

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

MS courses (24 credit hours): 8 courses for students who are exempted from foundation courses and 10 courses for students who take foundation courses.

The interview panel at the time of admission will decide which students are exempted from taking foundation courses.

MS thesis: 6 credit hours. Students who wish to not opt for writing a thesis can replace it with an MS Project (3 units) and an additional course of 3 credit hours.

DISTRIBUTION OF CREDIT HOURS		
COURSE CATEGORY	NUMBER OF COURSES	CREDIT HOURS
Foundation Courses*	2	0
Core Courses	4	12
Elective Courses	4	12
MS Thesis**	1	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>30</b>

\*Interview panel will decide which foundation courses are exempted/recommended.

\*\*MS Thesis may be replaced with the project along with an additional course of three credit hours.

Online Forms Availability	Thursday, February 1, 2024
Form Submission Deadline	Tuesday, April 16, 2024
Issuance of Admit Cards(to be emailed to all candidates)	April 15 - 16, 2024
Aptitude Test Date(Reporting Time: 8:30 AM, Test Start Time: 9:00 AM)	Sunday, April 21, 2024
Announcement of Aptitude Test Result	Tuesday, April 30, 2024
Interviews (& MBA GD)	May 02 - May 03, 2024
Final Result	Tuesday, May 07, 2024
Orientation Gala	August 15 - 18, 2024
Commencement of Classes	Monday, August 19, 2024

# MASTER OF SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

**2 YEAR FULL-TIME PROGRAM**



## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

MS Development Studies (Dev. Studies) is a multi and inter-disciplinary program that explores critical topics of development theory and practices. Development Studies is also an engagement with policy debates, taking into account the specificity of societies in terms of history, ecology, culture, technology, politics, etc., and how these differences both can and often should translate into varied 'local' responses to regional or global processes.

MS Dev. Studies provides high-quality and rigorous training needed to understand the methods, policies, and practices of development. The program offers a solid multi-disciplinary social science foundation in theory, quantitative methods, and applications employed in various fields of development. The Department of Economics and Department of Social Sciences & Liberal Arts jointly offer the program.

This program emphasizes understanding the historical perspectives and recent advances in the development and caters to the growing market for analysts and policymakers. Graduates from this program will be prepared for careers in research institutions, government entities, development agencies, international organizations, and policy-related think tanks.



"I have been a student at IBA for more than 4 years, as I completed my undergraduate degree from here a few years ago and coming back for MS Development Studies has been quite refreshing for me. The program is adequately rigorous and extensive for a Master's degree and is worth pursuing for the knowledge and skills that it is designed to impart. Pursuing this degree has been a decision I am immensely proud of as it has provided me with a holistic learning experience."

**Aisha Zia Khan**  
Class of 2023



"This program emphasizes on career paths in academia, research-focused institutions, national and international development organizations, Recently, I presented my paper at the graduate students conference at the University of Hawaii, USA held in February, 2022. My research focuses on traditional and non traditional healing practices in traditional and modern society of Sindh."

**Ayaz Nizamani**  
Class of 2023

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Engage students in exploring critical topics of development theory and practice, in order to link historical perspectives with recent advancements in development.
- Equip students with the knowledge, skills and analytical tools required for a career in the field of development.
- Prepare students to lead the future debates in development across various aspects of society, and regional levels.
- Train, and empower, students to serve as agents of change in local communities.

## DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

- At IBA, the quality of faculty, highly developed infrastructure, and variety of departments provide an excellent platform to fulfill the objectives of the program.
- The course is geared towards leading future debates, critical thinking, and existential issues dealing with the idea of development in the 21st century.

## ADMISSION CRITERIA

Admissions to all programs at the IBA are granted on merit, and there are no reserved seats of any category. The criterion for admission is the performance of the applicant in aptitude test and interview. The aptitude test is a written test made up of three sections: Verbal, Quantitative and Analytical Writing.

Applicants who have a minimum score of 160 in the Quantitative section and 150 in the Verbal section of the revised GRE (International) are exempted from the IBA admission test. Only those who pass the aptitude test qualify for the interview.

## ELIGIBILITY

Applicant must have completed a minimum of 16-years of education, including the last 4 years of education from an HEC recognized university/institute. Prior knowledge or understanding of social science and/or mathematics will be advantageous, however, the course is designed to cater to all other disciplines. The minimum entry requirement is CGPA 2.5 out of 4.0, or 60% marks, in the last degree attained. All equivalency claims shall be evaluated by HEC. Work experience is not a mandatory requirement for admission to this program.

## DURATION

The program is designed for 2 years, however, the maximum time allowed to complete the degree is 4 years. Students will only be admitted as full-time during the coursework. Classes will be scheduled any day from Monday to Saturday between 9 am and 9 pm.