

Professional Master of Development Studies
Department of Development Studies
University of Dhaka

1. Title of the Academic Program

Professional Master of Development Studies

2. Name of the University

University of Dhaka

3. Name of the Program Offering Entity (Department)

Department of Development Studies

4. Vision of the Program Offering Entity (Department)

The vision of the Professional Master of Development Studies program is to establish itself as a center of excellence in teaching and research and contribute toward building a people-centered development regime that seeks to achieve a free, open, and just society.

5. Mission of the Program Offering Entity (Department)

The missions of the Professional Master of Development Studies program are:

- to play a critical role in shaping and informing contemporary debates about the scope, meaning, and practice of development both locally and globally.
- to build and generate knowledge by actively engaging with a wide range of stakeholders including but not limited to poor and marginalized communities.
- to develop skilled professionals so that they can manage development interventions at local, national, and international levels.
- to carry out cutting-edge collaborative research in addressing the contemporary development problems related to social, political, economic, and environmental issues.

6. Name of the Degree

Professional Master of Development Studies

7. Description of the Program

The Department of Development Studies at the University of Dhaka was established in 2000 as the first independent department in South Asia to provide challenging and innovative teaching in the field of development studies, a rapidly growing area of study concerned with the people, economy, ecology, and society. The Department fosters high-quality research on the problems of developing countries in general and Bangladesh in particular. Within a relatively short span of time, the Department has established itself as a unique institution of excellence. The 24 full-time faculty members, one of the largest in the world, who are well trained, experienced, and come from multidisciplinary academic and research backgrounds, pursue an active career in teaching and research while concentrating on four streams:

Development Economics, Public Policy Analysis, Social Development, and Natural Resource Management.

The Professional Master of Development Studies is a specialized interdisciplinary postgraduate program that aims to provide students with the knowledge and skills that are required to understand and engage with economic, environmental, political, and social change. The program provides the students with a deeper and broader exposure to development issues with a special focus on the global south. This degree prepares individuals to productively participate and contribute to development interventions in public, private, non-profit, and not-for-profit sectors.

The program is structured in two modules: Mandatory courses and Major/Specialization courses. There are five streams/specializations in the MSS Program:

- I. Development Economics
- II. Public Policy Analysis
- III. Natural Resource Management
- IV. Social Development
- V. Development Management

The students can choose one stream out of these five streams/specializations. The program in general and Majors, in particular, are designed to endow students with theoretical and methodological capabilities to conduct policy analysis and empirical research independently.

The program includes the teaching of 13-course units for a total of 1300 marks, which are translated into 52 credit hours; and 200 marks are for dissertation and the rest 100 marks are for written and oral comprehensive examination in the 3rd (third) semester. The total credit hours are evaluated on the basis of 1600 marks. For a 4-credit course unit, there are: (i) two lecture classes of 90 minutes each, and (ii) one 60-minute discussion class/tutorial class/lab work/group presentation/class test every week.

8. Assessment Criteria & Evaluation

The usual assessment method is divided into continuous and summative assessments. The marks distribution is given below:

Assessment Method	Assessment Tools	Marks Distribution	Sub Total
Continuous Assessment	Class Attendance	5%	30%
	Active participation in the discussion class/tutorial class/group presentation	10%	
	Term Paper/Home Assignments	15%	
Summative Assessment	Mid semester examination	20%	70%
	Semester final examination	50%	

Total	100%
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*The Department of Development Studies may allow course teachers to alter the distribution of marks for evaluation, provided it is in commensurate with the spirit of the University guideline and approved by the Academic Committee of the Department.

9. Structure of the Curriculum

- (a) Duration of the program: Years: 1.5 Semesters: 3
- (b) Admission Requirements: Admission is open to individuals who have at least a Bachelor's Degree with Honors (3/4 Years) from any recognized University or a four-year BE/MBBS/BDS Degree from recognized Engineering Universities/ Colleges/ Medical Colleges.
 - a. A Master's Degree is compulsory for B.A./ B.Sc. / B.Com. (Pass) applicants.
 - b. Candidates already having one Master's Degree are also eligible to apply.
 - c. Candidates with Third Division/Class or CGPA below 2.50 at any level of their academic career are not eligible to apply.
- (c) Total minimum credit requirement to complete the program: 64
- (d) Total academic weeks in a semester: 20 (classes: 15 weeks; mid-term: 2 weeks; semester final exam: 2 weeks each; exam preparation & administration: 1 week)
- (e) Minimum CGPA requirements for graduation: 2.5 on a scale of 4.0
- (f) Maximum academic years of completion: 3
- (g) Category of Courses (Thesis Students):
 - i. Compulsory Courses : 40 credits
 - ii. Specialized Stream Courses : 12 credits
 - iii. Dissertation : 08 credits
 - iv. Comprehensive Examination : 04 credits
 - Total : 64 credits
- (h) Category of Courses (Non-Thesis Students):
 - v. Compulsory Courses : 40 credits
 - vi. Specialized Stream Courses : 20 credits
 - vii. Comprehensive Examination : 04 credits
 - Total : 64 credits

10. Year/Level/Semester/Term-wise distribution of courses

A. First Semester Courses

Sl	Course Code	Course Title	Hours/Week Theory + Lab	Credits	Prerequisite Courses
1	DS 5001:	Development Studies: Principles, Theories and Approaches	4 + 0	4	N/A
2	DS 5002:	Microeconomics	4 + 0	4	N/A

3	DS 5003:	Socio-anthropological Perspectives of Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
4	DS 5004:	Politics and Administrative System Analysis	4 + 0	4	N/A
5	DS 5005:	Gender and Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
Sub Total				20	
Cumulative Total				20	

B. Second Semester Courses

Sl	Course Code	Course Title	Hours/Week Theory + Lab	Credits	Prerequisite Courses
1	DS 5006:	Project Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation	4 + 0	4	N/A
2	DS 5007:	Poverty and Inequality: Concepts, Measurements, and Policy	4 + 0	4	N/A
3	DS 5008:	Macroeconomics	4 + 0	4	N/A
4	DS 5009:	Quantitative Analysis and Research Design	4 + 0	4	N/A
5	DS 5010:	Qualitative Research Methodology	4 + 0	4	N/A
Sub Total				20	
Cumulative Total				40	

C. Third Semester Courses

Sl No	Course Code	Course Title	Hours/Week Theory + Lab	Credits	Prerequisite Courses
Major (specialization) in Development Economics					
1	DS 5021:	Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis	4 + 0	4	N/A

2	DS 5022:	Macroeconomics and Sectoral Management	4 + 0	4	N/A
3	DS 5023:	Institutions, Power and Political Economy	4 + 0	4	N/A
4	DS 5024:	Technology and Digital Economics	4 + 0	4	N/A
5	DS 5025:	Financial and Economic Analysis	4 + 0	4	N/A
6	DS 5026:	Public Policy: Process Analysis and Evaluation	4 + 0	4	N/A
7	DS 5027:	Climate Change and Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
8	DS 5028:	Public Finance	4 + 0	4	N/A
9	DS 5029:	Development Economics	4 + 0	4	N/A
Major (specialization) in Public Policy					
10	DS 5031:	Public Policy: Process Analysis and Evaluation	4 + 0	4	N/A
11	DS 5032:	Advanced Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy	4 + 0	4	N/A
12	DS 5033:	Institutions, Power and Political Economy	4 + 0	4	N/A
13	DS 5034:	NGOs and Social Entrepreneurship	4 + 0	4	N/A
14	DS 5035:	Climate Change: Policy and Governance	4 + 0	4	N/A
Major (specialization) in Natural Resource Management					
18	DS 5041:	Environmental Economics	4 + 0	4	N/A
19	DS 5042:	Natural Resource Management: Approaches and Practices	4 + 0	4	N/A
20	DS 5043:	Climate Change and Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
21	DS 5044:	Disaster, Vulnerability and Sustainable Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
22	DS 5045:	Social and Environmental Impact Analysis	4 + 0	4	N/A
23	DS 5046:	Energy Transition: Economics and Policy	4 + 0	4	N/A
24	DS 5047:	Sustainable Development: Practices and Paradoxes	4 + 0	4	N/A

25	DS 5048:	Conservation Behavior for Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
Major (specialization) in Social Development					
25	DS 5051	Diversity, Equality and Inclusive Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
26	DS 5052	Ethnographic Analysis	4 + 0	4	N/A
27	DS 5053	Migration, labor Market Dynamics and Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
28	DS 5054	Social Development in Practice	4 + 0	4	N/A
29	DS 5055	Behavioural Analysis of Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
30	DS 5056	Social and Environmental Impact Analysis	4 + 0	4	N/A
31	DS 5057	Development Communication	4 + 0	4	N/A
Major (specialization) in Development Management					
32	DS 5061	Institutions and Corporate Governance	4 + 0	4	N/A
33	DS 5062	Financial and Economic Analysis	4 + 0	4	N/A
34	DS 5063	Macroeconomic and Sectoral Management	4 + 0	4	N/A
35	DS 5064	Social and Environmental Impact Analysis	4 + 0	4	N/A
36	DS 5065	Development Communication	4 + 0	4	N/A
37	DS 5066	International Trade, Policy and Financial Institutions	4 + 0	4	N/A
38	DS 5067	Public Finance and Development	4 + 0	4	N/A
39	DS 5068	Financial Inclusion and Development Banking	4 + 0	4	N/A
40	DS 5080	Dissertation	8+ 0	8	N/A
41	DS 5090	Comprehensive and Viva	4 + 0	4	N/A
Sub Total (12 credits from the Major: specialization; 8 credits from Dissertation/ 2 courses; and 4 credits from Comprehensive and Viva)				24	
Cumulative Total (From First Semester to Third Semester)				64	