester.
- (ii) Theoretical course improvement shall only be allowed if the earned LG is less than 'B Minus' (GP<2.75).
- (iii) There is no improvement provision in practical courses (Research/Internship/Fieldwork/ Industrial Training/Industrial Attachment/Professional Training/In-Plant Training/Excursion) and Viva-Voce.
- (iv) A student has to carry his/her previous marks on Continuous Assessment (CA).
- (v) In the case of a student's failure to improve course LG at the course improvement examination, the previous grade shall remain valid.

15. Final Result (CGPA) Improvement

- (i) A student must earn a minimum CGPA of 2.50 for the degree of MSS.
- (ii) If a student earns a grade point (GP) below 2.75 (B-) in two taught/theoretical courses during the 2nd semester, he/she will be permitted once to retake those two courses for grade improvement in the immediate next relevant semester.
- (iii) If a student has an F grade in two theoretical courses during the 2nd semester, he/she will be allowed twice to clear the F grades within three academic years from the date of his/her results is published.
- (iv) A student has to carry his/her previous marks on Continuous Assessment (CA).
- (v) In the case of a student's failure to improve LG at the course improvement examination, the previous grade shall remain valid.

16. Award of MSS Degree for Course Work and Mixed Mode

- a) In order to obtain the MSS Degree a student must fulfill the followings:
 - (i) The minimum CGPA for awarding the MSS degree is 2.50 out of 4.00.
 - (ii) Total Credit Point (TCP) required for awarding the MSS degree is 40 credits.
 - (iii) MSS degree programme must be completed within a maximum of 3 (three) academic years from the date of admission. No student shall be allowed to stay for more than 2 (two) consecutive terms in the same semester.

- b) The MSS student results will be categorised as follows:
- (i) CGPA 2.5 or higher with no F grades = Awarded
 - (ii) CGPA 2.25 or higher with F grades in up to two courses = Withheld
 - (iii) CGPA less than 2.25 and/or F grade in more than two courses = Not-awarded

17. Adoption of Unfair Means

If any student adopts unfair means in any course of the Semester Final Examination or in Midterm/In-course/Home Assignment, the invigilator/teacher shall report in written to the Controller of the Examination through the Chief Invigilator/ Chairperson of the Examination Committee for onward transmission to the Disciplinary Committee of the University for taking action as per the University Rules.

18. Students' Feedback

All students shall be allowed to express their own opinions and experiences regarding the course through a prescribed form and it should be evaluated confidentially by the departmental academic or special evaluation committee or by the central evaluation committee.

Part C

COURSE OUTLINES

MSS 1st Semester (2025-2026)

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-501: MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-501
- 2. Course Title** : Modern Political Thought
- 3. Course Type** : Core (Optional for thesis group)
- 4. Year and Semester** : MSS 1st Semester
- 5. Academic Session** : 2025–2026 (July–December)
- 6. Course Teacher** : Tareque M. Taufiqur Rahman PhD, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
- 7. Pre-requisite** : BSS (Honors) degree in Political Science.
- 8. Course Value** : 3
- 9. Contact Hours** : 42 hours (3 hours a week, 14 weeks)
- 10. Total Marks** : 100 (Final Exam 70, Mid-term/In-course 20, and Attendance 10)

11. Rationale of the Course

This course presents the history of political thought of Modern Age, pointing few trends like liberalism and democracy covering utilitarianism; idealistic political philosophy covering German idealism and Oxford idealism; positivist political philosophy; nationalist political philosophy and anarchist political philosophy. Under these trends this course deals with the political thoughts of major iconic philosophers and thinkers.

12. Course Learning Objectives (LO)

- LO1:** To create expertise among the students regarding liberalism and democracy covering utilitarianism;
LO2: To make them introduced with the idealistic Political Philosophy covering German and Oxford trends;
LO3: To teach the students regarding positivist political philosophy;
LO4: To impart knowledge about nationalist political philosophy; and
LO5: To give lessons to the students' knowledge about anarchist political philosophy.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO): At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** be expertise in modern European political thoughts;
CLO2: understand the evolution of European political thoughts; and
CLO3: criticize the European political thoughts since the French Revolution.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									
CLO2			✓							

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO3		✓								

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1, 2	Liberalism and Democracy covering Utilitarianism	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 3, 4	Idealistic Political Philosophy covering German trends	Lecture, case examples	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 5, 6	Idealistic Political Philosophy covering Oxford trends	Lecture, guided discussion	Quiz	CLO2
Week 7, 8	Positivist Political Philosophy	Lecture, comparative discussion	Short written test	CLO2
Week 9, 10	Nationalist Political Philosophy	Lecture, group discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO2
Week 11, 12	Anarchist Political Philosophy	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO3
Week 13, 14	Evaluation	Lecture, timeline mapping	Assignment 1	CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment. Continuous assessment includes two in-course/mid-term examinations and evaluation of class attendance and participation, providing ongoing feedback on students' theoretical understanding and analytical ability. Summative assessment consists of a comprehensive Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

Hallowell, J H, (1950) The Main Currents of Modern Political Thought, New York: Henry Holt and Company.

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ড. সুলতান মাহমুদ, (অনূদিত), *রাজনৈতিক দর্শন*, ঢাকা: শব্দশৈলী, ২০২৬।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-502: PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENT

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-502
- 2. Course Title** : Problems of Government
- 3. Course Type** : Core (Optional for thesis students)
- 4. Year and Semester** : MSS 1st Semester
- 5. Academic Session** : 2025–2026 (July–December)
- 6. Course Teacher** : Dr. S.M. Razy, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
- 7. Pre-requisite** : BSS (Honors) degree in Political Science.
- 8. Credit Value** : 3
- 9. Contact Hours** : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks)
- 10. Total Marks** : 100 (Semester Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10)

11. Rationale of the Course:

Government, as the largest and most consequential of human institutions, confronts persistent social, political, and economic problems that test its capacity for effective decision-making, accountability, and reform. This course provides graduate students with an in-depth theoretical understanding of the origin, nature, and problems of government—covering concepts of power, the state, democratic theory, constitutionalism, and governance challenges such as corruption, accountability, and transparency. As a core course of the MSS programme, it strengthens students' capacity to critically evaluate governmental institutions and engage in scholarly debate on contemporary problems of governance.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To teach the theoretical aspects of the nature and origin of problems of government and the general lines of their possible remedies.
- CO2:** To instruct students on issues of social coordination and the nature of patterns of rule.
- CO3:** To develop students' understanding of various concepts of the state and its institutions.
- CO4:** To help students understand human nature in politics, the influence of the social sciences on politics, and the evolution of democratic ideas and practices of representative government.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** Participate in scholarly debates with well-grounded arguments on the principles and basic tenets and trends of governance.
- CLO2:** Apply core principles, analytical theories, and practical tools relevant to understanding key themes and topics in government.
- CLO3:** Think critically to apply theories and concepts to the practice of governance and differentiate the strengths and weaknesses of governmental institutions.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO2		✓								
CLO3					✓					

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Meaning of "Problems of Government"; Theoretical Aspects of the Nature and Origin of the Problems	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Distinction between Society, Community, State, Association and Government; Individual and Government	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 3	Science, Technology and Government: Science and Liberty, Science and Methodology	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1
Week 4	Methods of Study; Influence of the Social Sciences on Politics; Human Nature in Politics	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO1
Week 5	Concept of Power: Nature and Kinds of Power, Political Power, Military Power, Civil-Military Relations	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO1
Week 6	State: The Place of the State in Modern Society, State Activity	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO1, CLO2
Week 7	Concepts of Right: Liberty and Equality, Right, Liberty and Government, Safeguards of Liberty	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO1, CLO2
Week 8	Theory of Democracy: Evolution of Democratic Ideas and Practices, Modern Democracy, Representative Government	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2
Week 9	Critics of Democracy; Modern Dictatorial and Totalitarian Systems	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 1	CLO2
Week 10	Constitution: Significance, Problems of Constitution-Making, Constitutionalism, Rule of Law	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2
Week 11	Governance: Concepts and Contemporary Practices	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 2	CLO2
Week 12	Leadership and Corruption	Lecture, case discussion	Quiz	CLO2, CLO3

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 13	Accountability, Transparency and Responsibility	Lecture, discussion	Group presentation	CLO2, CLO3
Week 14	Comprehensive Review: Problems of Government Revisited	Lecture, synthesis discussion, review	Comprehensive review	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a varied combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment methods, including in-course/mid-term examinations, quizzes, oral questioning, short written tests, case-based discussions, reflective notes, and assignments, alongside evaluation of class attendance. This variety provides ongoing feedback on students' theoretical and analytical understanding of governmental institutions and their problems. Summative assessment consists of a Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination, quiz, or assignment submission due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

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- Ahmed, E. (Ed.). (1989). *Society and Politics in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: Academic Publishers.
- Ahmed, M. (1995). *Democracy and the Challenge of Development: A Study of Politics and Military Interventions in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
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- Pye, L. W., & Verba, S. (Eds.). (1965). *Political Culture and Political Development*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Riaz, A. (2008). *Islamic Militancy in Bangladesh: A Complex Web*. London: Routledge.
- Schumpeter, J. A. (1966). *Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy*. London: George Allen and Unwin.
- Weiner, M., & Huntington, S. P. (1965). *Understanding Political Development*. Boston: Little, Brown and Co.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-503: THEORIES OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-503
- 2. Course Title** : Theories of Political Development
- 3. Course Type** : Core (Optional for thesis students)
- 4. Year and Semester** : MSS 1st Semester
- 5. Academic Session** : 2025–2026 (July–December)
- 6. Course Teacher** : Dr. S.M. Akram Ullah, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
- 7. Pre-requisite** : BSS (Honors) degree in Political Science.
- 8. Credit Value** : 3
- 9. Contact Hours** : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks)
- 10. Total Marks** : 100 (Semester Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10)

11. Rationale of the Course:

An advanced understanding of the theories of political development is essential for graduate students of political science seeking to critically analyze the functioning, transformation, and challenges of political systems worldwide. This course builds on students' undergraduate foundation to examine systems theory, structural-functionalism, political culture, communication, socialization, elite theory, and modernization, culminating in a critical assessment of political development and its crises. As a core course of the MSS programme, it equips students with the theoretical depth and comparative analytical skills necessary for advanced research and professional engagement with political systems and institutions.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To make theories related to political science comprehensible to students.
- CO2:** To provide students with knowledge of different political systems and their institutions.
- CO3:** To impart knowledge of different political processes, structures, and their functions.
- CO4:** To provide an overview of development-related issues.
- CO5:** To explore the assumptions underpinning different political and theoretical traditions and the strengths and limitations of each approach.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** Comprehend the central ideas of development theories and issues, and investigate related questions.
- CLO2:** Arrive at valid generalizations about different political systems, governments, institutions, and processes using development-related tools, methods, and theories.
- CLO3:** Apply various theories to the study of political science through analysis, explanation, and assessment of academic undertakings.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO2										✓
CLO3					✓					

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Political System: Meaning and Characteristics; Edward Shils's Classification of Political Systems	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO2
Week 2	Capability of Political System and Its Typology; Non-Western Political System: Meaning and Characteristics	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2
Week 3	The System Analysis: Demand, Support and Feedback	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO2, CLO3
Week 4	Functional Model: Input – Interest Articulation, Interest Aggregation	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 5	Functional Model (continued): Political Socialization and Recruitment, Political Communication; Output – Rule Making, Rule Application, Rule Adjudication	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO2, CLO3
Week 6	Group Approach: Classification, Role of Group in Politics, Group and Political Party	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Week 7	Political Culture: Meaning, Classification, Significance in Political Process, Political Culture in Bangladesh	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2
Week 8	Political Communication Approach: Meaning, Typology, Importance, Political Communication in Bangladesh	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO3
Week 9	Political Socialization: Meaning, Agencies and Recruitment	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 1	CLO2
Week 10	Behavioralism: Meaning and Significance	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO3
Week 11	Theory of Integration: Meaning, Classification, Problems of Political Integration in Bangladesh; Decision-Making Theory	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 2	CLO3
Week 12	Elite Theory: Advocates – Vilfredo Pareto, Gaetano Mosca, Robert Michels	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO3

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 13	Modernization: Meaning, Political Modernization and Agents of Modernization	Lecture, discussion	Group presentation	CLO1, CLO2
Week 14	Political Development: General View and Crises of Political Development; Comprehensive Review	Lecture, synthesis discussion, review	Comprehensive review	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a varied combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment methods, including in-course/mid-term examinations, quizzes, oral questioning, short written tests, case-based discussions, reflective notes, and assignments, alongside evaluation of class attendance. This variety provides ongoing feedback on students' theoretical and comparative understanding of political development. Summative assessment consists of a Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination, quiz, or assignment submission due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

- Almond, G. A., & Coleman, J. S. (Eds.). (1960). *The Politics of the Developing Areas*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Almond, G. A., & Powell, G. B. (1966). *Comparative Politics: A Developmental Approach*. Boston: Little, Brown and Co.
- Almond, G. A., & Powell, G. B. (1988). *Comparative Politics Today: A World View*. Boston: Scott, Foresman & Co.
- Almond, G. A., & Verba, S. (1965). *The Civic Culture*. Boston: Little, Brown and Co.
- Easton, D. (1953). *The Political System: An Inquiry into the State of Political Science*. New York: Knopf.
- Isaak, A. C. (1975). *Scope and Methods of Political Science*. Illinois: Dorsey Press.
- Johari, J. C. (1995). *Introduction to Comparative Politics*. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers.
- Lasswell, H. D. (1958). *Politics: Who Gets What, When and How*. New York: The World Publishing Company.

- Newton, K., & Van Deth, J. W. (2010). *Foundations of Comparative Politics*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- O'Neil, P. H. (2010). *Essentials of Comparative Politics*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.
- Wasby, S. (1970). *Political Science: The Discipline and Its Dimensions*. New York: Scribner.
- Weiner, M., & Huntington, S. P. (1965). *Understanding Political Development*. Boston: Little, Brown and Co.
- আহমেদ, এমাজউদ্দীন। (১৯৯৫)। *তুলনামূলক রাজনীতি ও রাজনৈতিক বিশ্লেষণ*। ঢাকা: বাংলাদেশ বুক কর্পোরেশন লিমিটেড।
- মামান, মো. আব্দুল। (২০১১)। *তুলনামূলক রাজনীতি ও রাজনীতি বিশ্লেষণ পদ্ধতি*। ঢাকা: নভেল পাবলিশার্স।
- কাসেম, মোহাম্মদ আবুল। (১৯৯০)। *তুলনামূলক রাজনীতি*। কাজলা, রাজশাহী: ডায়মন্ড কর্নার।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-504: INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ORGANIZATION

Part A: Course Overview

1. Course Code	: 0312-504
2. Course Title	: International Law and Organization
3. Course Type	: Core (Optional for thesis students)
4. Year and Semester	: MSS 1 st Semester
5. Academic Session	: 2025–2026 (July–December)
6. Course Teacher	: Dr. Md. Sultan Mahmud, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
7. Pre-requisite	: BSS (Honors) degree in Political Science.
8. Credit Value	: 3
9. Contact Hours	: 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks)
10. Total Marks	: 100 (Final Exam 70, Mid-term/In-course 20, and Attendance 10)

11. Rationale of the Course:

International law and international organizations play a fundamental role in maintaining international peace, security, cooperation, and the rule-based global order. This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the principles, sources, subjects, and institutions of international law, as well as the roles of major international organizations in regulating relations among states and other international actors. It examines key issues such as state recognition, jurisdiction, territory, intervention, diplomacy, dispute settlement, extradition, treaty law, and the functioning of the United Nations and the International Court of Justice. By integrating legal principles with contemporary international practices and case studies, the course develops students' analytical, research, and problem-solving skills, preparing them for advanced study, research, and professional careers in diplomacy, international organizations, foreign affairs, and global governance.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the major thinkers, concepts, and traditions of modern and contemporary political thought.
- CO2:** To develop students' knowledge of competing political ideologies, including socialism, Marxism, pluralism, totalitarianism, and other influential schools of political thought.
- CO3:** To enhance students' understanding of key political concepts such as sovereignty, liberty, equality, justice, rights, democracy, and power through the study of classical and contemporary political texts.
- CO4:** To develop students' analytical and critical thinking skills for evaluating the arguments, assumptions, and relevance of recent political theories.
- CO5:** To strengthen students' research, academic writing, and interpretative skills by applying political theories to contemporary political issues and scholarly inquiry.

These Course Objectives are aligned with the **Outcome-Based Education (OBE)** framework and are appropriate for an **MSS-level** course, emphasizing advanced theoretical understanding, critical analysis, and research competence.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

CLO1: Explain the major concepts, traditions, and theoretical foundations of recent political thought, including socialism, Marxism, pluralism, totalitarianism, and other contemporary schools of political theory.

CLO2: Analyze the political ideas and arguments of major modern political thinkers and evaluate their contributions to the development of political philosophy and political institutions.

CLO3: Critically evaluate political theories and ideological perspectives and apply advanced analytical skills to interpret political texts, conduct independent research, and develop evidence-based arguments on contemporary political debates.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									
CLO2						✓				
CLO3								✓		

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLO(s)
Week 1	Introduction to International Law: Meaning, Nature, Characteristics, Sources of International Law, Basic Obligations, and Relationship between International Law and Municipal Law	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Subjects of International Law: States, International Organizations, and Individuals	Lecture, case-based discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 3	Recognition of States and Governments: De jure and De facto Recognition, Criteria and Consequences	Lecture, case analysis	Quiz	CLO1, CLO2
Week 4	State Territory: Nature, Extent, Modes of Acquisition and Loss of Territory	Lecture, map-based discussion	Short written test	CLO2
Week 5	State Jurisdiction: Territorial and Personal Jurisdiction, Jurisdiction over the High Seas, Airspace, and Territorial Sea	Lecture, case study	Surprise Test 1	CLO2
Week 6	Intervention in International Law: Meaning, Nature, Grounds, and Contemporary Debates	Lecture, debate and discussion	Assignment topic selection	CLO2
Week 7	Diplomatic Relations: Diplomatic Envoys, Functions, Privileges, and Immunities	Lecture, role play (Diplomatic Simulation)	Assignment submission	CLO2

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLO(s)
Week 8	International Dispute Settlement: Peaceful Means and Contemporary Practices	Lecture, case analysis	Group discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Week 9	Extradition: Principles, Procedures, and Contemporary Issues	Lecture, interactive discussion	Surprise Test 2	CLO2
Week 10	International Treaties: Formation, Types, Validity, Interpretation, Amendment, and Termination	Lecture, treaty analysis	Oral presentation	CLO2, CLO3
Week 11	The United Nations: Purposes, Principles, Principal Organs, and Functions	Lecture, documentary review	Group presentation	CLO3
Week 12	International Court of Justice: Jurisdiction, Procedures, Advisory Opinions, and Landmark Cases	Lecture, case law analysis	Case brief submission	CLO3
Week 13	Contemporary Issues in International Law: Humanitarian Intervention, State Responsibility, International Criminal Justice, and Emerging Challenges	Seminar, student presentations	UN Model Debate (10 Marks)	CLO3
Week 14	Review of International Law and International Organizations: Integrative Discussion, Contemporary Developments, and Course Review	Lecture, comprehensive discussion	Comprehensive review	CLO3

Co-curricular Activities

- **UN Model Debate** on contemporary international issues.
- Analysis of landmark judgments of the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)**.
- Group presentations on the United Nations and other international organizations.
- Case studies on international disputes, treaty interpretation, and diplomatic relations.
- Classroom debates on humanitarian intervention, state sovereignty, and international responsibility.
- Treaty analysis and policy brief writing on current issues in international law.
- Simulation exercises on diplomatic negotiations and peaceful settlement of disputes.

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

The assessment of this course will follow the principles of Outcome-Based Education (OBE) through an integrated system of formative and summative assessment designed to ensure the attainment of the Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs). Formative assessment will evaluate students' understanding of international legal principles and institutions through surprise tests, assignments, presentations, class participation, case analyses, and a United Nations (UN) Model Debate. These activities are intended to develop students' legal reasoning, analytical skills, communication, teamwork, and practical understanding of international law. Summative assessment will consist of a comprehensive three-hour Semester Final Examination covering

the entire course. The assessment process is designed to measure students' ability to interpret international legal principles, analyze international disputes and institutions, evaluate contemporary global issues, and apply international law to practical situations.

15.2 Marks Distribution

Assessment Components	Marks
Continuous Assessment	30
UN Model Debate	10
Surprise Tests (Two × 2.5)	5
Assignment / Case Analysis	5
Class Attendance	10
Semester Final Examination	70
Total	100

15.3 Make-up Procedures

Students who are unable to participate in the **UN Model Debate**, surprise tests, assignment submission, or any other continuous assessment due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances must notify the Course Teacher promptly and submit a written application with valid supporting documents. Subject to the approval of the Course Teacher and/or the Departmental Academic Committee, a make-up assessment or an equivalent alternative assessment may be arranged in accordance with the rules and regulations of the University of Rajshahi. Requests for make-up assessment should normally be submitted within seven (7) working days of the missed assessment.

This **Part C** is designed in accordance with the Outcome-Based Education (OBE) framework and reflects the practical and professional nature of an **MSS-level** course. The inclusion of the **UN Model Debate**, **case analysis**, and **surprise tests** complements the traditional written examination by emphasizing analytical reasoning, advocacy, negotiation, collaboration, and the practical application of international law and the functioning of international organizations.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

Crawford, James (2012) 8th edition, *Brownlie's Principles of Public International Law*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Brownlie, Ian, edited (2002), 5th edition, *Basic Documents in International Law*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Goodrich, Leland M. (1969) *Charter of the United Nations: Commentary and Documents*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Hanhimaki, Jussi M. 2015, *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, 2nd ed. New York: Oxford University Press.

Jennings, Robert n.d. (2009), 8th edition, *Oppenheim's International Law Volume 1* Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Malanczuk, Peter (1997) 7th edition, *Akchurst's Modern Introduction to International Law*, London: Routledge.

Shaw, Malcolm N. (2017), *International Law*, 8th Edition, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Starke, J. G (1972), *An Introduction to International Law*, London: Butterworths.

Tandon, M P (2019), *Tandon's Public International Law*. Revised by S K Raghuvanshi. Faridabad: Allahabad Law Agency.

Wallace, Rebecca MM (2002) 4th edition, *International Law*. London: Sweet and Maxwell

আলম, শাহ্ (২০১৭), সমকালীন আন্তর্জাতিক আইন, ঢাকা: নতুন ওয়াসী বুক কর্পোরেশন।

রহমান, মিজানুর (২০১২), পরিবর্তনশীল বিশ্ব আন্তর্জাতিক আইন, ঢাকা: পলল প্রকাশনী।

মাহমুদ, সুলতান (২০২১), বাংলাদেশ সংবিধান: প্রেক্ষিত এবং প্রাসঙ্গিকতা, ঢাকা: আলেয়া বুক ডিপো।

মাহমুদ, সুলতান (২০২৫), রাজনৈতিক দর্শন, ঢাকা: শব্দশৈলী।

মাহমুদ, সুলতান (২০২৬), শান্তি ও সংঘাত অধ্যয়ন, ঢাকা: অবসর প্রকাশনা সংস্থা।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-505: GENOCIDE STUDIES

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-505
- 2. Course Title** : Genocide Studies
- 3. Course Type** : Core (Optional for thesis students)
- 4. Year and Semester** : MSS 1st Semester
- 5. Academic Session** : 2025–2026 (July–December)
- 6. Course Teacher** : Md. Tareq Nur, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
- 7. Pre-requisite** : BSS (Honors) degree in Political Science.
- 8. Credit Value** : 3
- 9. Contact Hours** : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks)
- 10. Total Marks** : 100 (Semester Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10)

11. Rationale of the Course:

Genocide represents one of the darkest chapters of human history, and its study is essential for political science students to critically understand the historical, political, and social contexts that give rise to mass violence, as well as its prevention. This course examines the origins, dynamics, and impacts of genocide, with particular focus on the Bangladesh Liberation War, alongside broader themes of human rights, prevention, memory, and justice. As a core course of the MSS programme, it develops students' interdisciplinary and critical understanding necessary for research, advocacy, and policy engagement on genocide prevention.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To demonstrate knowledge of how and why particular genocides have occurred.
- CO2:** To analyze social and psychological factors enabling or constraining genocide.
- CO3:** To apply knowledge to identify contemporary impacts or risks of genocide.
- CO4:** To avoid easy moralizing and distancing when studying genocide.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

CLO1: Apply knowledge to commemorate, advocate against, or prevent genocide.

CLO2: Develop empathy for victims/targets of genocide.

CLO3: Analyze power, diversity, justice, and common humanity in relation to genocide perpetration and prevention.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1				✓						
CLO2						✓				
CLO3						✓				

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Understanding Genocide: Concepts and Definitions	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Understanding Genocide (continued): Legal and Political Definitions	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 3	Historical Case Studies: Bangladesh Perspectives (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO2
Week 4	Historical Case Studies: Bangladesh Perspectives (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO2
Week 5	Genocide and the Liberation War of Bangladesh (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2
Week 6	Genocide and the Liberation War of Bangladesh (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO2
Week 7	Genocide and the Liberation War of Bangladesh (Part 3)	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO2
Week 8	Genocide and Human Rights: Causes and Dynamics (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO3
Week 9	Genocide and Human Rights: Causes and Dynamics (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 1	CLO3
Week 10	Prevention and Intervention	Lecture, case discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Week 11	Memory, Justice, and Reconciliation (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 2	CLO3
Week 12	Memory, Justice, and Reconciliation (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO3
Week 13	Contemporary Issues	Lecture, discussion	Group presentation	CLO3
Week 14	Comprehensive Review	Lecture, review	Comprehensive review	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment. Continuous assessment includes two in-course/mid-term examinations and evaluation of class attendance and participation, providing ongoing feedback on students' theoretical understanding and analytical ability. Summative assessment consists of a comprehensive Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination, quiz, or assignment submission due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

Andreopoulos, G. J. (1997). *Genocide: Conceptual and Historical Dimensions*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Bloxham, D., & Moses, A. D. (Eds.). (2010). *The Oxford Handbook of Genocide Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Chaudhuri, K. (1972). *Genocide in Bangladesh*. Bombay: Orient Longman.

Jones, A. (2023). *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction* (4th ed.). London: Routledge.

Schaller, D. J., & Zimmerer, J. (Eds.). (2013). *The Origins of Genocide: Raphael Lemkin as a Historian of Mass Violence*. London: Routledge.

Shaw, M. (2015). *What Is Genocide?* (2nd ed.). Cambridge: Polity Press.

Afroz, T. (2019). *Trials of 1971 Bangladesh Genocide*. Singapore: Partridge Publishing.

Odello, M., & Łubiński, P. (2020). *The Concept of Genocide in International Criminal Law*. London: Routledge.

মাহমুদ, সুলতান। (২০২২)। *মুক্তিযুদ্ধ: প্রস্তুতি থেকে বিজয়*। ঢাকা: কথাপ্রকাশ।

মাহমুদ, সুলতান। (২০২৩)। *আন্তর্জাতিক যুদ্ধ: সংকট ও উত্তেজনা*। ঢাকা: আলেয়া বুক ডিপো।

মাহমুদ, সুলতান। (২০২৫)। *বিশ্ব রাজনীতি: অতীত ও বর্তমান*। ঢাকা: আলেয়া বুক ডিপো।

মাহমুদ, সুলতান ও আলম, মাহবুবুল। (২০২৫)। *ফিলিস্তিনি শিশু বন্দি ও নির্যাতন*। ঢাকা: শব্দাঙ্গন।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-506: ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-506
- 2. Course Title** : Advanced Research Methodology
- 3. Course Type** : Core
- 4. Year and Semester** : MSS 1st Semester
- 5. Academic Session** : 2025–2026 (July–December)
- 6. Course Teacher** : Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Rajshahi (Name to be confirmed)
- 7. Pre-requisite** : BSS (Honors) degree in Political Science.
- 8. Credit Value** : 3
- 9. Contact Hours** : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks)
- 10. Total Marks** : 100 (Semester Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10)

11. Rationale of the Course:

Advanced research methodology equips master's students with the sophisticated skills required to design, conduct, and present high-quality research in political science and the social sciences. This course revisits foundational research concepts while exploring the philosophy of social science research, advanced quantitative and qualitative techniques, and modern research software, culminating in a capstone research proposal. As a core course of the MSS programme, it prepares students for advanced academic research, publishing, and professional research careers.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To develop advanced research skills across qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods.
- CO2:** To utilize statistical, qualitative, and data visualization tools for accurate analysis.
- CO3:** To enhance academic writing and publishing skills while maintaining ethical standards.
- CO4:** To integrate critical research approaches evaluating diverse philosophical frameworks.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

CLO1: Demonstrate proficiency in designing and conducting advanced research using qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method approaches.

CLO2: Apply appropriate research tools and software (SPSS, R, NVivo, Tableau, etc.) to analyze data.

CLO3: Critically analyze complex research problems using advanced methodological frameworks and produce well-structured academic work in accordance with ethical and publishing standards.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									
CLO2								✓		
CLO3							✓			

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Introduction: Revisiting Basic Concepts; Philosophy of Social Science Research	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1, CLO3
Week 2	Ethical Considerations in Advanced Research; Uses of AI	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1, CLO3
Week 3	Advanced Research Design: Comparative and Case Study Methods	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1, CLO3
Week 4	Mixed-Method Designs; Triangulation; Longitudinal vs. Cross-Sectional Studies	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO1, CLO3
Week 5	Advanced Quantitative Techniques: Multivariate Analysis, Factor Analysis	Lecture, practical exercise	Short written test	CLO2, CLO3
Week 6	Structural Equation Modeling; Big Data Analytics in Political Science	Lecture, practical exercise	Practical exercise	CLO2, CLO3
Week 7	Survey Design and Sampling Techniques	Lecture, practical exercise	In-course Exam 2	CLO2, CLO3
Week 8	Advanced Qualitative Techniques: Discourse Analysis, Process Tracing	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Week 9	Ethnographic Methods; Content and Narrative Analysis	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2, CLO3
Week 10	Research Tools: SPSS, STATA, R	Lecture, practical exercise	Practical exercise	CLO2, CLO3
Week 11	Qualitative and Visualization Tools: NVivo, Atlas.ti, Tableau, Power BI	Lecture, practical exercise	Assignment 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 12	Writing and Publishing: Structuring Articles/Theses; Peer Review; Plagiarism	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 2	CLO3
Week 13	Capstone Project: Designing a Research Proposal	Guided practice	Research proposal	CLO3
Week 14	Capstone Presentation and Comprehensive Review	Seminar presentation, review	Group presentation / Comprehensive review	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment. Continuous assessment includes two in-course/mid-term examinations and evaluation of class attendance and participation, providing ongoing feedback on students' theoretical understanding and analytical ability. Summative assessment consists of a comprehensive Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

Creswell, J. W. (2003). *Research Design: Qualitative and Mixed Methods Approaches*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.

Yin, R. K. (1994). *Case Study Research: Design and Methods*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.

Ragin, C. C. (1987). *The Comparative Method: Moving Beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Kothari, C. R. (1996). *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*. New Delhi: Wishwa Prakashan.

Babbie, E. (1973). *Survey Research Methods*. Belmont: Wadsworth.

Bogdan, R., & Taylor, S. J. (1975). *Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-507: PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-507 |
| 2. Course Title | : Participatory Governance |
| 3. Course Type | : Core (Optional for thesis students) |
| 4. Year and Semester | : MSS 1 st Semester |
| 5. Academic Session | : 2025–2026 (July–December) |
| 6. Course Teacher | : Dr. S.M. Mokhlasur Rahman, Professor, Department of Political Science,
University of Rajshahi |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : BSS (Honors) degree in Political Science. |
| 8. Credit Value | : 2 |
| 9. Contact Hours | : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks) |
| 10. Total Marks | : 100 (Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course/Group Presentations/Quizzes:
20; Attendance: 10) |

11. Rationale of the Course:

Participatory governance-involving ordinary people in policy making and implementation-is increasingly being adopted around the world and across many different policy areas. This includes initiatives like consultations, coproduction, petitions, policy crowdsourcing, participatory budgeting, complaints mechanisms, service delivery reporting, “Civic tech” platforms, citizen juries, and citizen assemblies. This course examines participatory governance in theory and practice, with a global scope covering applications in both ‘developed’ and ‘developing’ countries as well as at a global level. The course also examines key cross-cutting issues, such as who participates and why, the possibilities of meaningful deliberation, relationships with political authority, and applications of information technologies and artificial intelligence. The course also incorporates recent empirical research on the impacts of participatory and deliberative governance and on the representativeness of participation in different settings. Students will have opportunities to apply these concepts and themes to specific case studies in their course essay.

12. Course Objectives (CO)

- CO1:** To provide students with more concepts, notions and theories of governance and participation;
- CO2:** To elevate the students’ ability to analyze and explain the practical governance issues and participation using the theories.
- CO3:** To guide the students to seek for solution to the governance problems related to people’s participation from their capacity.
- CO4:** To provide strategies, techniques and methods to the students to explore further beyond their knowledge and engage into systematic research in participatory governance in local and national level.
- CO5:** To equip the students with necessary knowledge, background and techniques to study governance and apply them in their professional life as organizer, administrator, teacher and researcher or as a leader of a management team.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** Link the governance theories to participatory governance issues and understand the flexibility of governance structure;
- CLO2:** Prepare them to pursue higher studies (Diploma, MPhil/PhD) in governance and participations;

CLO3: Develop teamwork, intellectual debate, and communication skills to contribute effectively to governance, institutional accountability, and careers in public, local government, NGO, and development organizations.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									
CLO2			✓							
CLO3		✓								

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Introduction: Meaning, Nature of Governance, Accountability, Transparency	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Democracy and Participatory Governances	Lecture, case examples	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 3	Nature of Participatory Governance: in Developed Countries, Developing Countries, at the Central Governance and Local Governance	Lecture, comparative discussion	Short written test	CLO1, CLO2
Week 4	Participatory Governance Tool Kits: Public Information, Education and Deliberation	Lecture, guided discussion	Quiz	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3
Week 5	Participatory Governance Tool Kits: Advocacy and Citizens' Voice, Public Dialogue, Electoral Transparency and Accountability	Lecture, group discussion	Reflective note	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3
Week 6	Participatory Governance Tool Kits: Policy and Planning, Public Budget and Expenditure	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO2
Week 7	Mechanism of Participatory Governance: Consultations, Coproduction, Petitions, Policy Crowdsourcing	Lecture, timeline mapping	Assignment 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 8	Mechanism of Participatory Governance: Participatory Budgeting, Complaints Mechanisms, Service Delivery Reporting	Lecture, case discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Week 9	Mechanism of Participatory Governance: "Civic Tech" Platforms, Citizen Juries, and Citizen Assemblies	Lecture, interactive discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO2, CLO3

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 10	Evaluation of Participatory Governance: Possibilities of Meaningful Deliberation, Relationships with Political Authority	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2, CLO3
Week 11	Evaluation of Participatory Governance: Applications of Information Technologies and Artificial Intelligence.	Lecture, worked examples	Assignment 2 / Report	CLO3
Week 12	Critiques of Participatory Governance	Lecture, discussion	Comprehensive review	CLO1, CLO2

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment. Continuous assessment includes two in-course/mid-term examinations and evaluation of class attendance and participation, providing ongoing feedback on students' theoretical understanding and analytical ability. Summative assessment consists of a comprehensive Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

Fung, Archon, and Erik Olin Wright. 2001. "Deepening democracy: Innovations in empowered participatory governance." *Politics & Society* 29(1): 5-41.

OECD. (2020). *Innovative Citizen Participation and New Democratic Institutions: Catching the Deliberative Wave*. OECD Publishing, Paris.

Peixoto, Tiago, and Micah L. Sifry. (2017). *Civic Tech in the Global South: Assessing Technology for the Public Good*. World Bank.

- Nabatchi, Tina, Alessandro Sancino, and Mariafrancesca Sicilia. (2017). "*Varieties of Participation in Public Services: The Who, When, and What of Coproduction.*" *Public Administration Review*. 77(5): 766-776.
- Boswell, John, Rikki Dean, and Graham Smith. (2023). "*Integrating citizen deliberation into climate governance: Lessons on robust design from six climate assemblies.*" *Public Administration*. 101(1): 182-200.
- Landemore, Hélène, and Scott E. Page. (2015). "*Deliberation and disagreement: Problem solving, prediction, and positive dissensus.*" *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*. 14(3): 229-254.
- Gonzalez, Yanilda, and Lindsay Mayka. (2023). "*Policing, Democratic Participation, and the Reproduction of Asymmetric Citizenship.*" *American Political Science Review*. 117(1): 263-279.
- Parthasarathy, Ramya, Vijayendra Rao and Nethra Palaniswamy. (2019). "*Deliberative Democracy in an Unequal World: A Text-as-Data Study of South India's Village Assemblies.*" *American Political Science Review*. 113(3): 623-640.
- He, Baogang, and Mark E. Warren. (2011). "*Authoritarian deliberation: The deliberative turn in Chinese political development.*" *Perspectives on Politics*. 9(2): 269-289.
- Wampler, Brian, Stephanie McNulty, and Michael Touchton. (2021). *Participatory budgeting in global perspective*. Oxford University Press.

***Online and latest reading materials that shall be used for the course will be provided by the concerned course instructor.**

MSS 2nd Semester (2025-2026)

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-508: RECENT POLITICAL THOUGHT

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-508 |
| 2. Course Title | : Recent Political Thought |
| 3. Course Type | : Core (Optional for thesis students) |
| 4. Year and Semester | : MSS 2 nd Semester |
| 5. Academic Session | : 2025–2026 (January–June) |
| 6. Course Teacher | : Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Successful completion of the MSS First Semester |
| 8 Credit Value | : 3 |
| 9. Contact Hours | : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks) |
| 10. Total Marks | : 100 (Final Exam 70, Mid-term/In-course 20, and Attendance 10) |

11. Rationale of the Course:

Political thought provides the intellectual foundation for understanding the evolution of political ideas, institutions, and systems. This course introduces students to the major political thinkers and ideological traditions of the modern and contemporary periods, with particular emphasis on socialism, Marxism, pluralism, totalitarianism, and other influential schools of political thought. It critically examines concepts such as sovereignty, liberty, equality, justice, rights, democracy, and power through the writings of prominent political philosophers. By engaging with classical texts and contemporary interpretations, the course develops students' analytical, critical thinking, and research skills, enabling them to evaluate competing political theories and apply theoretical perspectives to contemporary political issues and academic research.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the principles, sources, subjects, and legal foundations of international law.
- CO2:** To develop students' knowledge of the rights, obligations, and legal relationships of states, international organizations, and other subjects of international law.
- CO3:** To familiarize students with the legal principles governing state recognition, jurisdiction, territory, intervention, diplomacy, dispute settlement, extradition, and treaty law.
- CO4:** To enhance students' understanding of the structure, functions, and roles of major international organizations, particularly the United Nations and the International Court of Justice, in maintaining international peace and cooperation.
- CO5:** To develop students' analytical, legal reasoning, and research skills for interpreting international legal issues and evaluating contemporary global challenges from the perspective of international law and global governance.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** Explain the principles, sources, subjects, and core concepts of international law and their application in regulating relations among states and other international actors.

CLO2: Analyze international legal issues relating to state recognition, jurisdiction, territory, intervention, diplomacy, extradition, treaty law, and the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

CLO3: Evaluate the roles and effectiveness of international organizations and legal institutions in global peace, security, justice, and governance, and apply international legal principles to contemporary global issues.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									
CLO2			✓							
CLO3					✓					

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLO(s)
Week 1	Introduction to Recent Political Thought: Major Trends in Eighteenth and Twentieth Century Political Thought	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Socialism: Historical Development and Contributions of Charles Hall, Thomas Hodgskin, and Other Early Socialist Thinkers	Lecture, group discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 3	Marxian Socialism: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels—Historical Materialism, Class Struggle, and Revolution	Lecture, text analysis	Quiz	CLO1, CLO2
Week 4	Russian Socialism: V. I. Lenin and Joseph Stalin—Theory and Practice	Lecture, case discussion	Short written test	CLO2
Week 5	Chinese Socialism: Mao Zedong and the Development of Maoist Political Thought	Lecture, comparative analysis	In-course Examination 1	CLO2
Week 6	Post-Marxian Socialist Thought: Antonio Gramsci and Jurgen Habermas	Lecture, seminar discussion	Assignment 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 7	Contemporary Critical Theory: Michel Foucault, John Rawls, Sandra Harding, and Bonnie Honig	Lecture, student-led discussion	Reflective essay	CLO3
Week 8	Syndicalism, Guild Socialism, Fabianism, and Revisionism: Origins, Principles, and Contemporary Relevance	Lecture, comparative discussion	Group presentation	CLO3

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLO(s)
Week 9	Totalitarian Political Thought: Fascism and Nazism—Ideological Foundations and Political Practice	Lecture, documentary analysis	In-course Examination 2	CLO3
Week 10	Pluralism in Political Thought: Concepts, Development, and Contemporary Significance	Lecture, case-based learning	Oral presentation	CLO3
Week 11	Irrationalism and Existentialism in Political Thought	Lecture, text interpretation	Assignment 2	CLO3
Week 12	Elite Theories: Vilfredo Pareto, Gaetano Mosca, Robert Michels, and C. Wright Mills	Lecture, comparative analysis	Quiz	CLO3
Week 13	Contemporary Relevance of Recent Political Thought: Democracy, Justice, Equality, Rights, and Power	Seminar, student presentations	Group presentation	CLO3
Week 14	Comparative Evaluation of Recent Political Theories, Course Review, and Integrative Discussion	Lecture, panel discussion, comprehensive review	Comprehensive review	CLO3

Co-curricular Activities

- Seminar presentations on major political thinkers and their contributions.
- Critical review of classical and contemporary political texts.
- Classroom debates on socialism, Marxism, liberalism, pluralism, and totalitarianism.
- Comparative analysis of political ideologies and philosophical traditions.
- Book review and analytical essay writing on selected political theorists.
- Student-led discussions on the contemporary relevance of political thought.
- Research presentations linking political theories with current global political issues.

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

The assessment of this course will follow the principles of **Outcome-Based Education (OBE)** through a balanced combination of **formative** and **summative** assessment methods to ensure the achievement of the Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs). Formative assessment will be conducted throughout the semester through in-course examinations, quizzes, assignments, presentations, class participation, and attendance to evaluate students' understanding of recent political theories, critical reasoning, interpretative ability, and academic communication skills. Students will also be encouraged to engage in seminar discussions and critical reviews of classical political texts to strengthen their analytical and research competencies. Summative assessment will consist of a comprehensive three-hour Semester Final Examination covering the entire course. The assessment process is designed to measure students' ability to interpret political ideas, compare competing theoretical perspectives, critically evaluate political philosophies, and apply theoretical knowledge to contemporary political issues.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures

Students who are unable to participate in any in-course examination, presentation, assignment, quiz, or other continuous assessment due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances must notify the Course Teacher promptly and submit a written application with valid supporting documents. Subject to the approval of the Course Teacher and/or the Departmental Academic Committee, a make-up assessment or an equivalent alternative assessment may be arranged in accordance with the rules and regulations of the **University of Rajshahi**. Requests for make-up assessment should normally be submitted within **seven (7) working days** of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

- Bloom, A. (1987), 'Jean-Jacques Rousseau', in Strauss, L. and Cropsey, J. (eds.) *History of Political Philosophy*. 2nd Edition. Chicago: Chicago University Press.
- Boucher, D. (2003), 'Rousseau', in Boucher, D. and Kelly, P. (eds.) *Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Dunning, W A (1950), *History of Political Theories Vol. III*, New York: The Macmillan Company.
- Ebenstein, W (1972), *Great Political Thinkers*, New Delhi: Oxford & IBH Publishing.
- Ebenstein, William (1974). *Modern Political Thought*, New Delhi: Oxford & I B H Publishers.
- Femia, J. (2003), 'Machiavelli', in Boucher, D. and Kelly, P. (eds.) *Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Gettell, R G (1965), *History of Political Thought*, Baltimore: Penguin Books.
- Hallowell, J J (1963), *Main Currents in Modern Political Thought*, New York: Holt.
- Hallowell, John H. (1963). *Main Currents in Modern Political Thought*, New York: Holt.
- Lamcaster, L W (1971), *Master of Political Thought*, London: Harrap.
- Landsay, A D (1969), *The Modern Democratic State*, New York: Oxford University Press.
- Laski, H J (1689), *A Defense of Liberty Against Tyrant*, London: Richard Baldwin.
- Laski, H J (1963), *A Defense of Liberty Against Tyrant*, Mass: Peter Smith.
- MacDonald, L C (1968), *Western Political Theory*, New York: Harcourt, Brace & World.
- Maxey, C.C. (1965). *The Shaping of Modern Political Thought*, New York, 1965.
- McClelland, J. S. (1996), *A History of Western Political Thought*. London: Rutledge.
- Nelson, B. (2008), *Western Political Thought*, New Delhi: Pearson Longman.
- Nelson, B. (2008), *Western Political Thought*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman.
- Nelson, B. (2008), *Western Political Thought*. New York: Pearson Longman.
- Reeve, C.D.C. (2003), 'Plato', in Boucher, D. and Kelly, P. (eds.) *Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Sabine G H (1973), *History of Political Theory*, London: Dryden Press.
- Sabine, G.H. (1954). *History of Political Theory*. London: George G. Harper and Co. Ltd.

- Savigear, P. (1988), 'Niccolo Machiavelli: *The Prince and the Discourse*', in Forsyth, M. and Strauss, L. (1987), 'Niccolo Machiavelli', in Strauss, L. and Crapsey, J. (eds.) *History of Political Philosophy*. 2nd Edition. Chicago: Chicago University Press.
- Skoble, A. J. and T. R. Machan (2007), *Political Philosophy: Essential Selections*. New Delhi: Pearson Education.
- Skoble, A. J. and T. R. Machan, (2007), *Political Philosophy: Essential Selections*. New Delhi: Pearson Education.
- Vaughan, C E (1960), *Studies in the History of Political Philosophy*, New York: Russell & Russell.
- মাহমুদ, সুলতান (২০২৫), *রাজনৈতিক দর্শন*, ঢাকা: শব্দশৈলী।
- মাহমুদ, সুলতান (২০২৬), *শান্তি ও সংঘাত অধ্যয়ন*, ঢাকা: অবসর প্রকাশনা সংস্থা।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-509: BANGLADESH AND HER NEIGHBORS

Part A: Course Overview

1. **Course Code** : 0312-509
2. **Course Title** : Bangladesh and Her Neighbors
3. **Course Type** : Core (Optional for thesis students)
4. **Year and Semester** : MSS 2nd Semester
5. **Academic Session** : 2025–2026 (January–June)
6. **Course Teacher** : Muhammad Mahmudur Rahman, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
7. **Pre-requisite** : Successful completion of the MSS First Semester
8. **Credit Value** : 3
9. **Contact Hours** : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks)
10. **Total Marks** : 100 (Semester Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10)

11. Rationale of the Course:

Bangladesh's political, economic, and social trajectory is deeply intertwined with its South Asian neighbors, making an understanding of regional relations essential for graduate students of political science pursuing careers in government, diplomacy, and international affairs. This course examines Bangladesh's foreign policy evolution toward India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan, alongside key bilateral issues such as border and maritime disputes, water-sharing, and cross-border security challenges. As a core course of the MSS programme, it equips students with the analytical depth necessary to assess regional cooperation, tension, and Bangladesh's evolving role within South Asia.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To explain how Bangladesh's foreign policy has evolved toward its neighboring countries.
- CO2:** To explore the foreign policy doctrines of different governments.
- CO3:** To understand neighborhood policy and joint regional issues.
- CO4:** To conduct a country-wise investigation of Bangladesh's neighbors, organized into two groupings.
- CO5:** To analyze matters of regional collaboration and harmony in the context of conflict and tension within South Asia's diverse traditions.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

CLO1: Recognize and assess the historical and contemporary events that have shaped Bangladesh's neighboring countries.

CLO2: Analyze the current political, socio-cultural, and economic structures of Bangladesh and her neighbors.

CLO3: Analyze the regional and international significance of developments in Bangladesh and its neighboring countries using interdisciplinary approaches and contemporary knowledge.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1				✓						

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO2				✓						
CLO3				✓						

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Neighborhood Policy of Different Governments in Bangladesh (Part 1)	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Neighborhood Policy of Different Governments in Bangladesh (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 3	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-I: India	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO2, CLO3
Week 4	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-I: Myanmar	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 5	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-I: Nepal	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO2, CLO3
Week 6	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-II: Pakistan	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Week 7	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-II: Sri Lanka	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2, CLO3
Week 8	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-II: Bhutan	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO2, CLO3
Week 9	Bilateral Issues: Land and Maritime Boundary Issues	Lecture, case discussion	Assignment 1	CLO3
Week 10	Bilateral Issues: Water-Sharing Issues	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO3
Week 11	Bilateral Issues: Blue Economy Issues	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 2	CLO3
Week 12	Bilateral Issues: Cross-Border Terrorism	Lecture, case discussion	Quiz	CLO3
Week 13	Bilateral Issues: Migration, Trafficking and Smuggling	Lecture, discussion	Group presentation	CLO3
Week 14	Comprehensive Review: Bangladesh and Her Neighbors Revisited	Lecture, synthesis discussion, review	Comprehensive review	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a varied combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment methods, including in-course/mid-term examinations, quizzes, oral questioning, short written tests, case-based discussions, reflective notes, and assignments, alongside evaluation of class attendance. This variety provides ongoing feedback on students' understanding of Bangladesh's regional relations and

foreign policy. Summative assessment consists of a Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination, quiz, or assignment submission due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

- Ahmed, M. (1988). *Contemporary Pakistan: Politics, Economy and Society*. Karachi: Royal Book Company.
- Ahmed, R. (Ed.). (1983). *Islam in Bangladesh: Society, Culture and Politics*. Dhaka: University Press Limited.
- Ali, T. (1983). *Can Pakistan Survive? The Death of a State*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.
- Bhasin, A. S. (2004). *India in Sri Lanka: Between Lion and Tiger*. New Delhi: Manas Publications.
- Blackburn, R. (Ed.). (1975). *Explosion in the Subcontinent: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Ceylon*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.
- Callard, K. (1989). *Political Forces in Pakistan*. New York: Macmillan.
- Chowdhury, M. A. (1967). *The Emergence of Pakistan*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- De Silva, K. M. (1978). *Sri Lanka: A Survey*. London: C. Hurst and Company.
- Jackson, R. (1978). *South Asian Crisis: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishers.
- Ludowyk, E. F. C. (1985). *The Story of Ceylon*. New Delhi: Navrang.
- Muni, S. D. (Ed.). (1978). *Assertive Monarchy*. New Delhi: Chetna Publications.
- Phadnis, U. (1976). *Religion and Politics in Sri Lanka*. Delhi: Manohar Book Service.
- Phadnis, U. (1989). *Ethnicity and Nation-Building in South Asia*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- Shah, R. (1985). *Nepali Politics: Retrospect and Prospect*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Swami, M. R. N. (2010). *The Tiger Vanquished: LTTE's Story*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- Vijesinha, R. (1986). *The Current Crisis in Sri Lanka*. New Delhi: Navrang.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-510: INTERNATIONAL POLITICS: THEORY AND PRACTICE

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-510 |
| 2. Course Title | : International Politics: Theory and Practice |
| 3. Course Type | : Core (Optional for thesis students) |
| 4. Year and Semester | : MSS 2 nd Semester |
| 5. Academic Session | : 2025–2026 (January–June) |
| 6. Course Teacher | : Dr. Farhat Tasnim, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Successful completion of the MSS First Semester |
| 8. Credit Value | : 3 |
| 9. Contact Hours | : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks) |
| 10. Total Marks | : 100 (Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10) |

11. Rationale of the Course:

Studies in International Politics investigates how countries, governments, international organizations, and global systems interact. Drawing on well-established theories and approaches, it explores issues such as diplomacy, conflict, trade, human rights, and climate change. This provides us with a better understanding of how the world works at the political and economic levels. The present course is designed to inspire students to study contemporary theories, concepts, and patterns in international politics. The objective of the course is to enable students of political science to explore the international arena by applying theoretical frameworks studied during their bachelor's and master's degrees. Both historical and contemporary issues are combined to enable students to compare and analyze the past and present and to focus on international conflict, cooperation, and the use of power. Patterns and issues that will continue to influence international politics for many years, such as globalization, digital technology, neo-colonialism, the environmental movement, terrorism, and pandemics, are covered in the course. Students will get the opportunity to analyze international events in the past, and those that are taking place in the present, through debates, group presentations, and by writing extensive reports.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To provide students with more concepts, notions, and theories of international politics;
- CO2:** To elevate the students' ability to analyze and explain the international issues in their real lives.
- CO3:** To guide the students to seek solutions to the international problems and issues within their capacity.
- CO4:** To provide strategies, techniques, and methods to the students to explore further beyond their knowledge and engage in systematic research in international politics and affairs.
- CO5:** To equip the students with the necessary knowledge, background, and techniques to study international politics and apply them in their professional life as teachers, researchers, or members of an international organization.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** Link the theories to actual international happenings and understand the basic structure of the global system.
- CLO 2:** Analyze international politics and global events systematically and be able to contribute to national foreign policies.

CLO3: Develop analytical, teamwork, and debating skills to prepare students for higher studies and careers in foreign affairs, international organizations, and development sectors.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1				✓						
CLO2										✓
CLO3			✓							

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Meaning, nature, subject matter and scope of International Politics, International politics as an independent subject matter of study	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Decision-making theory, Systems Theory, Conflict Theory, Communication Theory	Lecture, case examples	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 3	Dependency Theory, Post-structuralism, Post liberalism, Post-colonialism	Lecture, guided discussion	Quiz	CLO1
Week 4	Cold War, Balance of Power, Polarism	Lecture, comparative discussion	Short written test	CLO1
Week 5	Deterrence, Disarmaments	Lecture, group discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO1, CLO2
Week 6	Long Wars-Vietnam War, Afghanistan War	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2
Week 7	Cuban Crisis, Iran Crisis.	Lecture, timeline mapping	Assignment 1	CLO3
Week 8	Instruments for promotion of national interests, neo-colonialism, globalization	Lecture, case discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Week 9	energy politics, immigration politics, environment, refugee crisis	Lecture, interactive discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO2, CLO3
Week 10	terrorism, digital revolution, pandemic, and issues of recent international interest.	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2, CLO3
Week 11	Collective Security	Lecture, worked examples	Assignment 2 / Report	CLO3
Week 12	International Organizations	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO3
Week 13	Regionalism and Regional Arrangements	Lecture, comparative analysis	Group presentation	CLO2, CLO3
Week 14	New International Economic Orders	Lecture, synthesis discussion, review	Comprehensive review	CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment. Continuous assessment includes two in-course/mid-term examinations and evaluation of class attendance and participation, providing ongoing feedback on students' theoretical understanding and analytical ability. Summative assessment consists of a comprehensive Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

- Basu, Rumki (ed.), (2012), *International Politics: Concepts, Theories and Issues*. New Delhi: SAGE Publications.
- Baylis, John, Steve Smith and Patricia Owen (ed.) 6th ed. 2014. *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Brown, Garrett Wallace, Iain Mclean and Alistair McMillan, (2018) *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics and International Relations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Basic Facts About United Nations* 42nd ed. (2017). New York: United Nations Department of Public Information.
- Haider, Jaglul. (2006), *Changing Pattern of Bangladesh Foreign Policy: A Comparative Study of the Mujib and Zia Regime*. Dhaka: University Press Limited.
- Hanhimaki, Jussi M. 2nd ed. (2015), *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hoffman, Stanley, edited, (1960) *Contemporary Theory in International Relations*. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.
- Holsti, K. J. 1995. *International Politics*. New Delhi: Prentice Hall of India Private limited.
- Huntington, S P, (1996) *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*. New York, NY: Simon and Schuster,
- Kaplan, Morton (2005), *System and Process in International Politics*. Colchester: ECPR.
- Lerche Jr., Charles O and E. Said (1970), *Concepts of International Politics*. 2nd ed. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall.
- Malhotra, Vinoy Kumar (1993), *International Relations*. New Delhi: Anmol Publication.

Naik, J.A. (1978), *A Textbook of International Relations*. Delhi: Macmillan Company of India Limited

Morgenthau, Hans J, Kenneth W. Thompson and David Clinton, (2005) *Politics Among Nations: A Struggle for Power and Peace*. 19th ed. McGraw Hill Inc.

Paddelford, N J & G A Lincoln (1962), *Dynamics of International Politics*. Macmillan.

Palmer, Norman D. and Howard C. Perkins (1985, Indian Reprint) *International Relations*. Delhi: CBS Publishers.

Roy C Macridis, (1962), *Foreign Policy in World Politics*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.:Prentice-Hall

Rourke, John T., and Mark A Boyer (2003), *International Politics on the World Stage Brief*. 5th ed. Boston: McGraw Hill.

Rourke, John T (2011), *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics*. 15th ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill/Dushkin

Besides these books, a good number of relevant published research articles, contemporary websites shall be read and visited during the semester.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-511: PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-511 |
| 2. Course Title | : Public Sector Management |
| 3. Course Type | : Core (Optional for thesis students) |
| 4. Year and Semester | : MSS 2 nd Semester |
| 5. Academic Session | : 2025–2026 (January–June) |
| 6. Course Teacher | : Dr. Bibi Morium, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Successful completion of the MSS First Semester |
| 8. Credit Value | : 3 |
| 9. Contact Hours | : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks) |
| 10. Total Marks | : 100 (Semester Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10) |

11. Rationale of the Course:

Public sector management has undergone significant transformation in recent decades, shifting from traditional hierarchical government models toward market-oriented and networked governance frameworks. This course examines these paradigm shifts, including new public management, governance networks, and hybrid modes of service delivery, both in developed economies and in contexts like Bangladesh. As a core course of the MSS programme, it equips students with the theoretical and practical understanding necessary to critically analyze contemporary public sector reforms and propose innovative governance solutions.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To analyze the transformation of public sector structures and governance frameworks in developed and developing economies.
- CO2:** To understand the paradigm shifts from traditional government models to public management and governance, emphasizing markets and networks.
- CO3:** To evaluate the impact of these transformations on policy-making and public service delivery.
- CO4:** To develop the knowledge and skills to apply governance theories to real-world public administration challenges.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** Demonstrate a critical understanding of the evolving roles of government, public management, and governance in the public sector.
- CLO2:** Assess the effectiveness of markets and networked partnerships in policy-making and public service delivery.
- CLO3:** Apply theoretical and practical knowledge of governance to analyze public administration challenges and propose informed, innovative solutions to public sector transformation.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1					✓					
CLO2					✓					
CLO3					✓					

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Public Sector Management: Meaning and Nature	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Public Services; The Boundary between Public and Private Sector	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1, CLO2
Week 3	Governance: Major Theoretical Approaches	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO2, CLO3
Week 4	State as the Main Actor: Old Public Management and the Era of Hierarchy	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 5	State as a Marketized Agent: New Public Management and the Era of Markets	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO2, CLO3
Week 6	State as a Hollowed-Out Agent: Governance and the Era of Networks	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Week 7	The Return of the State: Hybrid Modes of Governance	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO2, CLO3
Week 8	Coordination in Partnership Working	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2, CLO3
Week 9	Accountability and Blame-Shifting; Engaging with Citizens and Stakeholders	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 10	Policy-Making in Networks	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2, CLO3
Week 11	Public Spending: Sources and Managing Public Spending; Performance Measurement	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 2	CLO1, CLO3
Week 12	Strategic Management, Public Sector Project Management, Talent Management, Public Entrepreneurship	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1, CLO3
Week 13	Public-Private Partnerships; Globalization and Public Policy-Making	Lecture, discussion	Group presentation	CLO2, CLO3
Week 14	Comprehensive Review	Lecture, review	Comprehensive review	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment. Continuous assessment includes two in-course/mid-term examinations and evaluation of class attendance and participation, providing ongoing feedback on students' theoretical understanding and analytical ability. Summative assessment consists of a comprehensive Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination, quiz, or assignment submission due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

- Bouckaert, G., Peters, B. G., & Verhoest, K. (2010). *The Coordination of Public Sector Organizations*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Evans, P. (1995). *Embedded Autonomy: States and Industrial Transformation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Ferlie, E., Musselin, C., & Andresani, G. (2008). The Steering of Higher Education Systems. *Higher Education*, 56.
- Flynn, N. (2007). *Public Sector Management*. London: Sage Publications.
- Heritier, A., & Lehmkuhl, D. (2008). Introduction: The Shadow of Hierarchy and New Modes of Governance. *Journal of Public Policy*, 28(1), 1–17.
- Joyce, P. (1999). *Strategic Management for the Public Services*. Buckingham: Open University Press.
- Lynn, L. E. Jr. (2006). *Public Management: Old and New*. London: Routledge.
- Osborne, S. P. (Ed.). (2010). *The New Public Governance? Emerging Perspectives on the Theory and Practice of Public Governance*. London: Routledge.
- Panday, P. K. (2007). Policy Implementation in Urban Bangladesh: Role of Intra-Organizational Coordination. *Public Organization Review*, 7.
- Bovaird, T., & Löffler, E. (Eds.). (2003). *Public Management and Governance*. New York: Routledge.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-512: PROBLEMS OF POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-512 |
| 2. Course Title | : Problems of Political Institutions |
| 3. Course Type | : Core (Optional for thesis students) |
| 4. Year and Semester | : MSS 2 nd Semester |
| 5. Academic Session | : 2025–2026 (January–June) |
| 6. Course Teacher | : Dr. A.K.M. Mahmudul Haque, Professor, Department of Political Science,
University of Rajshahi |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Successful completion of the MSS First Semester |
| 8. Credit Value | : 3 |
| 9. Contact Hours | : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks) |
| 10. Total Marks | : 100 (Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10) |

11. Rationale of the Course:

Political institutions form the structural backbone of governance, and their capacity, resilience, and legitimacy are central to democratic consolidation and effective policy delivery. This advanced core course of the MSS programme provides students with an in-depth, critical understanding of the structures, functions, and contemporary challenges confronting executive, legislative, and judicial institutions, as well as the electorate, political parties, and pressure groups. It further extends institutional analysis to emerging governance challenges such as environmental sustainability and disaster governance, equipping students to critically evaluate institutional performance and propose evidence-based reforms — an essential capability for graduates pursuing careers in academia, public administration, and policy research.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To develop students' understanding of the structures, characteristics, and significance of various political institutions in democratic governance.
- CO2:** To analyze the challenges political institutions face in maintaining accountability, ensuring the rule of law, and promoting democratic consolidation.
- CO3:** To evaluate the institutional implications of different forms of government, including federalism and executive–legislative dynamics.
- CO4:** To critically engage with the intersection of political institutions and environmental governance, including the roles of civil society and institutional reform.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** Explain the theoretical and practical foundations of political institutions and their governance functions.
- CLO2:** Identify institutional weaknesses that hinder free elections, reduce corruption, and affect judicial independence and executive accountability.
- CLO3:** Compare forms of government across political contexts and propose institutional reforms for sustainable environmental governance, disaster preparedness, and inclusive public participation.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									
CLO2					✓					
CLO3									✓	

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Foundations of Political Institutions: Institution and Political Institution – Meaning, Characteristics, Importance	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Problems of Political Institutions in Governance: Democratic Consolidation, Political Settlements, Reducing Corruption, Organizing Free and Fair Elections, Ensuring Accountability, Establishing Rule of Law	Lecture, guided discussion	Class participation	CLO1, CLO2
Week 3	Forms of Government: Unitary and Federal Government; Pre-requisites of Federal Government; Types of Federation; Problems of Federalism	Lecture, comparative discussion	Class participation	CLO1, CLO3
Week 4	Presidential and Parliamentary Government; Their Usefulness under Specific Situations	Lecture, comparative analysis	In-course Exam 1	CLO1, CLO3
Week 5	Executive as a Political Institution: Classification of Executive, Role of the Executive, Predominance of Executive Authority, Succession to Executive Authority	Lecture, case discussion	Class participation	CLO1, CLO2
Week 6	Legislature and Executive–Legislative Relations: Typology of Legislature, Role of the Legislature	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1, CLO2
Week 7	Problems of Executive–Legislative Relations under Parliamentary and Presidential Systems; Subordinate Legislation and Means of its Control	Lecture, case analysis	Assignment 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 8	Judiciary and the Rule of Law: Importance of Judiciary in Democracy, Problems of Judicial Independence	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO1, CLO2

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 9	Constitutional and Judicial Supremacy; Judicial and Parliamentary Supremacy; Rule of Law and Problems of its Application	Lecture, guided discussion	Class participation	CLO2, CLO3
Week 10	Electorate and Public Opinion: Role of the Electorate in Democracy, Representation and Its Problems, Direct Governing Power of the Electorate, Control of the Electorate over Representatives	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1, CLO2
Week 11	Public Opinion: Nature and Meaning, Role in Democracy, Agencies of Molding Public Opinion; Pressure Groups and Political Parties: Typology and Relationships	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 2	CLO1, CLO3
Week 12	Political Parties: Classification, Parties in Democratic and Totalitarian Systems, Party Leadership and Autocratic Tendency, Iron Law of Oligarchy, Politics of Confrontation, Parties and Good Governance	Lecture, case discussion	Class participation	CLO2, CLO3
Week 13	Political Institutions and Environmental Governance: Institution–Environment Policy Nexus; Climate Change as Institutional Challenge; Disaster Governance and Institutional Weaknesses	Lecture, case discussion	Group presentation	CLO1, CLO3
Week 14	Institutional Dilemmas, Civil Society, and Reform: Development vs. Environment; Civil Society and Environmental Movements; Institutional Reform for Sustainable Governance and Environmental Justice; Course Review	Lecture, synthesis discussion, review	Group presentation / Review	CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises two in-course/mid-term examinations and evaluation of class attendance and participation, providing ongoing feedback on students' understanding of institutional theory and comparative governance analysis. Summative assessment consists of a comprehensive Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

- Almond, G., & Powell, G. B. (1966). *Comparative Politics: A Developmental Approach*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
- Barker, E. (1965). *Principles of Social and Political Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bottomore, T. B. (1962). *Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature*. London: George Allen and Unwin Limited.
- Bryce, J. (2010). *Modern Democracies*. Nabu Press.
- Dicey, A. V. (1885). *Introduction to the Law of the Constitution*. London: MacMillan.
- Duverger, M. (1964). *Political Parties*. New York: John Wiley and Sons.
- Eckstein, H., & Apter, D. (Eds.). (1963). *Comparative Politics*. New York: Free Press of Glencoe.
- Eulau, H. (1969). *Political Behaviouralism in Political Science* (Republished 2011). Routledge.
- Fichter, J. H. (1971). *Sociology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Finer, H. (1932). *Theory and Politics of Modern Government*. New York: Dial Press.
- Garner, J. W. (1951). *Political Science and Government*. Calcutta: The World Press Private Limited.
- Gettel, R. G. (1967). *Political Science*. Calcutta: The World Press Private Limited.
- Hallowell, J. H. (1954). *Moral Foundations of Democracy*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Haque, M. (2013). *Environmental Governance: Emerging Challenges for Bangladesh*. Dhaka: A H Development Publishing House.
- Huq, A. F. (2011). *Bangladesh Politics: Problems of Stability*. Dhaka: Hakkani Publishers.
- Jahan, R. (2005). *Bangladesh Politics: Problems and Issues*. Dhaka: University Press Limited.
- Lapalombara, J., & Weiner, M. (Eds.). (1966). *Political Parties and Political Development*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Laski, H. J. (1961). *An Introduction to Politics* (2nd ed.). London: HarperCollins Publishers.
- Laski, H. J. (1967). *A Grammar of Politics*. London: George Allen & Unwin.
- Lasswell, H. D. (1950). *Power and Society: A Framework for Political Inquiry*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Lasswell, H. D. (1950). *Politics: Who Gets What, When and Why*. New York: P. Smith.
- Lindsay, A. D. (1966). *The Modern Democratic State*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (Galaxy Book).
- Lindsay, A. D. (1980). *Essentials of Democracy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- MacIver, R. M. (1947). *The Web of Government*. New York: Macmillan Company.

MacIver, R. M. (1966). *The Modern State*. London: Oxford University Press.

MacIver, R. M., & Page, C. H. (1950). *Society: An Introductory Analysis*. Pan Macmillan.

Macridis, R. C., & Brown, B. E. (1961). *Comparative Politics*. Homewood: The Dorsey Press.

Mill, J. S. (1861). *Considerations on Representative Government*. London: Parker, Son and Bourn.

Soltan, R. H. (1963). *An Introduction to Politics*. London: Longman.

Strong, C. F. (1939). *Modern Constitutions*. London: Sidgwick and Jackson.

De, A. (1965). *Political Behaviour*. Free Press.

Willoughby, W. F. (1920). *The Government of Modern State*. New York: The Century Co.

আবুল ফজল হক। *বাংলাদেশের রাজনীতি: সংঘাত ও পরিবর্তন*।

আবুল ফজল হক। *বাংলাদেশের শাসন ব্যবস্থা ও রাজনীতি*।

মোহাম্মদ আবুল কাশেম। *তুলনামূলক রাজনীতি*।

মোঃ মকসুদুর রহমান (সম্পাদিত)। *রাজনৈতিক সমাজবিজ্ঞান*।

নির্মলকান্তি ঘোষ। *রাষ্ট্রবিজ্ঞান বিজ্ঞানের ভূমিকা*।

মোঃ আব্দুল হামিদ। *সংবিধান ও সাংবিধানিক আইন*।

তারেক এম. তৌফিকুর রহমান। *বাংলাদেশের রাজনীতিতে আলিমসমাজ: ভূমিকা ও প্রভাব (১৯৭২-২০০১)*।

এ কে এম মাহমুদুল হক। (২০২৫)। *পরিবেশ, জলবায়ু ও টেকসই প্রবৃদ্ধি*। ঢাকা: অবসর।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-513: FOREIGN POLICIES OF MAJOR POWERS

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-513
- 2. Course Title** : Foreign Policies of Major Powers
- 3. Course Type** : Core (Optional for thesis students)
- 4. Year and Semester** : MSS 2nd Semester
- 5. Academic Session** : 2025–2026 (January–June)
- 6. Course Teacher** : Dr. Mst. Quamrun Nahar, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
- 7. Pre-requisite** : Successful completion of the MSS First Semester
- 8. Credit Value** : 3
- 9. Contact Hours** : 42 hours (3 hours/week × 14 weeks)
- 10. Total Marks** : 100 (Semester Final Examination: 70; Mid-term/In-course: 20; Attendance: 10)

11. Rationale of the Course:

Foreign policy shapes how states pursue power, security, and interests in their relations with other nations, and understanding the foreign policies of major world powers is essential for graduate students of political science. This course examines the foreign policies of the USA, EU, Japan, China, Russia, and India, with particular attention to their relations with Bangladesh. As a core course of the MSS programme, it equips students with the analytical depth necessary to interpret the dynamics of international politics and Bangladesh's position within it.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

CO1: To acquaint students with the aims and objectives of major powers' foreign policy.

CO2: To expose students to various approaches and dynamics of these foreign policies.

CO3: To familiarize students with contemporary foreign policy issues.

CO4: To introduce the nature of relationships among major world powers.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the course, students should be able to:

CLO1: Interpret the basic ideas and concepts of foreign policy in general.

CLO2: Identify the fundamental principles and goals of major powers in Europe, America, and Asia.

CLO3: Illustrate a country's foreign policy within the dynamic, changing environment of international politics.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									
CLO2				✓						
CLO3							✓			

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, Co-curricular Activities, Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Week 1	Foreign Policy: Definition, Nature, Aims and Objectives	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Week 2	Approaches to the Study of Foreign Policy; Determinants of Foreign Policy	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Week 3	US Foreign Policy: Background and Salient Features	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1, CLO2
Week 4	US Policy toward Middle East, Europe, South and Southeast Asia	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 1	CLO1, CLO2
Week 5	Changing US Policy after 9/11; USA-Bangladesh Relations	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO1, CLO2
Week 6	European Union and Its Politics; EU-Bangladesh Relations	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO1, CLO2
Week 7	Foreign Policy of Japan: Principles and Salient Features	Lecture, discussion	In-course Exam 2	CLO2, CLO3
Week 8	Japanese Approach to Global/ Regional Issues; Japan-Bangladesh Relations	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2, CLO3
Week 9	Foreign Policy of China: Salient Features, Relations with USA, Japan	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 1	CLO2, CLO3
Week 10	China's Relations with Pakistan, India, Bangladesh; China and BRI	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2, CLO3
Week 11	Foreign Policy of Russia: Objectives, Principles	Lecture, discussion	Assignment 2	CLO1, CLO2
Week 12	Russia-USA, Russia-China, Russia-EU Relations	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1, CLO2
Week 13	Foreign Policy of India: Principles, India-South Asia, India-Bangladesh Relations	Lecture, discussion	Group presentation	CLO2, CLO3
Week 14	Comprehensive Review	Lecture, review	Comprehensive review	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous (formative) and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises two in-course/mid-term examinations and evaluation of class attendance and participation, providing ongoing feedback on students' understanding of institutional theory and comparative governance analysis. Summative assessment consists of a comprehensive Semester Final Examination covering the entire course content, assessing students' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

15.2 Marks Distribution:

a) Continuous Assessment (30 Marks):

- In-course/Mid-term Examinations (2 × 10 marks): 20 marks
- Class Attendance: 10 marks

b) Summative (70 Marks):

- Semester Final Examination (3 hours, covering full course content): 70 marks

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students who miss an in-course examination due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Course Teacher/Academic Committee, may be given a make-up assessment or have their marks adjusted based on other components, as per Departmental and University rules. Requests must be submitted in writing within one week of the missed assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

Bhola, P. L. (2001). *Foreign Policies of India, Pakistan and China*. Jaipur: RBSA Publishers.

Chandra, P. (1994). *International Relations: Foreign Policies of Major Powers and Regional Systems*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

Dixit, J. N. (2001). *India's Foreign Policy and Its Neighbors*. Delhi: Gyan Publishing House.

Rashid, H. U. (2001). *Foreign Relations of Bangladesh*. Dhaka: Rishi Publications.

Sarker, M. M. (2023). *US Pivot toward India after 9/11: From a Dubious Relationship to a Strategic Partnership*. Lanham: Lexington Books.

Smith, T., & Leone, R. C. (1995). *America's Mission: The United States and the Worldwide Struggle for Democracy in the Twentieth Century*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-514: VIVA-VOCE

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-514 |
| 2. Course Title | : Viva-Voce |
| 3. Course Type | : Core (Compulsory, Comprehensive Oral Examination) |
| 4. Year and Semester | : MSS, 2nd Semester |
| 5. Academic Session | : 2025–2026 (January–June) |
| 6. Examination Committee | : Constituted by the Departmental Academic Committee, comprising faculty members of the Department of Political Science |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Successful completion of all theoretical courses of the MSS 1st and 2nd Semesters |
| 8. Credit Value | : 2 |
| 9. Contact Hours | : No fixed classroom contact hours; conducted as a single comprehensive oral examination following completion of the Semester Final Examinations of both semesters |
| 10. Total Marks | : 100 |

11. Rationale of the Course:

The Viva-Voce serves as the culminating comprehensive oral examination of the MSS (Course Work) programme, assessing students' cumulative mastery of the political science concepts, theories, and courses studied throughout their graduate study. As a capstone oral assessment, it allows examiners to evaluate not only students' theoretical knowledge but also their ability to synthesize learning across courses, apply concepts analytically, and communicate with the clarity and confidence expected of graduates entering academia, public administration, or research careers. As a compulsory component of the MSS programme, it certifies the depth and integration of students' graduate-level understanding of political science.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To assess students' cumulative understanding of the courses studied throughout the MSS programme.
- CO2:** To evaluate students' ability to articulate advanced political science concepts clearly and confidently in an oral setting.
- CO3:** To assess students' capacity to synthesize and connect concepts across the MSS curriculum.
- CO4:** To develop and certify students' oral communication, critical thinking, and analytical defense skills at the graduate level.

13. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of the Viva-Voce, students should be able to:

- CLO1:** Demonstrate a comprehensive and integrated understanding of the courses studied throughout the MSS programme.
- CLO2:** Articulate advanced political science concepts, theories, and their applications clearly and confidently under oral examination.
- CLO3:** Respond critically and analytically to examiner questions, demonstrating independent scholarly thinking and the ability to defend a position at the graduate level.

13.1 Mapping of CLOs with PLOs

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	✓									
CLO2							✓			
CLO3								✓		

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Structure of the Viva-Voce

Rather than a weekly teaching plan, the Viva-Voce is structured as a **single comprehensive oral examination** conducted after the completion of all coursework and written examinations:

Phase	Scope of Examination	Timing	Corresponding CLOs
Preparatory Phase	Students independently review all courses completed across the MSS 1st and 2nd Semesters (theoretical and, where applicable, thesis-related coursework), consolidating their understanding in preparation for oral examination	Following completion of 2nd Semester coursework, prior to the viva	CLO1
Examination Phase	Comprehensive oral examination conducted by the Examination Committee, covering all core and optional courses completed during the MSS programme, with particular attention to students' ability to connect theory across courses and apply it to contemporary political and governance issues	Scheduled after Semester Final Examinations, per the departmental examination calendar	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

The Examination Committee shall consist of at least three members, as constituted by the Departmental Academic Committee, ensuring adequate subject-area coverage across the courses examined.

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Assessment Strategy:

The Viva-Voce is assessed through direct oral questioning by the Examination Committee, based on a structured rubric evaluating the breadth and depth of the student's cumulative graduate-level understanding, communication skills, and analytical ability.

15.2 Marks Distribution (100 Marks):

SL	Criteria for Evaluation	Allocated Marks
1	Command of Core Concepts and Theories across the MSS Curriculum	30
2	Ability to Synthesize and Connect Concepts across Courses	20
3	Critical and Analytical Thinking in Responses	20
4	Application of Theoretical Knowledge to Contemporary Political/Governance Issues	15

SL	Criteria for Evaluation	Allocated Marks
5	Clarity, Coherence, and Confidence of Oral Expression	10
6	Overall Impression and General Academic Awareness	5
	Total	100

15.3 Make-up Procedures:

Students unable to attend the scheduled Viva-Voce due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Departmental Academic Committee, may be granted a rescheduled viva within a timeframe determined by the Department, in accordance with University rules.

15.4 Evaluation Sheet:

The Viva-Voce shall be evaluated by the Examination Committee using the rubric above, with the names of all examining committee members recorded on the evaluation sheet at the time of assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Learning Materials

No separate reading list applies, as the Viva-Voce draws directly on the course materials, textbooks, and readings prescribed for all courses completed during the MSS 1st and 2nd Semesters. Students are advised to comprehensively revisit their full course of study, with particular attention to synthesizing concepts across courses, in preparation for the oral examination.

MSS 3rd Semester (2025-2026)

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-515 & 0312-516: MASTER'S THESIS & THESIS PRESENTATION AND DEFENSE

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-515 & 0312-516 |
| 2. Course Title | : Master's Thesis & Thesis Presentation and Defense |
| 3. Course Type | : Optional Research Project (only qualified and selected students are offered the thesis track) |
| 4. Year and Semester | : MSS, 3rd Semester (Mixed Mode) |
| 5. Academic Session | : 2025–2026 |
| 6. Course Teacher/Supervisor | : Assigned individually by the Academic Committee of the Department of Political Science |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Minimum CGPA of 3.25 in the BSS (Honours) degree; final selection based on previous academic results and/or a selection test as determined by the Departmental Academic Committee |
| 8. Credit Value | : 22 (Thesis: 20 credits; Presentation and Defense: 2 credits) |
| 9. Contact Hours | : Individualized supervision across the phase-wise research process below, in place of standard classroom contact hours; thesis must be submitted within 90 days of completion of the written examination of Master's courses |
| 10. Total Marks | : 200 (Thesis: 100; Thesis Presentation and Defense: 100) |

11. Rationale of the Course:

The Master's Thesis provides high-achieving MSS students the opportunity to conduct an extended, independent piece of research on a topic of their choosing within political science or the social sciences, applying the research methodologies acquired throughout their undergraduate and graduate studies. Conducted under close supervisory guidance and culminating in a formal presentation and defense, this optional research track represents the highest level of independent scholarly achievement within the MSS programme, preparing selected students for further research careers, including MPhil and PhD studies at home and abroad.

12. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To help students gain firsthand experience in conducting research through all major stages of the social research process.
- CO2:** To help students apply the theoretical knowledge of research methodology gained during their undergraduate studies.
- CO3:** To provide students the opportunity to carry out fieldwork, data processing, and analysis of a political problem using knowledge gained throughout their undergraduate and graduate studies.

13. Research Learning Outcomes (RLO) and Mapping of RLOs with PLOs: On successful completion of the Master's Thesis, students should be able to:

- RLO1:** Formulate a research problem, research questions, objectives, and hypotheses for a research project.
- RLO2:** Use appropriate tools and techniques for data collection, analysis, and report writing, and conduct research independently.

RLO3: Gain the necessary background for pursuing higher studies at the MPhil and PhD level, at home and abroad.

13.1 Mapping of RLOs with PLOs

Research Learning Outcomes (RLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)									
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
RLO1			✓							
RLO2			✓							
RLO3										✓

Part B: Content and Delivery

14. Phase-wise Research Plan

Phase	Activities	Supervision/Support Strategy	Assessment Component	Corresponding RLOs
Phase 1: Proposal Development	Weekly contact with supervisor; topic selection; title finalization and notification to the Department; gathering and reviewing literature; submission of the research proposal	Individual supervision, literature review guidance	Preliminary proposal review	RLO1
Phase 2: Data Collection	Weekly contact with supervisor; visiting data sources; developing questionnaire/data collection format; pilot survey/testing; actual survey/data collection; data processing and tabulation	Individual supervision, field guidance, tool development support	Progress review by supervisor	RLO1, RLO2
Phase 3: Analysis and Report Writing	Weekly contact with supervisor; data analysis; organizing thesis chapters; thesis writing; finalization; plagiarism check certification; submission of four hard-bound copies per departmental rules; presentation of findings and defense	Individual supervision, writing and analytical guidance	Thesis (100 marks); Presentation and Defense (100 marks)	RLO2, RLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

15. Assessment and Evaluation

15.1 Thesis Assessment (20 Credits = 100 Marks):

The thesis is assessed by the departmental evaluation committee using the following weighted rubric, covering the conceptual, methodological, analytical, and presentational quality of the research.

SL	Criteria for Evaluation	Allocated Marks
1	Title	5
2	Introduction, Research Questions, Objectives and Hypothesis	10
3	Rationale of the Study	10
4	Literature Review	10
5	Theoretical Framework/Conceptualization	5
6	Methodology	10
7	Presentation and Analysis of Findings	30
8	Discussion/Implications and Conclusion	10
9	Quality of Writing – Language, Clarity	5
10	References/Bibliography	5
	Total Marks	100

15.2 Thesis Presentation and Defense (2 Credits = 100 Marks): (Course Code: 0312-516)

Mixed Mode students are required to defend their research through a formal thesis presentation before the Master's Examination Committee. The presentation may be open or closed-door, as decided by the committee. Students are evaluated based on their performance in presenting key findings, answering questions, and defending their research work.

15.3 Procedural Requirements:

- A plagiarism check certificate from the Departmental Evaluation Committee is required before submission.
- The thesis must be printed, bound in the prescribed format, and endorsed by the supervisor.
- Four hard-bound copies must be submitted to the Department office.
- Submission deadline: within 90 days (three months) of the completion of the written examination of Master's courses, as declared by the Department office.

15.4 Make-up Procedures:

Students unable to submit the thesis or attend the defense due to illness or unavoidable circumstances, supported by valid documentation and approved by the Academic Committee, may be granted an extension or a rescheduled defense, as per Departmental and University rules.

15.5 Evaluation Sheet:

Each thesis shall be evaluated by the examiner using the rubric above, with the examiner's name recorded on the evaluation sheet at the time of assessment.

Part D: Learning Materials

16. Supervision and Support Resources

Students are expected to draw upon the advanced research methodology literature covered in their undergraduate and graduate coursework, alongside subject-specific literature relevant to their chosen thesis topic, as guided by their assigned supervisor. No fixed reading list applies, given the individualized and topic-specific nature of the Master's Thesis; students should compile a topic-specific bibliography in consultation with their supervisor, following standard academic citation rules.

Part D

STUDENT SUPPORT, DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

1. Non-credit Programme

1.1 Excursion

The Department organizes study excursions for students, particularly at the MSS level, to provide experiential learning beyond the classroom. Excursions may include visits to politically, historically, culturally, environmentally, and administratively significant places, enabling students to connect theoretical knowledge with real-world contexts. The expenses of the excursion are jointly met by the University authority, the departmental development fund, and student contributions, subject to applicable University rules. The excursion is a non-credit academic activity. Each year, two faculty members are assigned to supervise and guide the planning and implementation of the excursion, which generally lasts up to ten days.

2. Awards for Outstanding Achievements

2.1 Dean's Merit List

A list of meritorious students awarded the BSS (Honours) Degree with a CGPA of at least 3.85 shall be included in the Dean's Honour List of the year.

2.2 Agrani Bank Gold Medal

Every year, Agrani Bank awards the first-ranking student of each Faculty with a Gold Medal.

2.3 Hall Gold Medal

Various residential halls of the University may award gold medals or other recognitions to outstanding students in accordance with their respective policies.

3. Available Scholarships/Stipends

The Department of Political Science offers a small number of stipends for the needy but regular, meritorious students of the department. The names of the stipends are: Professor Golam Morshed Stipend, Professor Dr. Md. Moksuder Rahman Stipend, Professor Dr. Nasima Zaman Stipend, Azizur Rahman Stipend. Besides, the Rajshahi University authority and the University Grants Commission offer scholarships throughout the year. Moreover, different private banks, philanthropic foundations and voluntary organizations also offer scholarships from time to time. Every scholarship has conditions, application procedures, and strict deadlines. Students are to keep themselves updated about scholarships from the department notice board, website and University website. Details are available at the department office.

4. Services for the Students

4.1 Counseling Cell

The department has recently established counseling cell for the students where they can consult about their problems related to their study, health, familial, mental state, and career developments. The members of the counseling committee shall be available for counseling on specific date and time at Room No 428 (A).

4.2 Seminar Library

The seminar library of the Department of Political Science houses approximately 3100 books (both written in Bangali and English) that are directly related to the departments' curriculum for BSS (Honors), MSS programs and for MPhil, PhD researches. The library remains open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on every working day. The library can accommodate approximately 48 students at a time. The students and the teachers have to follow specific rules and procedures for receiving the books.

4.3 Computer and Digital Learning Laboratory

The Department maintains a computer laboratory equipped to support students' academic work, research, data analysis, assignments, presentations, and thesis preparation. The laboratory also facilitates access to digital learning resources and research tools. Dedicated access schedules may be arranged for different student cohorts.

4.4 University-wide Student Services

Moreover, the University of Rajshahi centrally provides medical and mental counseling services with the help of the Rajshahi University Medical Centre and Mental Health Centre. There are also a central swimming pool, a gymnasium and a stadium for physical fitness. Branches of two government banks- Agrani Bank Ltd. and Sonali Bank Ltd. are active in the campus along with their ATM booth. Moreover, there is a Fast Track of Dutch Bangla Bank for serving the financial related needs of the students and the university staff. The Central Cafeteria provides fresh snacks and lunch during class time, so do other private restaurants inside the campus area. University provides bus services for the students, teachers and staff. This service covers area that is even beyond the Rajshahi City Corporation boundary. The Teachers Students Centre at the Shaheed Sukhranjan Somaddar (TSCC) building is also working for of the students. The Central University Library is one of the nation's few open book shelf libraries. The library is very rich with updated books, journals as well as unpublished research documents. The archive section of this library and the Varendra Research Museum Library are often considered as the sources for raw data by national and international researchers. The library is now concentrating on developing its website and e-book facilities for the teachers and the students. Recently the University has inaugurated the Central Career Counseling Centre and the Office of the International Affairs to support the students for future career and for international collaboration. Besides, there are university based cultural clubs, sports clubs, voluntary organizations, study groups, and forums where the students from any department can join as members and enhance their inner skills and develop their social network.

5. Extra-curricular Activities

5.1 English Language Club

Political Science English Language Club, RU (PSELC, RU), for the betterment of students' English language skills and communication, was established on the 26th April 2017. The PSELC is run by its own constitution. There is a strong executive body consisting 35 students headed by the existing Chairman of the Department. The major objective of the club is to be prepared the

students to become more efficient, skillful in reading, writing and presenting in English so that they can enter the global job market and make a bright future after graduation. PSELC focuses on English grammar, writing, group conversation, newspaper reading, English debate and various types of presentation as well. Besides, it also arranges some competitive exams that may help the students prepare for their job-related exams. PSELC continuously conducts two weekly sessions on Sunday and Wednesday around the year. Sessions are run by the teachers of Political Science and the capable students of the club. It has arrangements for guest speakers. There are more than 300 regular and irregular registered members right now in the Language Club. Any student of Political Science is eligible to be a member of the club. Club membership is open for the students from other departments also.

5.2 Career Counseling Club

Recently the Political Science Department Career Counseling Club has been established. Students shall receive different advices and directions for preparing themselves for the job market from this club. The department shall invite regularly experts, motivational leaders, successful alumni of the department placed in government and private positions as guest speakers. Active participation in the club will help the students to decide their life goals and chalk out their plans for job hunting. This club is linked with the Central Career Counseling Centre of the university.

5.3 Debating Society

The Political Science Debating Society has begun its activities very recently. From this platform the debaters of the department shall arrange different types of debate programs and participate in various debate contests arranged nationally and internationally. This society provides a great opportunity to the students of Political Science to nurture their creative minds and sharpen their logical thinking. Discussion and debates on different issues keep them updated about the political happenings around the world. The debating society opens the door to develop dialectical knowledge and the practice of freedom of speech.

5.4 Sports

The Department of Political Science organizes inter-year/ semester sports tournaments (Football and Cricket) every year. Indoor sports tournaments are also organized by the department among students of different sessions. The Football team of the Department of Political Science has already been champion for six times (1996, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2016) in our university. Our students often represent the university in inter-university sports and athletics at the national level.

5.5 Others

Cultural functions are often organized by the department, especially on Pahela Baishak, welcoming of the first year students and farewell to the Masters students. Besides, students participate whole heartedly in organizing the Political Science Alumni Reunion that is held every three year when Alumni Reunion is celebrated. Study tours and picnics are routinely organized. Students of Political Science are also members of different university-based organizations dedicated for social welfare and career development for example Nobojagoron Foundation, Shongbadpatra Pathok Forum, University Debating Society and so on.

6. Political Science Alumni Association

Political Science is one of the oldest departments of the University of Rajshahi. The Department is going to celebrate its sixtieth anniversary (Diamond Jubilee in 2023) very soon. The department is proud of having thousands of alumni among which a good number of them are well placed nationally and internationally as successful civil servants, professors, researchers, bankers,

entrepreneurs, journalists, civil society leaders and even politicians who have excelled themselves as secretaries, parliament members, mayors and ministers. The Alumni Association of the Department of Political Science is pretty strong and is working for the improvement of the department and supporting the students both financially and for network building. The network built between the ex-students and the department act as an important factor in helping the students to reach their cherished careers. Former students from different generations gather, successful alumni are honored, and strong interactions and connections between the present students and the ex-students are boosted up. Often donations are made by the affluent alumni. This helps the needy students to continue their study in the department.

