

Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations



Department of International Relations
University of Dhaka

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First Published: April 2018

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Cover Design: PGDIR Coordination Committee, Spring 2018.

The contents of this prospectus have been developed and drafted by the 'PGDIR Coordination Committee – Spring 2018' comprising Professor Lailufar Yasmin, Mr. Sheikh Shams Morsalin, Ms. Monzima Haque and Ms. Lamea Momen.

Published by

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Introduction

The Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka (DUIR), is one of the leading centres of International Relations teaching and research in Bangladesh. The Department has a long history and tradition of excellence in higher education since its establishment in 1947. The initiative to establish IR as a separate discipline was made while the Indian subcontinent was still under British colonial rule. It has conferred the Department a unique distinction of being the first academic department in the entire region of South Asia to offer the subject of International Relations and in that it lays the claim to pioneer and promote IR teaching and research in the subcontinent.

The Department of International Relations offers an interdisciplinary curriculum tailored for producing a generation of future leaders who seek to professionally excel in teaching as well as policy making in different government and non-government sectors. The uniqueness of the Department lies in the fact that it approaches the building of knowledge and research in International Relations from a broad spectrum of social sciences. The programme is dedicated to developing skills of the students in both critical and problem solving perspectives.

The DUIR first admitted students to the Master's Programme in IR from the academic session of 1947-48. At the initial stage, the Department was a part of the Arts Faculty with teachers drawn from the Departments of History, Political Science and Commerce. The Department emphasised on interdisciplinary orientation of its faculty members since its journey as an academic discipline owing to the multi-disciplinary nature and scope of IR. The Department introduced B.S.S. (Honours) programme in 1969. Currently, under the directives of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Dhaka, DUIR offers a four-year (eight semesters) Honours degree programme, a one-year (two semesters) Master's programme, a two-year Master of Philosophy programme, and a three-year Doctor of Philosophy programme in International Relations. The Department is also running a Masters in International Relations (MIR) for Professionals programme since 2016.

The Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations (PGDIR) is an innovative academic programme aimed at educating and training participants with the basic concepts, principles and

practices of International Relations and leadership-building. This academically challenging and professionally rewarding programme was introduced in 2008 to cater the needs of professionals in the public, private, and non-profit sectors and fresh graduates, preparing for diverse career paths and seeking personal enrichment opportunities. Offered twice a year, the PGDIR programme builds on the success and experience of its predecessor, the Certificate in International Relations (CIR) programme, which ran for five years during 2003-2008.

Programme Missions and Objectives

1. **Dissemination of Knowledge:** The Programme seeks to disseminate the knowledge of IR through providing a comprehensive understating of theories and practices and their implications at national, regional and international levels.
2. **Leadership:** The Programme is designed to develop leadership skills among early to mid-career professionals in order to cultivate prospects for future leadership on a global scale.
3. **Networking:** The Programme seeks to develop a strong network of professionals working in public, private and non-profit sectors, which will facilitate to connect with a global network of professionals working in the same area.

Admissions

Application Process:

Call for applications are circulated through newspaper and social media outlets. Prospective students are required to submit prescribed filled-in application forms along with supporting documents and pay full tuition fees in favour of the Department of International Relations. Application forms are available during weekdays in the Department office located at Floor 5 of the Social Sciences Faculty Building at the University of Dhaka.

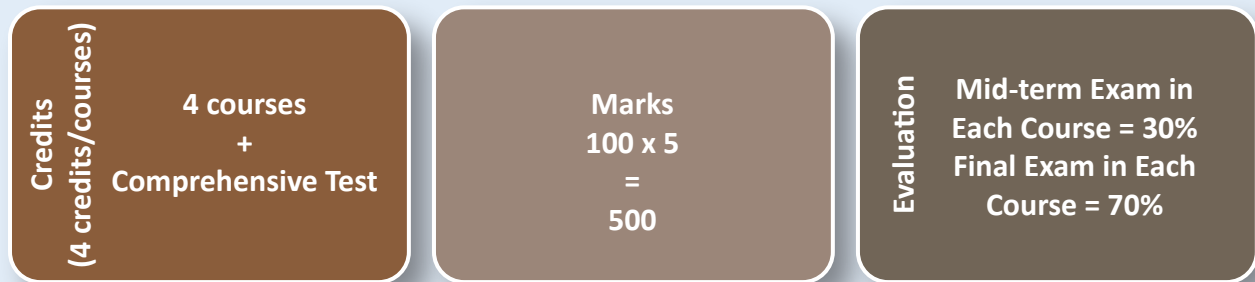
Requirements:

Applicants must have at least a Bachelor's degree from any nationally/internationally accredited university in any discipline, with a minimum of 2nd class or a CGPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

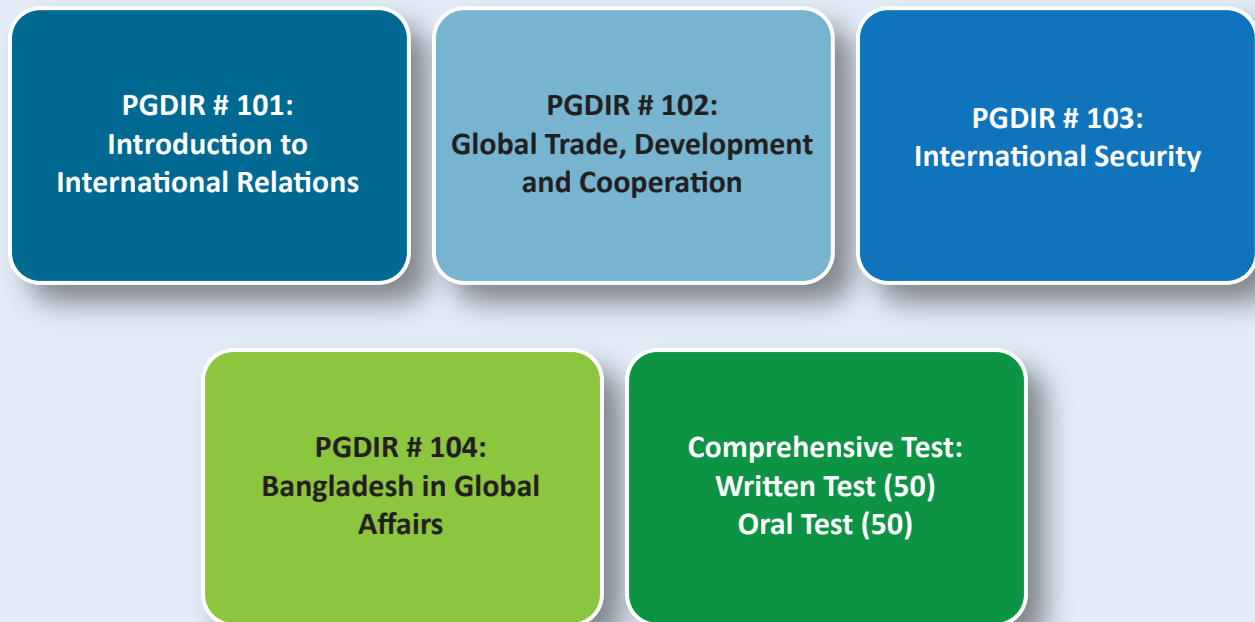
Admission Fees:

The non-refundable admission fees of BDT 25,000 have to be paid before enrollment. The fees include registration, tuition, and related course materials. Applicants will have to bear the costs of their accommodation, travel, stationeries, and other personal expenses.

Programme Structure



Courses of Study



Course Contents

PGDIR 101: Introduction to International Relations

Introducing International Relations: Key Concepts and Approaches	Ideologies in International Relations
Cold War and Post-Cold War Dynamics in International Relations	International Law and its Application in International Relations
Changing Concept of State and Sovereignty in the International System	Gender in International Relations
Non-State Actors and International Politics	Culture and Religion in International Relations
Concept of Power in International Relations	Civil Society, Human Rights and International Politics
Principal Theories of International Relations: An Overview	Globalization and International Relations
Nations and Nationalism in International Relations	Overview of International Relations as an Academic Discipline and its future

PGDIR 102: Global Trade, Development and cooperation

Trade in the Global Economy: Trends and Patterns	Global Governance: Concepts and Mechanisms
Understanding Development: Theories and Approaches	Good Governance, Corruption and Development
Globalization and its Impact on International Trade and Cooperation	Global Energy Cooperation
Basics of the World Bank, IMF and WTO: Policy Implications for Developing Countries	Development, Displacement and Migration
The UN Sustainable Development Goals with Special Focus on Global Cooperation	Gender and Development
Aid, Trade and Investment: Global Trends and Implications	International Trade and the Environment: Issue, Perspectives and challenges
Regionalism and Regionalization	Trade and Intellectual Property

PGDIR 103: International Security

Traditional and Non-traditional Security Approaches	9/11, Terrorism and Violent Extremism
Geopolitical Thoughts & Their Relevance	Energy Security
NATO and the Future of Military Alliance	Environmental Security
Nuclear Non-proliferation: Case Studies of North Korea and Iran	Immigration, Integration and Security in Europe and North America
The Rise of Great Powers: India and China	Transnational Crimes and International Security
Humanitarian Intervention, the Responsibility to Protect and Sovereignty	Global Security from a Gendered Perspective
Ethnocide, Genocide, Democide and Gendercide in the Post-Cold War Era	U.S.-Russia Strategic Relations in the 21st Century: Implications for Global Security

PGDIR 104: Bangladesh in Global Affairs

Foreign Policy of Bangladesh: Goals, Constraints and Opportunities	Issues and Challenges in Bangladesh–Myanmar Relations
Liberation War of Bangladesh: The Role of Great Powers	Bangladesh–US Relations: Challenges and Prospects
National Security of Bangladesh: Issues, Concerns and Prospects	Bangladesh and Middle East: Extracting Opportunities
Economic Diplomacy of Bangladesh: Issues, Concerns and Prospects	Emerging Players in Bangladesh’s Foreign Policy: Russia, United Kingdom, European Union
Regionalism and Sub-Regionalism: Bangladesh Perspective	Evolving Dynamics of Bangladesh–Japan Relations
Bangladesh’s Maritime Security–the Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean and Beyond	Bangladesh and the United Nations Peace Keeping Operations (UNPKOs): Opportunities and Challenges
The Rise of India and China–Implications for Bangladesh	Future of Bangladesh in a Changing Global Scenario

Grading

Marks Range (%)	Letter Grade	Explanation	Grade Points
80 and above	A+	Excellent	4.00
75 to less than 80	A		3.75
70 to less than 75	A-		3.50
65 to less than 70	B+	Very Good	3.25
60 to less than 65	B		3.00
55 to less than 60	B-		2.75
50 to less than 55	C+	Good	2.50
45 to less than 50	C		2.25
40 to less than 45	D	Passing	2.00
Below 40	F	Failing	0.0
-----	I	----	Incomplete
-----	W	----	Withdrawn

Attendance

Minimum Requirement 70%

- Minimum 70% attendance is required to sit for the PGDIR final exams.

Below 70% & Above 50%

- Students having less than 70% but above 50% attendance will be subjected to a penalty of BDT 1,000 for each course in order to sit for the final exams.

Less than 50%

- Students having less than 50 % attendance will be ineligible to sit for the final exams.

Re-take/Improvement

If a student fails in any of the courses, he/she may re-take the exam for improvement with the next PGDIR batch to obtain the Diploma. Failing students will be able to re-take the exam once, but within two years of original registration as PGDIR student with a penalty of BDT 3,000 for each course.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Is there any admission test for enrolling in the PGDIR Programme?**

No. You are eligible for admission if you fulfill academic qualification criteria as set out in the advertisement. However, the PGDIR Coordination Committee reserves the right to refuse or cancel admission on grounds deemed appropriate by it.

- **Can I get my admission and tuition fees back if I do not complete the programme, or decide to withdraw from it after admission?**

No. The admission and tuition fees for the PGDIR programme are non-refundable.

- **Can I pay the tuition fees in two installments?**

No. PGDIR participants are required to make the full payment at the time of admission.

- **Can I pay for the admission form and PGDIR fee through BKash/online?**

No. You have to collect the admission form from the office of the Department of International Relations by yourself or through someone else. The office remains open from Sunday to Thursday during 10:00a.m.–5:00p.m.

- **Is there any additional academic advantage of completing PGDIR?**

Students obtaining at least CGPA 3.0 in the PGDIR Programme will not require to sit for the admission test of MIR for Professionals degree offered by the Department.

- **I am a professional. Do I need to attend all the classes?**

It is expected that you attend at least 70% of the classes in order to appear in final examinations.

- **If I am unable to take the final examinations, can I request for make-up examinations?**

No. Under no circumstances can make-up examinations be arranged for the missed examinations. Students may sit for the missed final examination with the next PGDIR batch for up to two years of original registration of a PGDIR Programme by paying a penalty of BDT 3,000 for each course.

- **Is it possible for me to use the Seminar Library in the Department and Dhaka University Central Library?**

Yes. Once your admission process is complete, you will receive a student ID card which can be used to access both the libraries during stipulated library hours.

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DUIR Academic Programmes at a Glance

The Department of International Relations offers the following degree programmes to equip learners with knowledge, skills, and experience needed to succeed in a wide variety of career settings.

Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSS) with Honours

A four-year interdisciplinary and rigorous programme with strong theoretical and policy oriented curricula in International Relations.

Master of Social Sciences (MSS)

A one-year intensive graduate programme that offers a blend of courses on theories, security studies, political economy, as well as area and country studies concentrating on South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia, Middle East, Russia and Central Asia, Africa, Europe, and North and South America.

Master of Philosophy (MPhil)

A two-year rigorous and intensive programme with a focus on coursework as well as empirical research. A Master's degree is required for admission into the MPhil programme.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

A three-year advanced study and research in International Relations that gives comprehensive and in-depth knowledge of IR through systematic and rigorous research work. The PhD degree is awarded to a candidate upon successful completion of the required courses within two years of registration as PhD student and the defence of the thesis in the final year. An MPhil degree is required for admission into the PhD programme.

Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations (PGDIR)

A four-month, well-regarded diploma programme for graduates from diverse academic and professional backgrounds seeking international standard credentials.

Masters in International Relations (MIR) for Professionals

An eighteen-month long highly-demanding, and career-enhancing Master's programme for non-IR graduates and professionals interested in acquiring specialised knowledge, and attaining analytical and critical thinking skills in IR.



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