

CURRICULUM

**MPhil/PhD Program
Under Coursework System**

**SESSION: 2025-2026 and Subsequent Sessions
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE**



**UNIVERSITY OF RAJSHAHI
RAJSHAHI-6205, BANGLADESH**

www.ru.ac.bd/politicalsc/

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

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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

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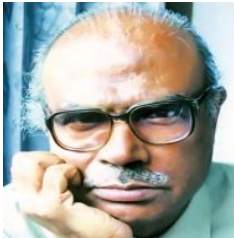
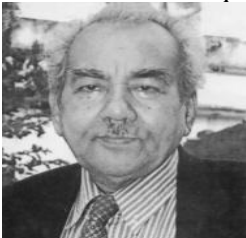
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Prof. Badruddin Umar  25.09.1963 to 26.12. 1968	Prof. Dr. Talukdar Maniruzzaman  27.12. 1968 to 30.09.1973	Prof. Dr. A. N. Shamsul Haque  04.12.1974 to 03.12.1977	Prof. Golum Morshed  04.12.1977 to 03.12.1980
Prof. Md. Abul Fazal Haq  04.12.1980 to 03.12. 1983	Prof. Md. Ayesheuddin  04.12.1983 to 03.12.1986	Prof. M. Shamsur Rahman  04.12.1986 to 03.12.1989	Prof. M. Sadequul 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. Golum 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

PART-A

PROGRAMME PROFILE AND FRAMEWORK

1. Title of the Academic Programme: Master of Philosophy (MPhil)/ Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Political 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 Programme Offering Entity (POE): Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi

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

The Department of Political Science aspires to be a centre of excellence in advanced political science education and research, nurturing independent, ethical, innovative and globally engaged researchers capable of generating original knowledge and contributing to the understanding and resolution of complex political, governance and societal challenges at national, regional and global levels.

7. Mission of the Programme Offering Entity (POE): The Department of Political Science is committed to achieving its vision through the following missions:

POE-M1: To provide advanced, research-oriented education in Political Science through a rigorous and outcome-based MPhil/PhD curriculum integrating contemporary theories, concepts, methodological approaches and emerging areas of scholarship.

POE-M2: To develop researchers' capacity for critical inquiry, theoretical analysis, independent thinking, problem formulation and evidence-based interpretation of complex political and societal issues.

POE-M3: To strengthen advanced research competence through appropriate qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method approaches, research design, data analysis, academic writing and scholarly communication.

POE-M4: To promote original, ethical and socially relevant research that contributes to the advancement of knowledge in Political Science and addresses national, regional and global challenges.

POE-M5: To foster academic collaboration and knowledge exchange with national and international universities, research institutions, government agencies, development organizations and other relevant stakeholders.

POE-M6: To prepare researchers for meaningful contributions to academia, research, policy, governance, public service and other knowledge-intensive fields while encouraging lifelong scholarly development.

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

The Department of Political Science pursues the following objectives:

POE-O1: To provide advanced and comprehensive knowledge of Political Science through a rigorous, interdisciplinary and outcome-based research degree programme.

POE-O2: To develop researchers' ability to critically examine major theories, concepts, debates and contemporary issues in Political Science.

POE-O3: To develop advanced competence in research design, qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method research, data analysis and interpretation.

POE-O4: To enhance the capacity to identify significant research problems, formulate research questions and develop theoretically and empirically grounded research frameworks.

POE-O5: To cultivate independent, critical and creative thinking for conducting rigorous and original research.

POE-O6: To promote research ethics, academic integrity, responsible scholarship and adherence to professional standards of research.

POE-O7: To develop researchers' competence in scholarly writing, academic presentation, publication and effective dissemination of research findings.

POE-O8: To encourage interdisciplinary, comparative and global perspectives in political and social research.

POE-O9: To strengthen the capacity of researchers to generate knowledge relevant to public policy, governance, democracy, development and other contemporary societal challenges.

9. Name of the Degree: Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Political Science/ Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Political Science

10. Description of the Programme:

The MPhil and PhD in Political Science are research-oriented postgraduate degree programmes offered by the Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi. The programmes are designed to develop advanced disciplinary knowledge, methodological competence, critical inquiry, independent research capacity and scholarly communication skills necessary for conducting rigorous research in Political Science and related fields. The programmes consist of coursework followed by thesis/dissertation research. The coursework component is conducted under an annual system over a normal period of 12 months and carries 300 marks. The prescribed coursework comprises nine courses, of which Research Methodology (Course Code: 0312-601) is compulsory, while candidates select two courses from the remaining eight optional courses. Each course carries 100 marks, and the qualifying mark is 45 in each course.

The coursework is designed to provide advanced theoretical, conceptual and methodological preparation for subsequent independent research. It encompasses areas including research methodology, comparative politics, theories of Political Science, Bangladesh politics, Bangladesh's relations with neighbouring countries, local government, genocide studies, constitutional studies and international politics. The programme places particular emphasis on the ability to identify and formulate significant research problems, critically engage with existing scholarship, develop appropriate research designs, analyse empirical evidence, apply relevant methodological approaches, and communicate research findings through scholarly writing and academic presentations.

Following successful completion of coursework, candidates proceed to thesis/dissertation research under an authorized supervisor and/or supervisor and co-supervisor(s), in accordance with the rules and regulations of

the University. MPhil candidates are required to offer at least one seminar, while PhD candidates are required to offer at least two seminars; an additional seminar is required in the case of conversion from MPhil to PhD. The programmes emphasize on advanced knowledge, critical thinking, research competence, originality, ethical scholarship, academic communication, interdisciplinary engagement and contribution to knowledge.

11. Researcher Attributes: The Department of Political Science is committed to developing researchers who possess the advanced knowledge, intellectual capabilities, methodological competence, ethical values and scholarly skills required for high-quality independent research. The MPhil/PhD researchers are expected to demonstrate the following attributes:

RA1. Advanced Disciplinary Knowledge: Demonstrate comprehensive and advanced knowledge of major theories, concepts, debates and contemporary developments in Political Science and related disciplines.

RA2. Critical and Analytical Thinking: Critically examine complex political and social issues, evaluate competing theoretical perspectives and interpret evidence through rigorous analytical reasoning.

RA3. Research and Methodological Competence: Demonstrate advanced competence in research design and the appropriate application of qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method approaches.

RA4. Independent and Original Inquiry: Identify significant research problems, formulate appropriate research questions and conduct independent research capable of generating original insights and knowledge.

RA5. Scholarly Communication: Communicate research ideas and findings effectively through academic writing, presentations, seminars, publications and other scholarly platforms.

RA6. Research Ethics and Integrity: Demonstrate honesty, integrity, transparency, responsible conduct of research and respect for academic and intellectual property standards.

RA7. Digital and Data Competence: Use appropriate digital technologies, databases, statistical and analytical tools, and other research resources effectively and responsibly.

RA8. Interdisciplinary and Global Perspective: Engage with interdisciplinary perspectives and national, regional and global scholarship to understand complex political and societal problems.

RA9. Academic Collaboration and Leadership: Demonstrate the ability to collaborate with scholars and institutions and contribute constructively to academic and research communities.

RA10. Social and Policy Relevance: Generate and communicate research-based knowledge that can contribute to public policy, governance, democratic development and broader societal advancement.

12. Programme Educational Objectives (PEOs): Within a reasonable period after completion of the programme, graduates of the MPhil/PhD in Political Science are expected to:

PEO1: Demonstrate advanced and comprehensive knowledge of Political Science and its major theoretical, conceptual and methodological traditions.

PEO2: Conduct independent, rigorous and ethically responsible research addressing significant political, governance and societal issues.

PEO3: Apply appropriate research methodologies and analytical techniques to generate credible, evidence-based and original findings.

PEO4: Produce and communicate high-quality scholarly work through theses/dissertations, academic presentations, publications and other appropriate research outputs.

PEO5: Contribute to the advancement of knowledge in Political Science and related fields through original and intellectually rigorous research.

PEO6: Apply research knowledge and expertise to academic, policy, governance, public service and other knowledge-intensive contexts.

PEO7: Continue lifelong scholarly learning and contribute to national, regional and global academic and intellectual communities.

13. Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs): Upon successful completion of the MPhil/PhD programme, graduates will be able to:

PLO1. Advanced Knowledge: Demonstrate advanced and comprehensive knowledge of major theories, concepts, debates and contemporary developments in Political Science.

PLO2. Critical Analysis: Critically evaluate complex political phenomena, theoretical arguments, existing scholarship and competing perspectives using rigorous analytical reasoning.

PLO3. Research Problem Formulation: Identify significant research problems, formulate appropriate research questions and develop theoretically informed research frameworks.

PLO4. Research Methodology: Select and apply appropriate qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method research approaches to investigate complex political and social problems.

PLO5. Data Analysis and Interpretation: Collect, manage, analyse and interpret empirical evidence using appropriate analytical, statistical and digital tools.

PLO6. Independent and Original Research: Conduct independent, systematic and ethically responsible research capable of producing original findings and contributing to existing knowledge.

PLO7. Scholarly Communication: Communicate research findings effectively through academic writing, presentations, seminars, publications and other scholarly forms.

PLO8. Research Ethics and Integrity: Demonstrate academic integrity, ethical research practices, **responsible scholarship and respect for intellectual property and research participants.**

PLO9. Interdisciplinary and Global Engagement: Integrate interdisciplinary perspectives and critically engage with national, regional and global scholarship and political issues.

PLO10. Knowledge and Societal Contribution: Apply and disseminate research-based knowledge in ways that contribute to academic scholarship, public policy, governance and broader societal development.

14. Mapping of University Mission with PEOs

University Mission / PEOs	PEO1	PEO2	PEO3	PEO4	PEO5	PEO6	PEO7
UM1: To ensure a world-class curriculum with talented academicians and conducive academic and research environment for generation and dissemination of knowledge.	3	3	3	3	3	1	3
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.	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
UM3: To develop strategic partnerships with leading national and international universities and organizations for academic as well as research collaborations.	2	2	1	3	3	3	3

3 = Strong Contribution | 2 = Moderate Contribution | 1 = Introductory Contribution

15. Mapping of PEOs with PLOs:

PEOs / PLOs	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
PEO1	✓	✓							✓	
PEO2		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
PEO3		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
PEO4					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
PEO5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
PEO6		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PEO7	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

16. Mapping of PLOs with Courses

Course Code	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
0312-601	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3
0312-602	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	3	3
0312-603	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	3	3
0312-604	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	3	3
0312-605	3	3	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	3
0312-606	3	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	3
0312-607	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	3	3	3
0312-608	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	3
0312-609	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	3	3

3 = Strong Contribution | 2 = Moderate Contribution | 1 = Introductory Contribution

PART-B

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS AND PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

1. Nature and Structure of the Programme

The MPhil and PhD programmes in Political Science of the Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi, comprise two major components:

- a) **Coursework**, and
- b) **Thesis/Dissertation Research**.

The coursework component is designed to provide candidates with advanced theoretical, conceptual and methodological preparation for undertaking independent research. Upon successful completion of the coursework, a candidate proceeds to thesis/dissertation research under an authorized supervisor and/or supervisor and co-supervisor(s), in accordance with the rules of the University.

The MPhil and PhD programmes follow a **common coursework structure**. The distinction between the two degrees is reflected primarily in their respective research, seminar and thesis/dissertation requirements.

2. Academic System and Duration

The MPhil/PhD coursework follows an **annual academic system**, rather than a semester system. The duration of the coursework is **one academic year (12 months)**, corresponding to the academic session **July–June**. But the duration may be relaxed, where necessary, by the Academic Committee of the Department.

Programme Duration

Component	Requirement
Academic System	Annual
Coursework Session	July–June
Normal Coursework Duration	One Year (12 Months)
Coursework Marks	300
Number of Courses Offered	9
Courses Required by a Candidate	3
Marks per Course	100

3. Coursework Structure

The MPhil and PhD programmes follow a **common coursework structure**. The coursework is conducted under the **annual system** and normally extends over **one academic year (12 months)**. Candidates are required to complete **three courses carrying a total of 300 marks**. One course, **Research Methodology (0312-601)**, is compulsory, while candidates select any two courses from the remaining eight optional courses.

Table: Annual Coursework Structure

Course Code	Course Title	Course Status	Marks
0312-601	Research Methodology	Compulsory	100
0312-602	Comparative Politics	Optional	100
0312-603	Theories of Political Science	Optional	100

Course Code	Course Title	Course Status	Marks
0312-604	Bangladesh and Her Neighbors	Optional	100
0312-605	Bangladesh Politics	Optional	100
0312-606	Local Government in Bangladesh	Optional	100
0312-607	Introduction to Genocide Studies	Optional	100
0312-608	The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	Optional	100
0312-609	International Politics	Optional	100

4. Exemption from Coursework

The coursework requirement does not apply to a teacher of the University of Rajshahi who has three years of teaching experience. This provision shall be implemented in accordance with the applicable University rules.

5. Teaching and Learning

The MPhil/PhD coursework employs teaching-learning approaches appropriate to advanced postgraduate, research-oriented education, which may include: lectures; interactive discussions; seminars and presentations; critical reading and scholarly discussion; assignments and research-based tasks; question-and-answer sessions; individual and group academic activities; and other appropriate research-oriented learning activities. For example, the existing Research Methodology course specifies lectures combined with interactive discussion, participatory question-and-answer sessions, reports, and assignments, with both English and Bengali as media of instruction. Detailed teaching-learning strategies for each course shall be specified in the respective Course Outline.

6. Attendance and Participation

Candidates are expected to attend and actively participate in scheduled coursework activities. Attendance and participation requirements, where applicable, shall be governed by relevant University and Department rules and reflected in the assessment strategy of each course.

7. Assessment and Examination

Each prescribed course carries 100 marks. Assessment may include appropriate combinations of continuous assessment, assignments, presentations/seminars, research-based academic work, and a final examination, as determined for each course. For example, the existing Research Methodology course provides 10 marks for attendance, 40 marks for an assignment/research proposal, and 50 marks for the final examination, totaling 100 marks.

8. Qualifying Marks

The qualifying mark is 45 out of 100 in each course. A candidate must obtain at least 45 marks in each of the three courses taken to successfully complete the coursework requirement.

9. Second Examination

A candidate who fails to secure the qualifying mark in any course may be allowed to appear for the examination a second time, with/after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

10. Duration of the Coursework

The normal duration of the coursework is one academic year (12 months). Any relaxation of the prescribed duration requires approval of the Academic Committee of the Department, in accordance with applicable University rules.

11. Successful Completion of Coursework

A candidate is considered to have successfully completed the coursework upon fulfilling the prescribed requirements and obtaining the qualifying mark in each of the three courses taken. Successful completion of coursework is a prerequisite for proceeding to the research phase of the MPhil/PhD programme.

12. Seminar Requirements

A candidate is required to offer at least one seminar for the MPhil degree and two seminars for the PhD degree; for conversion from MPhil to PhD, one additional seminar is required. Seminars provide candidates the opportunity to present research ideas and findings, receive scholarly feedback, and develop academic presentation and research communication skills.

13. Transition from Coursework to Research

Upon successful completion of the coursework, a candidate proceeds to the research phase of the programme, placed under an authorized supervisor and/or supervisor and co-supervisor(s) for dissertation work, continuing and completing the research in accordance with University rules.

14. Supervision and Dissertation/Thesis Research

Following successful completion of coursework, the candidate undertakes independent research under the guidance of an authorized supervisor and/or supervisor and co-supervisor(s). The thesis/dissertation is conducted and completed in accordance with applicable University rules and procedures. The coursework component is thus intended not as an independent qualification but as an academic and methodological foundation for the candidate's subsequent research and thesis/dissertation.

15. Academic and Research Integrity

Candidates are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity, research ethics, and scholarly responsibility throughout coursework and subsequent research, with particular attention to: proper citation and referencing; avoidance of plagiarism; responsible use of academic sources; ethical collection and use of research data; integrity in academic writing; responsible authorship and publication practices; and compliance with relevant University research regulations.

16. Academic Authority and Implementation

The MPhil/PhD coursework is administered by the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Social Science, University of Rajshahi, in accordance with University rules and regulations. Matters requiring academic consideration or approval shall be dealt with by the appropriate academic authority, including the Academic Committee of the Department, where specified in this curriculum. Where this curriculum does not explicitly provide a particular procedural rule, applicable University rules and regulations shall prevail.

PART C: COURSE OUTLINES

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-601: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-601 |
| 2. Course Title | : Research Methodology |
| 3. Course Type | : Compulsory |
| 4. Course Level | : MPhil/PhD (Course Work) |
| 5. Academic Session | : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch |
| 6. Course Teacher | : Dr. Farhat Tasnim, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department |
| 8. Total Marks | : 100 (Class Attendance: 10; Assignment: 40; Final Examination: 50) |
| 9. Duration | : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system |

10. Rationale of the Course:

Research methodology forms the essential methodological foundation for MPhil and PhD candidates undertaking independent, original research in Political Science. This compulsory course prepares candidates to conceptualize research problems, apply appropriate qualitative and quantitative methods, collect and analyze data, and systematically produce a publishable thesis and research papers. As the sole compulsory course of the MPhil/PhD coursework, it equips candidates with the advanced research competence, ethical grounding, and scholarly writing skills required to progress successfully into independent thesis/dissertation research.

11. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To provide candidates with a basic understanding of the underlying concepts of research.
- CO2:** To help candidates develop a better understanding of research design and techniques.
- CO3:** To guide candidates in exploring and examining qualitative and quantitative data.
- CO4:** To familiarize candidates with research terminologies, ethical principles, and challenges, as well as the elements of the research process.
- CO5:** To guide candidates in achieving the research skills and knowledge required for proper citation, bibliography writing, and understanding plagiarism.

12. Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Mapping of CLOs with PLOs: On completion of this course, candidates should be able to:

- CLO1:** Formulate research questions and develop a coherent research design, clearly and precisely identifying and defining research problems and parameters.
- CLO2:** Develop independent thinking for critically analyzing research reports.
- CLO3:** Conduct independent research and produce a research thesis and scholarly publications as requirements for the MPhil or PhD degree.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Given the annual (12-month) structure of the MPhil/PhD coursework, the course content is distributed across the academic year as follows:

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	Writing Research Proposal	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1, CLO3
Month 2	Testing Hypothesis	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1, CLO3
Month 3	Writing Footnotes and Endnotes	Lecture, practical exercise	Quiz	CLO1
Month 4	Preparing Bibliography and Index	Lecture, practical exercise	Practical exercise	CLO1, CLO2
Month 5	Reviewing Literature	Lecture, guided practice	Case-based discussion	CLO1, CLO3
Month 6	Defining and Presenting Concepts	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO1, CLO3
Month 7	Using Theoretical Framework and Preparing a Questionnaire	Lecture, guided practice	Practical exercise	CLO1, CLO2
Month 8	Collecting Data: Interview Techniques, Arranging Focus Group Discussion	Lecture, practical exercise	Reflective note	CLO1
Month 9	Data Analysis	Lecture, practical exercise	Assignment (progress check)	CLO1
Month 10	Report Writing, Thesis Writing	Lecture, guided practice	Assignment (research proposal, 40 marks)	CLO1, CLO2
Month 11	Research Paper Publication	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Month 12	Research Presentation and Defending Thesis; Comprehensive Review	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1 Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment requiring candidates to develop a detailed research proposal. Summative assessment consists of a Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment (Research Proposal)	40
Final Examination	50
Total	100

14.3 Qualifying Mark: 45 out of 100, in accordance with the coursework regulations of the MPhil/PhD Programme.

14.4 Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. Learning Materials

- Abedin, M. Z. (1996). *A Handbook of Research*. Dhaka: Book Syndicate.
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- Berg-Schlosser, D. (2012). *Mixed Methods in Comparative Politics: Principles and Applications*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
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- Bulmer, M. (1984). *Sociological Research Methods: An Introduction*. New Brunswick, USA, and London: Transaction Publishers.
- Bharadwaj, S. (1989). *Case Study Method: Theory and Practice*. New Delhi: National Book Organisation.
- Cohen, L., & Holliday, M. (1982). *Statistics for Social Scientists*. London: Harper and Row Publishers.
- Creswell, J. W., & Plano Clark, V. L. (2011). *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research* (2nd ed.). Los Angeles: SAGE.
- Denzin, N. K., & Lincoln, Y. S. (Eds.). (1994). *Handbook of Qualitative Research*. UK: Sage Publications.
- Ghosh, B. N. (1996). *Scientific Method and Social Research*. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers.
- Good, C. V., & Hatt, P. K. (1981). *Methods in Social Research*. New Delhi: McGraw-Hill.
- Islam, M. F. (2023). *Research in Social Science*. Dhaka: Fairplay Publications.

- Kellstedt, P. M., & Whitten, G. D. (2009). *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- King, G., Keohane, R. O., & Verba, S. (1994). *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Kothari, C. R. (1996). *Research Methodology* (2nd ed.). New Delhi: Wishwa Prakashan.
- Phillips, B. S. (1976). *Social Research: Strategy and Tactics*. New York: Macmillan.
- Polansky, N. A. (Ed.). (1960). *Social Work Research*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Sayer, A. (1992). *Method in Social Science*. London: Routledge.
- Shapiro, I., Smith, R. M., & Masoud, T. E. (Eds.). (2004). *Problems and Methods in the Study of Politics*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Kachigan, S. K. (1991). *Multivariate Statistical Analysis*. New York: Radius Press.
- Smith, C. G., et al. (1976). *Political Research Methods: Foundations and Techniques*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.
- Somekh, B., & Lewin, C. (2005). *Research Methods in the Social Sciences*. New Delhi: Vistaar Publications.
- Thakur, D. (1997). *Research Methodology in Social Science*. New Delhi: Deep & Deep Publications.
- Whyte, W. F. (1984). *Learning from the Field: A Guide from Experience*. USA: Sage Publications.
- Wilkinson, T. S., & Bhandarkar, P. L. (1994). *Methodology and Techniques of Social Research*. Bombay: Himalaya Publishing House.
- Yin, R. K. (2003). *Case Study Research: Design and Methods* (3rd ed.). London: Sage Publications.
- Young, P. V. (1996). *Scientific Social Surveys and Research*. New Delhi: Prentice Hall of India.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-602: COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-602 |
| 2. Course Title | : Comparative Politics |
| 3. Course Type | : Optional |
| 4. Course Level | : MPhil/PhD (Course Work) |
| 5. Academic Session | : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch |
| 6. Course Teacher | : Dr. S.M. Akram Ullah, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department |
| 8. Total Marks | : 100 (Class Attendance: 10; Assignment: 40; Final Examination: 50) |
| 9. Duration | : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system |

10. Rationale of the Course:

Comparative politics provides MPhil/PhD candidates with the analytical tools necessary to critically examine political systems across diverse societal contexts, from traditional to modern, and to understand the theoretical debates surrounding political and economic development. This optional course examines major approaches to comparative political analysis—behaviorism, functional analysis, systems theory, and group theory—alongside theories of development and underdevelopment proposed by Rostow, Huntington, and Neo-Marxist scholars. It equips candidates with an advanced comparative and theoretical toolkit essential for original doctoral-level research on governance, political development, and cross-national political analysis.

11. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To provide a comprehensive understanding of the foundational concepts and significance of comparative politics.
- CO2:** To critically evaluate theoretical approaches to comparative politics, including behaviorism, functional analysis, systems theory, and group theory.
- CO3:** To examine the transition from traditional to modern societies and the political dynamics of each.
- CO4:** To analyze concepts of political and economic development, underdevelopment, and maldevelopment.
- CO5:** To assess principles of good governance and challenges of poor governance using theories of development and underdevelopment.

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

- CLO1:** Critically analyze and compare political systems using various theoretical frameworks, demonstrating deep understanding of comparative methodological approaches.
- CLO2:** Demonstrate thorough understanding of traditional, transitional, and modern societies and how these transitions impact political development.
- CLO3:** Apply political and economic development theories to assess governance structures, identify governance challenges, and propose evidence-based solutions using comparative perspectives.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	Introduction to Comparative Politics	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Month 2	Approaches to Comparative Politics: Behaviorism, Functional Analysis	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Month 3	Approaches to Comparative Politics: System Theory, Group Theory	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1
Month 4	Comparative Analysis Practicum: Applying Approaches to Selected Countries	Guided research exercise	Assignment (progress check)	CLO1
Month 5	Tradition vs. Modernity: Traditional Society	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO2
Month 6	Tradition vs. Modernity: Transitional Society	Lecture, case discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2
Month 7	Tradition vs. Modernity: Modern Society	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2
Month 8	Development and Underdevelopment: Political Development, Economic Development	Lecture, discussion	Assignment (progress check)	CLO3
Month 9	Development and Underdevelopment: Underdevelopment, Maldevelopment	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Month 10	Theories of Development: Rostow's Theory, Huntington's Theory	Lecture, comparative discussion	Assignment (research proposal, 40 marks)	CLO3
Month 11	Theories of Development: Neo-Marxist Theory; Governance Assessment	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Month 12	Comprehensive Review and Synthesis: Comparative Politics Revisited	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1 Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment detailing the candidate's research proposal. Summative assessment consists of a Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment (Research Proposal)	40
Final Examination	50
Total	100

14.3 Qualifying Mark: 45 out of 100, in accordance with the coursework regulations of the MPhil/PhD Programme.

14.4 Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. 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.
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- 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।
- মাহান, মো. আব্দুল। (২০১১)। *তুলনামূলক রাজনীতি ও রাজনীতি বিশ্লেষণ পদ্ধতি*। ঢাকা: নভেল পাবলিশার্স।
- আবুল কাসেম, মোহাম্মদ। (২০২০)। *তুলনামূলক রাজনীতি*। ঢাকা: আলোয়া বুক ডিপো।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-603: THEORIES OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-603
2. Course Title : Theories of Political Science
3. Course Type : Optional
4. Course Level : MPhil/PhD (Course Work)
5. Academic Session : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch
6. Course Teacher : Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
7. Pre-requisite : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department
8. Total Marks : 100 (Class Attendance: 10; Assignment: 40; Final Examination: 50)
9. Duration : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system

10. Rationale of the Course:

An advanced engagement with the theories of political science—from Marxist and elite theory to militarism and feminism—provides MPhil/PhD candidates with the critical and interpretive grounding necessary to situate contemporary political phenomena within broader philosophical and theoretical traditions. This optional course examines rival theoretical frameworks addressing justice, legitimacy, power, and the common good, developing candidates' capacity to critically evaluate competing theoretical arguments and formulate original interpretations. It equips candidates with the theoretical sophistication required for doctoral-level research grounded in the history and philosophy of political thought.

11. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To provide an introduction to the theories of Political Science.
CO2: To examine the meaning and justification of key concepts such as sovereignty, freedom, equality, and rights.
CO3: To explore rival theoretical frameworks—natural law, utilitarianism, egalitarianism, communitarianism, Marxism, feminism, and elitism.
CO4: To develop critical skills for examining and assessing complex theoretical arguments and their strengths and weaknesses.
CO5: To develop the capacity to learn new ideas and approaches and apply them in research.

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

- CLO1:** Demonstrate familiarity with the main ideas of the thinkers and theories covered in the course.
CLO2: Provide an account of the main concepts employed by the thinkers studied.
CLO3: Critically evaluate the strengths and limitations of arguments in political theories and formulate original interpretations of the thinkers and theories studied.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	Marxist Theory: Marx	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Month 2	Marxist Theory: Lenin and Mao Tsetung	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Month 3	Marxist Theory: Trotsky	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1
Month 4	Theories of Federation and Confederation (Part 1)	Lecture, comparative discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 5	Theories of Federation and Confederation (Part 2)	Lecture, comparative discussion	Assignment (progress check)	CLO2, CLO3
Month 6	Max Weber: Theory of Bureaucracy	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO2
Month 7	Militarism: Johnson, Clausewitz	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO3
Month 8	Militarism: Janowitz, Huntington	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Month 9	Elite Theory: Mosca and Pareto	Lecture, discussion	Assignment (research proposal, 40 marks)	CLO3
Month 10	Elite Theory: Michels	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO3
Month 11	Feminism: Gender Inequalities, Gender Violence, Empowerment	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Month 12	Comprehensive Review and Synthesis: Theories of Political Science Revisited	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1) Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment. Summative assessment consists of a three-hour written Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment	40
Final Examination (3 hours)	50
Total	100

14.3) Qualifying Marks (Component-wise):

Candidates must obtain a minimum of 45 marks (45%) overall to pass the course, with the following minimum thresholds required in each component:

- Class Attendance: minimum 5%
- Assignment: minimum 15%
- Final Examination: minimum 25%

14.4) Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. Learning Materials

- Bloom, A. (1987). Jean-Jacques Rousseau. In L. Strauss & J. Cropsey (Eds.), *History of Political Philosophy* (2nd ed.). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Boucher, D. (2003). Rousseau. In D. Boucher & P. Kelly (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.
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- Gettell, R. G. (1965). *History of Political Thought*. Baltimore: Penguin Books.
- Hallowell, J. H. (1963). *Main Currents in Modern Political Thought*. New York: Holt.
- Lancaster, L. W. (1971). *Masters of Political Thought*. London: Harrap.
- Lindsay, A. D. (1969). *The Modern Democratic State*. New York: Oxford University Press.
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- Skoble, A. J., & Machan, T. R. (2007). *Political Philosophy: Essential Selections*. New Delhi: Pearson Education.
- Vaughan, C. E. (1960). *Studies in the History of Political Philosophy*. New York: Russell & Russell.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-604: BANGLADESH AND HER NEIGHBORS

Part A: Course Overview

1. **Course Code** : 0312-604
2. **Course Title** : Bangladesh and Her Neighbors
3. **Course Type** : Optional
4. **Course Level** : MPhil/PhD (Course Work)
5. **Academic Session** : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch
6. **Course Teacher** : Muhammad Mahmudur Rahman, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
7. **Pre-requisite** : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department
8. **Total Marks** : 100 (Class Attendance: 10; Assignment: 40; Final Examination: 50)
9. **Duration** : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system

10. Rationale of the Course:

Bangladesh's political, economic, and social trajectory is deeply intertwined with its South Asian neighbors, making an advanced understanding of regional relations essential for MPhil/PhD candidates pursuing original research in foreign policy, regional studies, or comparative governance. This optional 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. It equips candidates with the historical depth and analytical rigor necessary to critically investigate regional cooperation, tension, and Bangladesh's evolving strategic position within South Asia.

11. 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.

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

- CLO1:** Recognize and assess 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:** Investigate the international significance of developments in Bangladesh and its neighboring countries using disciplinary approaches to analyze contemporary knowledge of Bangladesh and the wider region.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	Neighborhood Policy of Different Governments in Bangladesh (Part 1)	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Month 2	Neighborhood Policy of Different Governments in Bangladesh (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Month 3	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-I: India	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO2, CLO3
Month 4	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-I: Myanmar	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 5	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-I: Nepal	Lecture, discussion	Assignment (progress check)	CLO2, CLO3
Month 6	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-II: Pakistan	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO2, CLO3
Month 7	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-II: Sri Lanka	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2, CLO3
Month 8	Bangladesh and Her Neighbor-II: Bhutan	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 9	Bilateral Issues: Land and Maritime Boundary Issues, Water-Sharing	Lecture, case discussion	Assignment (research proposal, 40 marks)	CLO3
Month 10	Bilateral Issues: Blue Economy, Cross-Border Terrorism	Lecture, case discussion	Oral questioning	CLO3
Month 11	Bilateral Issues: Migration, Trafficking and Smuggling	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO3
Month 12	Comprehensive Review and Synthesis: Bangladesh and Her Neighbors Revisited	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1 Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment. Summative assessment consists of a three-hour written Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment	40
Final Examination (3 hours)	50
Total	100

14.3 Qualifying Marks (Component-wise):

Candidates must obtain a minimum of 45 marks (45%) overall to pass the course, with the following minimum thresholds required in each component:

- Class Attendance: minimum 7 marks
- Assignment: minimum 15 marks
- Final Examination: minimum 23 marks

14.4 Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. 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.
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- 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 0312-605: BANGLADESH POLITICS

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-605
- 2. Course Title** : Bangladesh Politics
- 3. Course Type** : Optional
- 4. Course Level** : MPhil/PhD (Course Work)
- 5. Academic Session** : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch
- 6. Course Teacher** : Dr. S.M. Razy, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
- 7. Pre-requisite** : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department
- 8. Total Marks** : 100 (Class Attendance: 10; Assignment: 40; Final Examination: 50)
- 9. Duration** : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system

10. Rationale of the Course:

Bangladesh's political trajectory since its emergence as an independent state in 1971 has been marked by significant constitutional changes, shifting regimes, and an evolving struggle for democratic consolidation. This optional MPhil/PhD course provides candidates with an advanced, research-oriented analysis of these constitutional and political transformations, examining the constitutional process, the working of the parliamentary system, elections, and political parties. It equips candidates with the critical and analytical depth necessary to undertake original doctoral-level research on Bangladesh's political institutions, governance challenges, and democratic development.

11. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To provide candidates with advanced knowledge of political institutions in the context of Bangladesh.
- CO2:** To explain the political and governmental policies, processes, and procedures relating to Bangladesh's politics and society.
- CO3:** To devise ways of strengthening the governmental system to consolidate democracy.
- CO4:** To identify the problems existing in the politics of Bangladesh.

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

- CLO1:** Demonstrate, in both oral and written forms, knowledge and understanding of political and governmental policies to make sense of current events and contribute to political debates.
- CLO2:** Differentiate between the strengths and weaknesses of Bangladesh's political institutions.
- CLO3:** Apply acquired knowledge to explain and illustrate issues related to Bangladesh's politics, as a foundation for original research.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	The Emergence of Bangladesh: Pre-Independence Consciousness about Nation, Culture, Economy and Policy	Lecture, interactive discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Month 2	Constitutional Processes in Bangladesh: Politics of Constitution-Making; Salient Features of the Constitution	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Month 3	Constitutional Processes (continued): Fundamental Principles and Fundamental Rights	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1
Month 4	Constitutional Processes (continued): Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO1
Month 5	Constitutional Processes (continued): Constitutional Amendments	Lecture, case discussion	Assignment (progress check)	CLO1
Month 6	Political Processes: Initial Crisis (1972–74); "Second Revolution" and Fall of the Awami League Regime	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO1, CLO2
Month 7	Political Processes (continued): The Military Regime (1975–79); The BNP Regime and Its Fall	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO1, CLO2
Month 8	Political Processes (continued): The Ershad Regime and Politics	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO1, CLO2
Month 9	Elections in Bangladesh: Issues and Verdicts	Lecture, case discussion	Assignment (research proposal, 40 marks)	CLO2, CLO3
Month 10	Political Parties: Organizations, Leadership, Bases of Support	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2, CLO3
Month 11	Political Parties (continued): Ideologies and Programs; Religion in Bangladesh Politics	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 12	Comprehensive Review and Synthesis: Bangladesh Politics Revisited	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1 Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment requiring candidates to develop a detailed research proposal. Summative assessment consists of a Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment (Research Proposal)	40
Final Examination	50
Total	100

14.3 Qualifying Mark: 45 out of 100, in accordance with the coursework regulations of the MPhil/PhD Programme.

14.4 Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. Learning Materials

- 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.
- Ahmed, M. (2012). *Bangladesh: A Study of the Democratic Regimes*. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
- Akhtar, M. Y. (1991). *Electoral Corruption in Bangladesh*. England: Ashgate Publishing Limited.
- Chakravarty, S. R. (Ed.). (1995). *Bangladesh under Mujib, Zia and Ershad*. New Delhi: Har-Anand.
- Choudhury, D. (1994). *Constitutional Development in Bangladesh*. Karachi: Oxford University Press.
- Hakim, M. A. (1993). *Bangladesh Politics: The Shahabuddin Interregnum*. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
- Harun, S. H. (1984). *Parliamentary Behavior in a Multi-National State, 1947–58: Bangladesh Experience*. Dhaka: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh.
- Hasanuzzaman, A. M., & Alam, S. (Eds.). *Political Management in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: AH Development Publishing House.
- Hasanuzzaman, A. M. (1998). *Role of Opposition in Bangladesh Politics*. Dhaka: University Press Limited.
- Huq, A. F. (2011). *Bangladesh Politics: The Problem of Stability*. Dhaka: Hakkani Publishers.
- Jahan, R. (1972). *Pakistan: Failure in National Integration*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Jahan, R. (1987). *Bangladesh Politics: Problems and Issues*. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.

Khan, M. S. (Ed.). *Politics and Stability in Bangladesh: Problems and Prospects*. Dhaka: Jahangirnagar University.

Maniruzzaman, T. (1988). *Bangladesh Revolution and Its Aftermath*. Dhaka: University Press Limited.

Mannan, M. A. (2005). *Elections and Democracy in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: Academic Press.

Riaz, A. (2012). *Inconvenient Truths about Bangladeshi Politics*. Dhaka: Prothoma Prokashan.

Ziring, L. (1994). *Bangladesh from Mujib to Ershad: An Interpretive Study*. Dhaka: University Press Limited.

হক, আবুল ফজল। (১৯৯৪)। *বাংলাদেশের রাজনীতি: সংঘাত ও পরিবর্তন*। রাজশাহী: রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় প্রকাশনা বোর্ড।

হক, আবুল ফজল। (২০১৩)। *বাংলাদেশের শাসনব্যবস্থা ও রাজনীতি*। ঢাকা: অন্যান্য প্রকাশনী।

হক, আবুল ফজল। (২০০৭)। *বাংলাদেশের রাজনীতি: সংস্কৃতির স্বরূপ*। ঢাকা: অন্যান্য প্রকাশনী।

হাসানুজ্জামান, আল মাসুদ। (২০০৯)। *বাংলাদেশে সংসদীয় গণতন্ত্র ও গভর্ন্যান্স: ১৯৯১-২০০৭*। ঢাকা: দ্য ইউনিভার্সিটি প্রেস লিমিটেড।

মাম্মান, মো. আব্দুল। (২০০৩)। *বাংলাদেশে গণতন্ত্র: সমস্যা ও সম্ভাবনা*। ঢাকা: আফসার ব্রাদার্স।

রহমান, মো. মকসুদুর। (২০১৫)। *স্বাধীন বাংলাদেশের অভ্যুদয়ের ইতিহাস*। ঢাকা: আলো বুক ডিপো।

মাহমুদ, সুলতান। (২০২০)। *বাংলাদেশের দলীয় রাজনীতি*। ঢাকা: অবসর প্রকাশনা সংস্থা।

নুরুল্লাহ, মুহাম্মদ। (২০২২)। *স্বদেশ সন্দর্শন*। রাজশাহী: পৃথিবী প্রকাশনী।

রহমান, মো. আমিনুর। (২০২১)। *বাংলাদেশে আইন প্রণয়ন প্রক্রিয়া*। ঢাকা: সূচয়নী পাবলিশার্স, বাংলাবাজার।

আমিন, মো. রুহুল। *বাংলায় হিন্দু-মুসলিম সম্পর্ক (১৭৫৭-১৯১৬)*। রাজশাহী: উত্তরণ অফসেট প্রিন্টিং প্রেস।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-606: LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN BANGLADESH

Part A: Course Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Course Code | : 0312-606 |
| 2. Course Title | : Local Government in Bangladesh |
| 3. Course Type | : Optional |
| 4. Course Level | : MPhil/PhD (Course Work) |
| 5. Academic Session | : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch |
| 6. Course Teacher | : Dr. A.K.M. Mahmudul Haque, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi |
| 7. Pre-requisite | : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department |
| 8. Total Marks | : 100 (Class Attendance: 10; Assignment: 40; Final Examination: 50) |
| 9. Duration | : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system |

10. Rationale of the Course:

Local government constitutes the foundational tier of democratic governance, and an advanced, comparative understanding of its theoretical and institutional dimensions is essential for MPhil/PhD candidates pursuing original research on governance and decentralization. This optional course examines the theoretical foundations, historical growth, and contemporary challenges of local governance in Bangladesh, benchmarked comparatively against the USA, UK, and France. It equips candidates with the critical and comparative depth necessary for doctoral-level research on local governance, decentralization, and institutional reform.

11. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To teach theory-based critical analysis in the study and practice of local governance.
- CO2:** To connect candidates with the functioning of local government at rural and urban levels.
- CO3:** To provide knowledge of Bangladesh's local government system compared with selected developed countries.
- CO4:** To identify problems in local government and local self-government in Bangladesh.
- CO5:** To devise strategies for strengthening local governance and good administration.

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

- CLO1:** Explain the theoretical foundations of local governance and the functioning of local government in Bangladesh as a core governance institution.
- CLO2:** Critically apply theories and concepts to the practice of local governance, differentiating strengths and weaknesses across Bangladesh and selected countries.
- CLO3:** Demonstrate advanced understanding of current issues in local government, relevant to original research and professional practice.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	Introduction to Local Governance: Meaning, Actors in Local Governance	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Month 2	Theories and Models of Local Government: Liberal-Democratic, Radical Elite, Economic, Marxist Interpretation; Decentralization Theory	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Month 3	Differences between Local Government and Local Self-Government; Central-Local Relationship	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1, CLO2
Month 4	Local Governance in Bangladesh: Historical Growth, Structure, Functions, Reforms	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 5	Leadership Pattern, Election Process, Personnel System (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Assignment (progress check)	CLO2, CLO3
Month 6	Decision-Making Process, Local Government Finance	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO2, CLO3
Month 7	Local-Level Planning, Central Control over Local Bodies	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2, CLO3
Month 8	Comparative Local Government: United States of America	Lecture, comparative discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 9	Comparative Local Government: United Kingdom	Lecture, comparative discussion	Assignment (research proposal, 40 marks)	CLO2, CLO3
Month 10	Comparative Local Government: France	Lecture, comparative discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2, CLO3
Month 11	Comparative Synthesis: Bangladesh and Selected Developed Countries	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 12	Comprehensive Review and Synthesis	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1 Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment requiring candidates to develop a detailed research proposal. Summative assessment consists of a Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment (Research Proposal)	40
Final Examination	50
Total	100

14.3 Qualifying Mark: 45 out of 100, in accordance with the coursework regulations of the MPhil/PhD Programme.

14.4 Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. Learning Materials

- Abedin, N. (1973). *Local Administration and Politics in Modernizing Societies: Bangladesh and Pakistan*. Dhaka: Oxford University Press.
- Abul Barkat, et al. (2015). *Local Governance and Decentralization: Politics and Economics*. Dhaka: Pathak Shamabesh.
- Cheema, G. S., & Rondinelli, D. A. (Eds.). (2007). *Decentralizing Governance: Emerging Concepts and Practices*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press.
- Chowdhury, S., & Panday, P. K. (2018). *Strengthening Local Governance in Bangladesh: Reforms, Participation and Accountability*. Springer.
- Ehsan, S. M. A. (2021). The Local Government System in Bangladesh: An Anatomy of Perspectives & Practices. *South Asian Journal of Policy and Governance*, 44(2), 1–22.
- Haque, A. K. M. M., & Ullah, S. M. A. (2019). Crises of Governance in Governing Union Parishad of Bangladesh. *Bangladesh Society for Training and Development Journal*, 27(1).
- Khan, M. M. (2011). *Local Government in Bangladesh: Some Contemporary Issues and Practices*. Dhaka: A. H. Development Publishing House.
- Panday, P. K. (2011). Local Government System in Bangladesh: How Far Is It Decentralized? *Lex Localis*, 9(3), 205–230.
- Siddiqui, K. (2005). *Local Government in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: University Press Limited.
- রহমান, মো. মকসুদুর। (২০১৯)। *বাংলাদেশের স্থানীয় স্বায়ত্তশাসন*। ঢাকা: অবসর।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-607: INTRODUCTION TO GENOCIDE STUDIES

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-607
2. Course Title : Introduction to Genocide Studies
3. Course Type : Optional
4. Course Level : MPhil/PhD (Course Work)
5. Academic Session : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch
6. Course Teacher : Dr. Md. Sultan Mahmud, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
7. Pre-requisite : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department
8. Total Marks : 100 (Class Attendance and Assignment-Based Continuous Assessment: 50; Final Examination: 50)
9. Duration : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system

10. Rationale of the Course:

Genocide represents one of the darkest chapters of human history, and its rigorous, interdisciplinary study is essential for MPhil/PhD candidates seeking to critically understand mass violence, its perpetration, and its prevention. This optional course examines the origins, dynamics, and impacts of genocide globally, with particular focus on the Bangladesh Liberation War, alongside themes of human rights, prevention, memory, and justice. It develops candidates' capacity for original, ethically engaged research and advocacy on genocide and mass atrocity prevention.

11. 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.

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

- CLO1:** Apply knowledge to commemorate, advocate against, or contribute to preventing genocide.
CLO2: Develop empathy for victims/targets of genocide.
CLO3: Demonstrate respect for diversity, common humanity, and justice while critically analyzing the role of power in genocide perpetration and prevention.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	Understanding Genocide	Lecture, discussion	Reflection journal	CLO1
Month 2	Historical Case Studies: Bangladesh Perspectives (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Reflection journal	CLO2
Month 3	Historical Case Studies: Bangladesh Perspectives (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Individual essay	CLO2
Month 4	Genocide and the Liberation War of Bangladesh (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Genocide concept map (progress)	CLO2
Month 5	Genocide and the Liberation War of Bangladesh (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Genocide concept map (progress)	CLO2
Month 6	Genocide and Human Rights: Causes and Dynamics	Lecture, discussion	Dialogue session	CLO3
Month 7	Prevention and Intervention	Lecture, case discussion	Dialogue session	CLO3
Month 8	Memory, Justice, and Reconciliation (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Action project (progress)	CLO3
Month 9	Memory, Justice, and Reconciliation (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Action project (progress)	CLO3
Month 10	Contemporary Issues (Part 1)	Lecture, discussion	Action project (progress)	CLO3
Month 11	Contemporary Issues (Part 2)	Lecture, discussion	Action project (submission)	CLO3
Month 12	Comprehensive Review and Synthesis	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1 Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment requiring candidates to develop a detailed research proposal. Summative assessment consists of a Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment (Research Proposal)	40
Final Examination	50
Total	100

14.3 Qualifying Mark: 45 out of 100, in accordance with the coursework regulations of the MPhil/PhD Programme.

14.4 Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. Learning Materials

- Andreopoulos, G. J. (1997). *Genocide: Conceptual and Historical Dimensions*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
- Afroz, T. (2019). *Trials of 1971 Bangladesh Genocide*. Singapore: Partridge Publishing.
- Bloxham, D., & Moses, A. D. (Eds.). (2010). *The Oxford Handbook of Genocide Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Boender, B., & Üngör, U. M. (2012). *The Holocaust and Other Genocides*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- Chaudhuri, K. (1972). *Genocide in Bangladesh*. Bombay: Orient Longman.
- Jones, A. (2023). *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction* (4th ed.). London: Routledge.
- Koursami, N. (2018). *The "Contextual Elements" of the Crime of Genocide*. Springer.
- Novic, E. (2016). *The Concept of Cultural Genocide*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Odello, M., & Łubiński, P. (2020). *The Concept of Genocide in International Criminal Law*. London: Routledge.
- Schaller, D. J., & Zimmerer, J. (Eds.). (2013). *The Origins of Genocide*. London: Routledge.
- Shaw, M. (2015). *What Is Genocide?* (2nd ed.). Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Van Der Wilt, H., Vervliet, J., Sluiter, G., & ten Cate, J. H. (2012). *The Genocide Convention*. Leiden: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers.
- Weiss-Wendt, A., et al. (2008). *The Historiography of Genocide*. Springer.

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-608: CONSTITUTION AND LEGISLATIVE PROCESS OF BANGLADESH

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-608
2. Course Title : Constitution and Legislative Process of Bangladesh
3. Course Type : Optional
4. Course Level : MPhil/PhD (Course Work)
5. Academic Session : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch
6. Course Teacher : Dr. S.M. Mokhlasur Rahman, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
7. Pre-requisite : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department
8. Total Marks : 100 (Class Attendance: 10; Assignment: 40; Final Examination: 50)
9. Duration : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system

10. Rationale of the Course:

The Constitution of Bangladesh, as the supreme law of the land, provides the foundational legal and institutional framework for the country's executive, legislature, and judiciary. This optional course offers MPhil/PhD candidates an advanced, research-oriented examination of the constitution's formulation, fundamental principles, constitutional amendments, and the independent institutions established under it, equipping candidates for doctoral-level research in constitutional law, governance, and Bangladesh politics.

11. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To explore the composition, functions, and jurisdictions of the executive, legislature, and judiciary.
CO2: To familiarize candidates with Bangladesh's political and constitutional development.
CO3: To provide theoretical and applied knowledge of the structure and role of government in Bangladesh.
CO4: To build a strong foundation in constitutional principles and articles for advanced academic and professional application.

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

- CLO1:** Engage in academic debate and discussion on issues regarding the Bangladesh Constitution and Government.
CLO2: Apply knowledge of constitutional and political development since Bangladesh's inception, evaluating the contributions of different regimes.
CLO3: Apply knowledge to analyze power and citizens' rights, relevant to original research and professional practice.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	Constitution-Making Process: Preamble, Main Features	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Month 2	Directive Principles of State Policy; Fundamental Rights and Duties	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Month 3	Amendment Procedure, Caretaker Government, Major Amendments, Oath, Schedules	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1
Month 4	The Executive: The President – Election, Powers, Impeachment	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO1, CLO2
Month 5	The Executive: Prime Minister, Cabinet, Council of Ministers	Lecture, discussion	Assignment (progress check)	CLO1, CLO2
Month 6	The Executive: Ordinance-Making Power, Emergency Provisions	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO1, CLO2
Month 7	The Legislature: Jatiya Sangsad Composition, Powers and Functions	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO1, CLO2
Month 8	The Legislature: Legislation, Delegated Legislation, Law-Making Procedure	Lecture, discussion	Assignment (research proposal, 40 marks)	CLO1, CLO2
Month 9	The Judiciary: Supreme Court – Powers, Appointment, Tenure, Removal of Judges	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO2, CLO3
Month 10	The Judiciary: Subordinate Courts, Rule of Law	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO2, CLO3
Month 11	Constitutional Bodies: Election Commission, Attorney-General, CAG, PSC, Information Commission, Human Rights Commission, ACC, Administrative Tribunal, International War Crimes Tribunal	Lecture, case discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 12	Comprehensive Review and Synthesis	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1 Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment requiring candidates to develop a detailed research proposal. Summative assessment consists of a Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment (Research Proposal)	40
Final Examination	50
Total	100

14.3 Qualifying Mark: 45 out of 100, in accordance with the coursework regulations of the MPhil/PhD Programme.

14.4 Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. Learning Materials

- Ahmed, N. (2000). *Parliament and Public Spending in Bangladesh: Limits and Control*. Dhaka: Bangladesh Institute of Parliamentary Studies (BIPS).
- Ahmed, N. (2002). *The Parliament of Bangladesh*. Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing Limited.
- Ahmed, N. (2012). *Aiding the Parliament of Bangladesh: Experience and Prospect*. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
- Ahmed, N. (2013). *The Bangladesh Parliament: A Data Handbook*. Dhaka: Institute of Governance Studies.
- Chowdhury, D. (1995). *Constitutional Development in Bangladesh: Stresses and Strains*. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
- Firoj, J. (2012). *Democracy in Bangladesh: Conflicting Issues and Conflict Resolution 1991–2001*. Dhaka: Bangla Academy Press.
- Firoj, J. (2013). Forty Years of Bangladesh Parliament: Trends, Achievement and Challenges. *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh (Hum.)*, 58(1), 83–128.
- GOB. (2011). *The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh* (as amended up to 2011). Dhaka: Government Printing Press.
- Halim, A. *Constitutional Law and Politics: Bangladesh Perspective*.
- Huq, A. F. (1973). Constitution Making in Bangladesh. *Pacific Affairs*, 46(1), 59–76.
- Huq, A. F. (2011). *Bangladesh Politics: The Problem of Stability*. Dhaka: Hakkani Publishers.
- Mannan, M. A. (2005). *Elections and Democracy in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: Academic Press.
- মাহমুদ, সুলতান। (২০২১)। *বাংলাদেশ সংবিধান: প্রেক্ষিত এবং প্রাসঙ্গিকতা*। ঢাকা: আলোয়া বুক ডিপো।
- নুরুল্লাহ, মুহাম্মদ। (২০২২)। *স্বদেশ সন্দর্শন*। রাজশাহী: পৃথিবী প্রকাশনী।

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE 0312-609: INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

Part A: Course Overview

- 1. Course Code** : 0312-609
2. Course Title : International Politics
3. Course Type : Optional
4. Course Level : MPhil/PhD (Course Work)
5. Academic Session : To be notified according to the academic calendar of the concerned batch
6. Course Teacher : Dr. Bibi Morium, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Rajshahi
7. Pre-requisite : Enrolled in the MPhil/PhD Programme as per the rules of the University and the Department
8. Total Marks : 100 (Class Attendance: 10; Assignment: 40; Final Examination: 50)
9. Duration : One academic year (12 months), under the annual coursework system

10. Rationale of the Course:

International politics remains a dynamic and theoretically rich field central to understanding global power, conflict, and cooperation. This optional course introduces MPhil/PhD candidates to classical and contemporary theories of international politics, major historical and thematic issues, and the foreign policy and diplomacy of influential states, including Bangladesh. It equips candidates with the theoretical grounding and critical insight necessary to pursue original doctoral-level research in international politics, foreign policy analysis, and global governance.

11. Course Objectives (CO):

- CO1:** To familiarize candidates with the concepts and theories of international politics.
CO2: To develop understanding of the dynamics and issues of contemporary international politics.
CO3: To develop critical analysis of key ideas and forces shaping international politics.
CO4: To guide candidates toward future research insights in international politics.

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

- CLO1:** Demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical traditions in international politics.
CLO2: Develop new ideas related to key debates and contemporary issues in international politics.
CLO3: Develop independent and methodical thinking for identifying areas and issues for future research in international politics.

12.1 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

13. Course Plan Satisfying Content, CLOs, and Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategy with CLOs

Month	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
Month 1	Approaches to International Politics: Realism, Neo-Realism	Lecture, discussion	Class participation	CLO1
Month 2	Approaches (continued): Decision-Making Theory, Systems Theory, Communication Theory	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1
Month 3	Approaches (continued): Dependency Theory, Post-Colonialism, International Ethics	Lecture, discussion	Quiz	CLO1
Month 4	Important Historical Issues: Cold War, Balance of Power, Polarity	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO1, CLO2
Month 5	Historical Issues (continued): Deterrence, Détente, Disarmament, Long Wars	Lecture, discussion	Assignment (progress check)	CLO1, CLO2
Month 6	Major Thematic Issues: Peace and Security, Human Rights	Lecture, discussion	Short written test	CLO1, CLO2
Month 7	Thematic Issues (continued): Power and Global Governance, Trade, Finance, Development, Non-State Actors	Lecture, discussion	Reflective note	CLO1, CLO2
Month 8	Contemporary Issues: Neo-Colonialism, Globalization, Energy Politics	Lecture, discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO2, CLO3
Month 9	Contemporary Issues (continued): Environment, Refugee Crisis, Terrorism, Digital Revolution, Pandemic	Lecture, discussion	Assignment (research proposal, 40 marks)	CLO2, CLO3
Month 10	Controls of Inter-State Relations: Collective Security, International Organizations, Regionalism	Lecture, discussion	Oral questioning	CLO1, CLO2
Month 11	Foreign Policy: Determinants, Diplomacy; Bangladesh, UK, USA, Russia, India	Lecture, comparative discussion	Case-based discussion	CLO1, CLO3
Month 12	Comprehensive Review and Synthesis	Seminar presentation, review	Comprehensive review / Final Examination	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Part C: Assessment and Evaluation

14. Assessment and Evaluation

14.1 Assessment Strategy:

Candidate learning will be assessed through a combination of continuous and summative assessment. Continuous assessment comprises class attendance and participation throughout the academic year, and a substantial assignment requiring candidates to develop a detailed research proposal. Summative assessment consists of a Final Examination covering the theoretical content of the course, assessing candidates' cumulative achievement of the CLOs.

14.2 Marks Distribution:

Component	Marks
Class Attendance	10
Assignment (Research Proposal)	40
Final Examination	50
Total	100

14.3 Qualifying Mark: 45 out of 100, in accordance with the coursework regulations of the MPhil/PhD Programme.

14.4 Make-up Procedures:

Candidates who miss the assignment submission or the final 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, as per Departmental and University rules. Candidates who fail to secure the qualifying mark may appear for a second examination after six months, subject to applicable University and Department rules.

Part D: Learning Materials

15. Learning Materials

- Basu, R. (Ed.). (2012). *International Politics: Concepts, Theories and Issues*. New Delhi: SAGE Publications.
- Baylis, J., Smith, S., & Owens, P. (Eds.). (2014). *The Globalization of World Politics* (6th ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Brown, G. W., McLean, I., & McMillan, A. (2018). *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics and International Relations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Haider, J. (2006). *Changing Pattern of Bangladesh Foreign Policy: A Comparative Study of the Mujib and Zia Regime*. Dhaka: University Press Limited.
- Holsti, K. J. (1995). *International Politics*. New Delhi: Prentice Hall of India.
- Kaplan, M. (2005). *System and Process in International Politics*. Colchester: ECPR Press.
- Morgenthau, H. J., Thompson, K. W., & Clinton, D. (2005). *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace* (19th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Rourke, J. T., & Boyer, M. A. (2003). *International Politics on the World Stage, Brief* (5th ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.

PART D

RESEARCHER SUPPORT, DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

1. Research Support Services

1.1 Seminar Library

The Seminar Library of the Department of Political Science holds approximately 3,100 books, in both Bangla and English, directly relevant to the Department's curricula, including dedicated holdings supporting MPhil and PhD research. The library operates daily from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM and accommodates 48 researchers at a time. MPhil/PhD candidates are encouraged to make extensive use of the library's collection throughout their coursework and thesis/dissertation research, subject to the Department's book-issuance rules.

1.2 Computer Lab

The Department maintains a well-equipped Computer Lab with 32 desktop computers, supporting research, data analysis, and thesis/dissertation writing. The lab operates from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM with a full-time Lab Assistant, and MPhil/PhD candidates may access the facility in coordination with the Department's scheduling arrangements.

1.3 Central University Library and Research Archives

The Central University Library, one of the nation's few open-book-shelf libraries, offers an extensive and continually updated collection of books, journals, and unpublished research documents, including theses and dissertations. Its archive section, together with the Varendra Research Museum Library, serves as a valuable primary-source repository for national and international researchers. The University Library continues to expand its e-book and digital resource facilities, which are of particular value to MPhil/PhD researchers conducting literature reviews and archival research.

1.4 Research Supervision and Seminar Support

Following successful completion of coursework, each MPhil/PhD candidate is placed under an authorized supervisor and/or supervisor and co-supervisor(s), who provide sustained academic guidance throughout the thesis/dissertation phase. The Department facilitates the seminar requirements of the programme—at least one seminar for MPhil candidates and two for PhD candidates (with an additional seminar required for MPhil-to-PhD conversion)—providing candidates a structured platform to present their research, receive scholarly feedback from faculty and peers, and refine their research design and findings prior to submission.

1.5 Counseling Cell

The Department's Counseling Cell offers consultation on matters related to research progress, academic difficulties, and personal or career-related concerns. MPhil/PhD candidates may seek an appointment with the Counseling Committee at Room No. 428(A), during the specified consultation hours.

1.6 Central Career Counseling Centre and Office of International Affairs

The University's Central Career Counseling Centre supports researchers in planning academic and professional career pathways beyond the completion of their degree, while the Office of International Affairs facilitates opportunities for international academic collaboration, exchange, and conference participation—both of direct relevance to MPhil/PhD researchers seeking to build national and international scholarly networks.

2. Academic and Research Integrity Support

2.1 Plagiarism Check and Research Ethics Guidance

In accordance with the Programme's academic and research integrity requirements, the Department provides guidance and, where applicable, institutional plagiarism-detection support to candidates prior to thesis/dissertation submission. Candidates are encouraged to consult their supervisor and the Departmental Academic Committee on matters of citation practice, responsible authorship, and research ethics throughout their coursework and research.

3. Financial Support

3.1 Available Scholarships and Stipends

While the Department's named stipends (including the Professor Golam Morshed Stipend, Professor Dr. Md. Moksuder Rahman Stipend, Professor Dr. Nasima Zaman Stipend, and Azizur Rahman Stipend) are primarily directed toward undergraduate and Masters students, MPhil/PhD candidates are encouraged to explore centrally administered scholarships and research grants offered by the University of Rajshahi authority, the University Grants Commission (UGC), and, where applicable, national and international research funding bodies, private banks, and philanthropic foundations. Each scholarship or grant carries its own eligibility conditions, application procedures, and deadlines; candidates are advised to stay informed via the Department notice board, website, and the University website. Details are available at the Department office.

4. Campus Facilities

4.1 General Facilities

MPhil/PhD candidates, as members of the University community, have access to the University of Rajshahi's central medical and mental health services through the Rajshahi University Medical Centre and Mental Health Centre, along with recreational facilities including the central swimming pool, gymnasium, and stadium. On-campus banking services are available through Agrani Bank Limited, Sonali Bank Limited, and a Dutch-Bangla Bank Fast Track counter. The Central Cafeteria and various private restaurants within the campus provide refreshment options, and University bus services connect the campus to Rajshahi city and surrounding areas. The Teacher-Student Centre (TSCC) at the Shaheed Sukharanjan Samaddar Building remains accessible to all University members, including MPhil/PhD researchers.

5. Academic and Intellectual Community

5.1 English Language Club

The Political Science English Language Club, RU (PSELC, RU), established on 26 April 2017, supports the development of English language and academic communication skills through weekly sessions on grammar, writing, group conversation, debate, and presentation. MPhil/PhD researchers, particularly those preparing manuscripts for international publication or presentations at international conferences, are welcome to engage with the Club's activities and guest speaker sessions.

5.2 Debating Society and Cultural Engagement

The Political Science Debating Society and the Department's cultural activities—including Pahela Baishakh celebrations and other academic and cultural functions—provide MPhil/PhD researchers with opportunities to engage in the Department's broader intellectual and cultural community, fostering dialectical thinking, public engagement, and collegial relationships across the Department's academic programmes.

6. Political Science Alumni Association

The Department of Political Science, one of the oldest departments of the University of Rajshahi, maintains a strong and active Alumni Association comprising thousands of graduates across its BSS, MSS, MPhil, and PhD programmes, many of whom are well placed nationally and internationally as civil servants, professors, researchers, bankers, entrepreneurs, journalists, civil society leaders, parliament members, mayors, and ministers. MPhil and PhD graduates are especially encouraged to remain engaged with the Association, given the value of sustained academic networks for continued research collaboration, mentorship of future researchers, and contributions to the Department's ongoing scholarly community.

