Bangladesh Accreditation Council

Discipline/Specific Requirements
Discipline/Subject: Social Science

Standard 1: Governance

Criterion 1.5: The HEI/PoE has a documented class size policy and maintains a class size that is appropriate for effective management of the teaching-learning-assessment to ensure better attainment of learning outcomes.

Class size (number of students in a theory class): Maximum 40 students.

Class size (number of students in a Lab/practical class): Maximum of 20

Standard 4: Curriculum

Criterion 4.2: Curriculum aims at producing graduates focusing on graduate profile/attributes, that are defined following the identified needs of the stakeholders and learning outcome domains in the QF of Bangladesh for higher education.

Graduate Attributes for Bachelor Program

a) **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**: Graduates should equip with the analytical and critical thinking abilities necessary to diagnose issues, assess data, and generate novel answers.

b) **Lifelong Learning:** Graduates should exhibit a desire to grow and be receptive to lifelong learning and personal development.

c) **Research**: Graduates should have the research abilities to plan and carry out their investigations, gather and analyse data, evaluate their findings, and write a report that could be published in a journal or presented in a seminar as a research paper.

d) **Communication**: Graduates should have strong communication skills, including the ability to articulate complex ideas clearly and concisely in writing, oral presentation, and visual media.

e) **Cultural Competency**: Graduates should be culturally competent if they can appreciate and work well with people from various backgrounds and worldviews.

f) **Ethical and Social Responsibility**: Graduates should be able to adhere to ethical rules and standards in their professions and act in a way that respects the rights and dignity of others.

g) **Team Building**: Graduates should be able to work effectively in teams, taking on leadership responsibilities when necessary and helping move the group toward its shared goals.

h) **Innovation**: Graduates should prioritise learning and keep up with their field's most recent innovations and professional practices for the rest of their lives.

i) **Adaptability**: Graduates should be able to deal with change, learn from their mistakes, and keep going no matter how difficult things get. They can do this by consistently publishing their findings, performing original research, and contributing to significant professional organisations.

j) **Digital Literacy:** Graduates should have ICT skills to cope with the new technological innovations

k) **Global and Cultural Awareness:** Graduates should be knowledgeable about global and societal issues and how they affect people on a personal, national, and international scale.

l) **Entrepreneurship**: Graduates should have an entrepreneurial mindset, meaning they can see possibilities where others see barriers, are open to new ways of thinking, and are willing to take calculated risks to achieve their goals.

Graduate Attributes for Master's Degree Program by course:

a) **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**: Critical Graduates should be able to analyse complex social issues, evaluate data, and construct nuance arguments using rigorous and systematic approaches.

b) **Research and Information Literacy**: Graduates should be able to plan and carry out complex research projects, collect and analyse data, and evaluate results using sophisticated techniques and resources.

c) **Communication**: Graduates should be able to write and speak clearly and concisely on complex topics for various audiences.

d) **Adaptability**: The ability to connect with and analyse situations from several viewpoints requires graduates to have a deep understanding of the diversity of human cultures, values, and beliefs.

e) **Morale and Ethical Value**: Graduates should have a firm dedication to ethical conduct, respect for the rights and dignity of others, and adherence to professional and ethical norms.

f) **Teamwork and Collaboration**: Graduates should have advanced leadership and collaborative skills, including the capacity to successfully manage group dynamics and engage with others to achieve common goals.

g) **Lifelong Learning**: Graduates should be dedicated to studying throughout their lives, keeping up with new information in their industry, and participating in ongoing professional development.

h) **Global and Cultural Awareness**: Graduates should have a deep understanding of global and societal concerns, the skills to analyse and assess how such issues affect individuals, groups, and communities, and the confidence to put forward innovative solutions.

i) **Entrepreneurship**: Graduates, whether they move on to work in academia or another sector, should have an entrepreneurial attitude, which includes the capacity to spot possibilities, think creatively and innovatively, and take measured risks.

Criterion 4.7: In case of Bachelor degree program curriculum of the program includes minimum 25% of total credits for general education courses with clearly defined course learning outcomes and mapped with PLOs and learning domains of QF. In case of Master's degree program curriculum of the program includes minimum 10% of total credits for general education courses with clearly defined course learning outcomes and mapped with PLOs and learning domains of QF

List of general education courses may include but are not limited to:

1. Bangladesh Studies/History of Emergence of Bangladesh and the Constitution	13. Introduction to Social Psychology

2. Bengali Grammar and Literature	14. Human Rights and Good Governance
3. Economics and Society	15. Environment and Climate Change
4. English Reading, Writing, Speaking and Presentation Skills.	16. Ethics, Morality, and Laws
5. International Language: Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Hindi etc.	17. History and Philosophy
6. Introduction of Sociology	18. Digital Literacy
7. Introduction to Anthropology	19. Career Planning and Development
8. Introduction to Folklore Studies	20. Public Finance
9. Introduction to International Relations	21. Advanced Statistics for Social Science Research (including statistical packages like SPSS, SAS, Stata, R, Mplus etc.)
10. Public Administration and Development	22. Human Behaviour and Organisation
11. State, Society and Politics (including political thoughts)	23. Globalisation and Sustainable Development
12. Disaster Management	24. Entrepreneurship Development

*(**Note:** The PoE will select the appropriate courses considering GA and PLO)*

Criterion 4-9: Provisions of internship/project/dissertation/fieldwork/work-integrated learning opportunities are included in the curriculum.

For Bachelor Degree	For a Master's degree
Internship Project Fieldwork/Research	Fieldwork/Research Term paper Dissertation/Thesis Internship program Action research

Standard 6: Student Admission & Support Services

Criterion 6-1: The HEI/POE maintains a clearly defined and well-communicated admission policy with transfer and withdrawal provisions and entry requirements

that reflect the qualifications required to match the nature of the discipline and mission of the POE. The admission policy effectively selects students with potential who can afford the academic load to complete the program successfully.

Requisite qualifications for admission:

Bachelor Degree Program

Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) or equivalent examination.

Candidates from any discipline, including social science, humanities, science, business studies or related fields, can be considered for admission.

Candidates may be required to take an entrance examination/placement test/aptitude test to test their knowledge and aptitude in studying social science subjects, capacity in critical thinking, knowledge of national and international affairs, and co-curricular activities.

Candidates may be required to attend an interview to assess their suitability for the program and their communication skills.

Master's Degree Program

The criteria for admission into master's degree programs in social science in Bangladesh may vary depending on the institution offering the program. However, some standard criteria for admission include the following:

Bachelor degree or equivalent examination from a recognised university or institution as per the provision of BNQF.

Candidates without a bachelor degree in the similar discipline may be required to take remedial courses.

Candidates should have adequate communication skills and the prerequisite skills/qualifications set by the POE (Program offering Entity) to demonstrate their suitability for the program.

The candidates should have advanced level knowledge of relevant national and international issues.

Criterion 6-7: PoE ensures and facilitates the participation of students in co-curricular activities and community services under the management of the HEI regularly to promote creativity, social responsiveness, leadership qualities, values, and moulding personality towards a holistic development.

List of a few co-curricular activities but not limited to:

a) Communication Skills: Debating, public speaking, Model United Nations (MUN), Toastmasters, and writing clubs can help students improve their communication skills.

b) Critical Thinking: Puzzle clubs, quiz competitions, logic games, and problem-solving competitions can help students develop critical thinking skills.

c) Research Skills: Attending science fairs, social science research competitions and poster presentations can help students develop their research skills.

d) Leadership Skills: Student government, community service organisations, model united nations, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, and volunteer programs can help students develop their leadership skills.

e) Teamwork: Sports teams, theatre groups, and music groups can help students learn how to work effectively in a team environment.

f) Cultural Awareness: Cultural clubs, language clubs, and study abroad programs can help students develop an appreciation for different cultures and perspectives.

g) Ethics and Values: Volunteering, community service, and social justice organisations can help students explore ethical and moral issues and develop values of social responsibility.

h) Entrepreneurship: Business clubs, innovation hubs, and startup incubators can help students develop an entrepreneurial mindset and learn about business strategies and tactics.

i) Technology Skills: Robotics clubs, coding competitions, Olympiads, and hackathons can help students develop their technical skills and learn about emerging technologies.

*(**Note:** Appropriate co-curricular activities will be selected by the POEs considering the defined GA & PLOs. The POE will encourage and confirm the participation of the students enrolled under the program)*

Standard 7: Faculty and Professional staff

Criterion 7-8: The POE maintains an ideal combination of faculty with 10% Professor, 20% Associate Professor, 40% Assistant Professor and 30% Lecturer with a reasonable

teacher-student ratio, depending on the nature of the discipline, as necessary for effective teaching learning in the academic program/discipline.

The teacher-student ratio: 1:20

Standard 8: Facilities and Resources

Criterion 8-4: Laboratory facilities, instructional technology & software, and IT learning facilities that are identified through curriculum mapping as necessary to attain the defined learning outcomes of program and course(s) and to conduct research are in good condition with appropriate safety measures, appropriate, adequate and accessible when needed by the students and faculty members under a policy that ensures timely repair/replacement, supply and continuous improvement:

List of essential facilities for the students of Bachelor and Master's program in social science:

a) **Classrooms:** The classrooms should be large, bright, and comfortable, with enough seating and IT facilities.

b) **Lab/Laboratories:** Specialised labs for experiments, data processing in social science.

c) **Computer facilities:** Computer lab equipped with state-of-the-art hardware and software.