

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

Allama Iqbal Open University, a mega university was established in 1974 under an Act of Parliament. The main campus of the university is situated in sector H-8, Islamabad. It was the second open university of the world and the first of its kind in Asia and Africa. The aim of establishing AIOU was to provide affordable and accessible education through distance learning at the door-steps to those people who could not continue their education journey through formal system of education. The University (AIOU) operates on semester system and admits students in Autumn and Spring semesters. Under graduate admissions are offered in both the semesters where-as post graduates are offered once a year. The enrolled students are given course books specially prepared by the university on self instructional principles. However at post graduate level reprints of foreign books alongwith allied material and university prepared study guides help students to polish their skills.

At present, the AIOU is offering programmes from Matric to PhD level in diverse disciplines comprised of four faculties. The university has established study centres across the country where distance education students are provided necessary guidance by their respective tutors. Moreover, the university has established full-time study centres wherein the students of

MBA (IT), MBA (Banking and Finance), BS (CS), MSc/BS Chemistry, MSc/BS Microbiology etc. are being provided instruction, guidance and counselling through face-to-face education. AIOU is also offering four years under-graduate degrees.

Apart from curricular and extra-curricular activities during the academic year, the AIOU and its regional centres actively participate in the co-curricular activities by arranging educational and literary seminars, workshops and conferences, attended not only by the students and faculties of the university but also by the renowned dignitaries and scholars. For the science students and the research scholars, a science complex has been built where they use the latest equipment of international standard for experiments and research. To meet the present day challenges, internet facility is also available in the student hostel and the Central Library where computers have been provided to enable students to access latest information available through open source databases.

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

First established in 1981 with five departments, the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities has, over the years, flourished to become, by far, the largest Faculty of the University. It, today, consists of 14 departments offering masters programmes in major areas of Social Sciences and Humanities like, Business Administration, Economics, Mass Communication, Sociology, Urdu, Library & Information Sciences, History, Pakistan Studies and Teaching of English as a foreign Language (TEFL). Additionally, efforts are afoot to plan and launch post-graduate programmes in Pakistani Languages and Law. The Commonwealth-collaborated master's programmes in the areas of Business and Public Administration, which are specially tailored for the modern day busy executives, were launched in Spring 2002 semester.

In tune with the government's policy of promoting and strengthening a culture of higher education and research in the country, the AIOU's Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities has shown a lot of dynamism over the past few years. It has launched MPhil/PhD programmes in Iqbaliat, Urdu and Mass Communication and History while preparations are being made to launch MPhil Business Administration, Applied Linguistics.

The Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities also offers several bachelors' level programmes in such professional areas like Bachelors in Library & Information Sciences (BLIS), BS-Business Administration, BS-Commerce and Mass

communication. Tens of thousands of students comprising all demographic groups and, from all over the country, enroll, each year, in these bachelor's level programmes.

The Faculty has expanded vitally and its programmes have gained a high popularity as is clear from rapidly rising trend of enrolment during the past decade. During the period under report, the Faculty accorded high priority towards quality improvements and to modify its programmes in accordance with the current challenges of 21st century.

The Faculty proposed to launch Post-Graduate programmes in the disciplines of Political Science and International Relations, Psychology, Public Administration and Social Work.

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCES

Introduction

Postgraduate library education in Pakistan started in 1956 by the University of Karachi. In the mid-eighties there were six library science departments all over the country. But they were not producing the required number of trained professional graduates as per demand. Moreover, the rate of technological change created by television, computer and other mass media was so stunning that many librarians had been unable to assess clearly its far-reaching effects on the sphere of their services and operation. Thus keeping in view the demand of professional staff and mission of AIOU, the Department of Library and Information Sciences was established in 1985 within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities to cope with this shortage and change. It contributes to meeting the

professional requirements of the existing libraries and training skilled manpower scattered all over the country in accordance with the emerging need and trend.

BS (Library and Information Sciences) Program

Objectives

This is a new 4-year program. This scheme of study focuses to give students an understanding of the general subjects and theories, principles and methodologies that form the foundation of LIS. This program intends to enhance student's abilities in planning and controlling library functions. The new scheme of study will produce highly skilled professional human resource to serve the libraries, resource centers, documentation centers, archives, museums, information centers, and LIS schools. This gives students a proficiency in the skills of management, research, ICT, advocacy, problem-solving, and decision making relevant to information work in a rapidly changing environment along with integrity and social responsibility.

Eligibility Criteria and Procedure of Admission

An applicant having intermediate/higher secondary school pass certificate or equivalent in second division (at least 45% marks) with any subject(s) from any recognized institution is eligible for admission. There is no merit and age determination. All students who fulfill above criteria will be given admission.

Interested candidates are advised to follow the admission procedure as laid down by the AIOU. For this purpose, visit

AIOU website <<https://aiou.edu.pk>> or contact your Regional Office concerned or the LIS Department in this regard.

Pre-requisites from BS (LIS) Students

A BS (LIS) student must have a computer with internet connection to successfully complete this program. Download study guides from AIOU or LIS Department website. Most updates are available at AIOU website <<https://aiou.edu.pk>> such as matters relating to admission, exam and result, tutorials, workshops, assignments, and so on. A student should willingly be hard-working enough to get information and knowledge. Consult your AIOU-appointed tutors for technical and conceptual guidance. Take full benefit from your tutors and workshops. We are also providing guidance to students via LIS website <<https://lis.aiou.edu.pk>> and our Facebook page <LIS@AIOU official>; hence join our Facebook page as well. Also keep in touch with your AIOU region concerned.

Scheme of Studies (BS-LIS)

Duration

The Duration of BS (LIS) program is eight semesters, i.e. four years. However, AIOU reserves the right to make any change(s) anytime in this program partly or wholly without prior notice.

Courses

A student will have to complete 43 courses (42 in case of Research Project/Project, code 9227) comprising 129 credit hours. All courses are of 100 marks each except Research Project/Project (Code 9227) which comprises 200 marks. The semester-wise break-up of these courses is as under.

1st Semester

Sr#	Code	Course	CrHrs
1	9407	English-I	3
2	9374	Pakistan Studies	3
3	5403	Basics of Information and Communication Technology	3
4	8413	Introduction to Logic	3
5	9201	Soft Skills (Personality Development)	3

2nd Semester

Sr#	Code	Course	CrHrs
1	9408	English-II	3
2	9401 OR 5437	Islamiyat (اسلاميات) OR Ethics (اخلاقيات) (for non-Muslims)	3
3	9266	Language Skills and Communicative Abilities	3
4	8411	Introduction to Psychology	3
5	9202	Introduction to Library and Information Professions	3

3rd Semester

Sr#	Code	Course	CrHrs
1	9409	English-III	3
2	4431	Pre-Calculus	3
3	6404	General Science	3
4	9410	Introduction to Sociology, Culture & Society	3
5	8432	Economy of Pakistan	3
6	9204	Information Literacy	3

4th Semester

Sr#	Code	Course	CrHrs
1	9416	English-IV	3
2	4485	Introduction to Statistics	3
3	9205	Planning Library Building, Space and Services	3
4	9206	Collection Development and Management	3
5	9208	Classification and Subject Headings	3
6	9209	Cataloguing and RDA	3

5th Semester

Sr#	Code	Course	CrHrs
1	9203	Information Architecture	3
2	9207	Information Science in Transition	3
3	9210	Integrated Library Automation Systems	3

4	9211	Library Public Services	3
5	9212	Library and Web Technology	3
6	9213	Library and Database Technology	3

6th Semester

Sr#	Code	Course	CrHrs
1	9214	Modern Information Retrieval Systems	3
2	9215	Communication Skills for Information Professionals	3
3	9216	Developing Digital Library	3
4	9217	Emerging Trends in Library and Information Services	3
5	9218	Management Basics for Information Professionals	3
6	9219	Library Analytics and Big Data	3

7th Semester

Sr#	Code	Course	CrHrs
1	9220	Library Security and Safety	3
2	9221	Marketing of Library and Information Services	3
3	9222	Archives, Records, and Information Management	3
4	9223	Knowledge Management	3
5	9224	Auditing Information Systems	3
6	9225	Development of Library and Information Professionals	3

8th Semester

Sr#	Code	Course	CrHrs
1	9226	Research Methodology in Library and Information Sciences	3
2	9228	Evaluation of Library and Information Services	3
3	9229	Project Management in Libraries, Archives and Museums	3
OR	9227	Research Project/Project (in lieu of 9228 and 9229)	6

Mode of Study

This BS (4-year) in LIS will be offered in ODL mode using LMS. Visit AIOU website or contact your Region concerned or LIS Department for further information in this regard.

Medium of Study

English language only will be the medium of study for any of the components of this program. However, Urdu and/or English language can be opted for a course on Islamiyat OR Ethics only.

Assessment/Evaluation Criteria

Multiple criteria have been adopted to assess students' work for all courses, except Research Project/Project, as under.

- Written examination to be assessed by the Examination Department, AIOU at the end of each semester = 70% marks (pass marks 50%).
- Two assignments and/or equivalent to be assessed by the relevant tutor/resource person = 30% marks (pass marks

50% collectively). students' work may also be checked with Turnitin for plagiarism.

All the matters relating to Research Project/Project will be dealt with as per AIOU rules. However, the pass marks for Research Project/Project is 50% both in evaluation of Project report and viva voce examination separately.

Fee Tariff

Item	Fee
Registration Fee (once, if not already registered with AIOU)	500
Admission Fee:	1000
Technology Fee (per semester):	500
Tuition fee per 3 Credit Hours course = Rs.2,100 ×5 courses	10,500
Total fee for 1st Semester Rs.	12,500

Fee for subsequent semesters will be informed at the time of their admission.

Note: The AIOU reserves the right to make any change(s) anytime in this program partly or wholly without prior notice.

Faculty Members

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