

## **BACHELOR IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (BDevS) SINCE 1999**

*Kathmandu University Affiliate*

### **Introduction and Background**

Bachelor in Development Studies is an internationally recognized and demand driven program dedicated to emphasize sustainable development and its practices both at urban and rural settings. To create the quality human resources in the field of development in coming decades—mainly during and after the COVID-19 scenarios—to speed up the sustainable economic growth, manage natural resources and creating the social balance, BDevS programs has been the most relevant one in present context. To materialize the idea of creating high quality human resources having diverse skillful knowledge acquainted with contextual academics, BDevS has been the most pertinent academic and professional of the era. The program is perfectly poised to cater the need of the national as well as regional development and its multidimensionality along with challenges and opportunities. In a nutshell, BDevS an interdisciplinary study of Economics, Sociology, Environment, Development Management, and Research. This semester system program spreads over 8 semesters in 4 years. Each semester consists of 16 intensive study weeks – theoretical and practical. The course contains 127 credits.

### **MISSION**

To create sustainable development practitioners, entrepreneurs, and researchers

### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

Upon the graduation in the program, the BDeVS graduates will be equipped with the necessary academic knowledge on multidimensionality of Livelihood, Natural Resource Management, Community Development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) along with essential professional skills on various tools like GIS (Geographical Information System), Environmental Impact Assessment, Project Management and Evaluation, Development Research, and Community Mobilization etc.

### **PROGRAM SIGNIFICANCE**

### **PROGRAM PROSPECTS**

BDevS graduates will be capable enough to be involved in diverse fields of development sectors ranging from economic development, conservation, impact assessment, social development to resource management. BDevS graduates and will be emerged as skillful human resource to identify issues, develop policies and plans on underlying issues. BDevS graduates can also execute projects

and carry out monitoring and evaluation to conduct and materialize ideas into practices ensuring tangible change.

The BDevS graduates from National College have been working in the NGO/ INGOs led development projects, government organizations, donor agencies, corporate sectors, and independent research works along with their self-employment projects. This program's graduates are qualified for the Masters in Development Studies (MDevS), Masters in Sociology, Economics, Environmental Studies, Human and Natural Resources Management, Regional Planning, International Relations, Development Management, and other socio-economic related interdisciplinary programs including MBA among the others.

## **FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER COURSES: BRIEFS**

### **ECON102 INTRODUCTION TO MICRO ECONOMICS**

The course contains introduction to micro economics and its scope and uses. It deals with theories of consumer's behaviors (cardinal approach, Ordinal approach, price effect, and income effect), theory of firm (Iso-quants, least cost combination of factors, Cobb Douglas production function, linear programming, short run and long run costs), theory of product pricing (Perfect competition, and Oligopoly). It also deals with employment and pricing of inputs including modern theory of wages.

### **ENGL161 ENGLISH –I**

The course seeks to develop creative and pragmatic ability through intensive reading of interdisciplinary texts, reading portfolio, writing and reporting assignment such as oral & written presentations and group discussions, debate, drama on contemporary topics. This course will be continued with the ENGL162 English – II in the 1st Year, 2nd Semester.

### **ENVT101 INTRODUCTION TO ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

This course focuses on the concepts of ecology and environment, community ecology and environmental issues with emphasis on major ecosystem of Nepal and the world. The topics include ecosystems, biosphere, Carrying Capacity, Diversity Vs Simplicity, Succession, Ecological Balances. It also deals with environmental problems, causes and mitigation measures along with policies. It includes the payment for ecosystem services and their economic valuation. The field works cover ecological studies from the perspective of mountain development.

### **MATH131 BASIC LINEAR ALGEBRA AND APPLICATIONS**

The mathematics courses (MATH 131 and MATH 132) have been designed to enable the students of mathematical thinking and applications of basic mathematical skills in the real-life situations including office tasks. They will also be able to apply the mathematical knowledge in problem solving and report presentations. The topics for this course include numeric and algebraic basics; algebraic forms and functions; quadratic and other functions; advanced algebraic techniques; applications; solutions of systems of equations; logarithms; exponentials; math of finance; matrix methods; linear programming; 2-variable simplex method via graphical methods; optimization; and others. Contents are divided into two courses MATH 131 and MATH 132 as complements to each other. The MATH 131 focuses on algebra and its applications, and MATH 132 on calculus and its applications. Both the courses will enable students to efficiently apply the learned skills in daily office duties.

### **NEPL105 NEPALI – I**

नेपाली भाषाको व्याकरण र अभिव्यक्ति शैलिको अध्ययन गरेर यसको मौखिक र लिखित प्रयोग गर्न, शब्दभण्डारका ज्ञानको अभिवृद्धि गर्न, र लेखनका सीपहरुको विकास गर्न यो पाठ्यांशको तर्जुमा गरिएको हो । यसले नेपाली भाषाको सार्वजनिक व्यवहार, ज्ञान-विज्ञान, समाजशास्त्र र साहित्यका क्षेत्रमा प्रयुक्त हुने विशेष शब्दावलीको प्रयोग उपयुक्त र प्रभावकारी ढंगले गर्न मद्दत पुऱ्याउने छ ।

### **NEPL105 NEPALI (ALT) – I**

For the foreign students, Alternative Nepali is available.

### **SOCL105 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

The course covers the fundamental concept and evolution of Sociology and Anthropology from the research perspectives in relation to development studies. The major topics include social structure, community, society, group, culture, status-role, institution, norm, value, conformity. It deals with inter-relation with Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology and Archaeology. It covers research components such as socio-economic variables and field techniques.

### **DEVS 121 INNOVATION IN DEVELOPMENT**

The main purpose of the course is to motivate students to be explorative in searching innovative ideas in sustainable development, and present them in the appropriate manners. It will also help them identify challenges, issues or problems and appropriate remedies, solutions and mitigation measures pertinent to sustainable development at local, national or global levels. Additionally, it is also expected that the students will be able to also manage academic events.

### **FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER COURSES: BRIEFS**

## **DEVS101 CONCEPTS AND THEORIES IN DEVELOPMENT**

It includes fundamental concepts of development covering definitions, Human Development Index, approaches and measuring poverty & deprivation, along with various schools of thoughts on economic growth. It covers selected themes on contemporary development and major development partners (inter-governmental, non-governmental, bilateral and national). Covering on global history of human development such as ancient civilizations, industrial revolutions, and post-World War II international development, it analyzes Nepal's development process as a case study.

## **ECON205 ECONOMICS III (MACROECONOMIC)**

This course on intermediate macroeconomic theory and policy analysis deals the measurement and structure of national economy; labor market issues (productivity, output and employment); consumption, savings & investment, market equilibrium; Long run economic growth (Harrod-Domar, Slow growth, Endogenous growth); Money market (Money, Money Supply & Demand, Equilibrium); Deriving the IS, LM and As-AD curves; Neo-Keynesian Synthesis; Business cycle analysis; Keynesian Macroeconomics; Unemployment and Inflation; and Macroeconomic issues relevant in contemporary Nepal.

## **ENGL162 ENGLISH II**

In continuation with ENGL 161, it enhances study skills through activity-based exercises on general and professional communication. It includes interdisciplinary texts selected for developing interactive, creative and critical abilities through oral presentation, group discussion and seminars. Reading materials include general and technical articles from various magazines.

## **MATH 132 BASIC CALCULUS AND APPLICATIONS**

The mathematics courses (MATH 131 and MATH 132) have been designed to enable the students of mathematical thinking and applications of basic mathematical skills in the real-life situations including office tasks. They will also be able to apply the mathematical knowledge in problem solving and report presentations. The topics for this course include numeric and algebraic basics; algebraic forms and functions; quadratic and other functions; advanced algebraic techniques; applications; solutions of systems of equations; logarithms; exponentials; math of finance; matrix methods; linear programming; 2-variable simplex method via graphical methods; optimization; and others. Contents are divided into two courses MATH 131 and MATH 132 as complements to each other. The MATH 131 focuses on algebra and its applications, and MATH 132 on calculus

and its applications. Both the courses will enable students to efficiently apply the learned skills in daily office duties.

### **NEPL106 NEPALI – II**

पाठ्यक्रम ल्भ्णीज्ञण्ण ल्भउबष्-िक्ख लाई आधार मानी यो पाठ्यक्रम अन्तर्गत समावेश गरिएका बिषयहरु हुन् शोध सिद्धान्त र पद्धति, शोधप्रस्ताव; सन्दर्भ सामग्री संकलन बिधि, अध्ययन, विश्लेषण र सामान्यीकरण; र शोधप्रस्ताव लेखन, शोधपत्रलेखन, टंकन र प्रस्तुततीकरण । यस अन्तर्गत कृतिविवेचना भित्र उपन्यास, कथा, नाटक, निबन्ध र कविता समेटिएका छन् ।

### **STAT105 STATISTICS**

The course inculcates the basic knowledge of statistics, techniques of collecting data and handling the through versions statistics tests. It acquaints the students with the descriptive and inferential statistics, general principles of statistics, possibility theory, and time series analysis. The topics included are Data collection, Measures of central tendency, Measure of dispersion, skewness and kurtosis, Correlation and regression analysis, Time series analysis, Index numbers, Elementary probability theory and normal distribution and Concept of estimation and test of hypothesis.

SECOND YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER COURSES: BRIEFS

### **DEVS205 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

The course contains basic concepts, philosophies, Problems and Prospects of community development by including practices and models of community development along with social planning and actions with experiences in Nepal such as Integrated Rural Development. It covers community mobilization approaches such as community participation, Group Dynamics, User Group, Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), and Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA). It covers urban community development highlighting on experiences from Nepal, India, south & south East Asia and third world, and focusing on the Kathmandu Valley.

### **ECON 303 MONETARY ECONOMICS**

The objective of the course is to disseminate a thorough understanding of monetary theory, the effects of monetary policy (variables) on the macroeconomic system including the theoretical and empirical underpinnings of the monetary policy analysis, the role of the Central Bank and the conduct of monetary policy in closed and open economies. The course includes Portfolio Selection and the Term Structure of Interest Rates, FOREX, Determinants of Money Supply and Demand, IS/LM framework, Inflation, The Rational Expectations Hypothesis, Monetary Policy Rules,

Alternative Monetary Policy Regimes, and Optimal Monetary Policy for Closed and Open Economies.

### **ENVT203 COMMUNITY BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

The course covers the fundamental concepts of natural resources (land, air, water, forests, rangeland, wildlife, minerals, and energy) including definitions, classifications, conservation and management. It also deals on biodiversity, alternative energy, ethno-botany and bio-resources. Covering on Nepal's flora and fauna, it includes policies and practices of community based natural resources management.

### **PSYC205 HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND DEVELOPMENT**

The course covers the fundamentals of human behavior (growth of human behavior in and out of organization, social system, learning and cognition), behavioral science (Research methods, Theory X and Theory Y, Behavioral techniques such as Stimulus response and Stimulus-organism-response), Motivation (psychological process, Maslow's, Herzberg's and Alderfer's models), Micro Approach (social process, and group dynamics), and Communication (concepts, types, problems, barriers and implications in development). It also covers the topics of conflicts and leadership in development process.

### **SOCL204 NEPALESE SOCIETY AND CULTURE**

The course is on the history, culture and society of Nepal with focus on social structure, traditions, family system, ethnic diversity, caste systems, racial divisions, ecology, population, unification. It deals with the fundamentals of Nepalese culture and heritage including religion, language, syncretism, blends and accommodation. Along with the position of women, it covers emerging patterns of socio-cultural change in Nepalese society, and issues and problems of national integration. It also highlights on tourism, depletion of natural resources and the protection of cultural heritage.

### **STAT 205 STATISTICS II**

The course covers various types of statistical methods for information extracting and trend forecasting. It also includes study of various statistical tests such as z-test, t-test, chi-square test, ANOVA (one way, two-way, three way), correlation and regression analyses. It covers skill development in handling the statistical computer packages such as SPSS, Minitab, T etc and drawing inferences therein.

### **SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER COURSES: BRIEFS**

## **DEVS204 NEPAL'S POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Focusing on the political development in Nepal through the history, and constitutional development after 2007 Bikram Sambat, the course covers the topics like unification of Nepal, Rara regime including the Kot Parva and relations with the East India Company, revolution of 2007, and constitutions since 2007. It also covers constitutional governance and the features of good governance.

## **DEVS207 DEVELOPMENT COMMUNICATION**

Primarily based on the roles of communication in development, the course gives introduction to Development Communication and Understanding Communication (definition, components, and functions). It includes communication models and theoretical perspectives, along with Communication Planning Framework, Participatory communication. It covers mass communication, development journalism, community radio, media and contemporary issues, street theater, audio-visual, communication technology, advertisement and commercials. It also includes political, economics, and sociological aspects of Nepali media, and critical reflections on development communication.

## **DEVS303 AGRICULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT**

The course mainly deals with the agriculture systems in Nepal focusing on farming system research & development (FSRD), marketing systems, resource management and government policy. It includes the topics like green revolution and food security, policy, the Agricultural Perspective Plan, and sustainability. FSRD includes agro-ecological zones, traditional and scientific farming systems, and institutions involved. The agricultural marketing includes structure & system, production function and relationships, extension and implications, credits, WTO trade policy. The agriculture resource management includes population, natural resources (land, water), forestry, biodiversity, inputs, intellectual property rights, integrated approaches, indigenous knowledge, land use, erosion, and tenancy.

## **ECON301 PUBLIC FINANCE AND BUDGETING**

The course covers the classical and modern concepts of public finance including fiscal policy, development versus regular budgets, macro-economic stability, deficit financing, financial system, and economic development. It covers the concepts of public expenditure, principles of banking system including assets and liabilities, portfolio management and credit creation. The other topics are public revenue, tax and non-tax revenue, principle of taxation, direct and indirect taxes, impact incidence and shifting of taxation, public borrowing, internal and external borrowing effects of

public borrowing, debt management. It covers the roles of a central bank, development banks, insurance and finance companies.

### **ENVT202 EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The course contains education and human development in Nepal with highlights on state, policy and challenges pertinent to education. It gives introduction to environmental education (meaning, scope, principles, objectives, challenges, and mitigation measures). Similarly, it covers Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and its issues. It includes two main applications of ESD namely sustainable agriculture (practices, irrigation and drainage, organic manure, chemical fertilizers, pest control and crop protection and genetic resources) and pollution control (types, hazards and remedies).

### **SOCL206 GENDER, CASTE, ETHNICITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

Focusing on the Nepalese society, the course includes the topics on sex & gender, western and Nepalese traditions and culture. It also includes social status of Nepalese women, socialization in the contemporary societies, gender perspectives in workplace (equality, income, leadership, power etc). It covers the conflict perspectives of sex roles, contemporary status of women, sexual assault, property Inheritance, education, limitations.

### **THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER COURSES: BRIEFS**

#### **DEVS302 CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

The course covers various aspects of conflict management including trends (Pre-violent phase, Escalation phase, Climax phase, De-escalation phase, and Post conflict stage), causes (Power, Ethnicity, Resources, Economic Aspect, Discrimination, Exclusions, Religion and Culture), types (Ethnic, Religious and Societal), resolution (theories, negotiation and mediation), and transformation (Human right, Social justice, Gendering justice, and Empowering civil societies).

#### **DEVS402 PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

The course contains four major aspects of project management, namely project planning (Project Cycle, Project Appraisal - Financial & Economic Analyses, Project Implementation, and Monitoring & Evaluation), project management (functions, community mobilization, and coordination), project implementation (network analysis such as Project Evaluation & Review Technique, and Critical Path Method, partners & leadership etc. It includes Monitoring & Evaluation (Indicators, Logical Framework Approach, monitoring information, and evaluation techniques). The component of field exercise covers project management and analysis.

## **ECON 307 MICRO FINANCE AND ENTERPRISE**

The course covers the concepts of micro enterprises such as definitions, personal characteristics (such as family size, age, gender, status, family position etc), business characteristics (such as scope, activities, location, traditions, market, formality etc), growth, future expansion, issues & challenges, employment, contribution to economy, and distributions. It also covers a range of topics in Micro enterprise and micro Finance such as Poverty Scenario in Nepal, Micro Finance products, Micro Finance Models (e.g. Grameen replication, Cooperative, FINGO and SHGs approaches), Micro Finance policy environment (including projects like PCRW, MCPW, PAPWT, RMP, TLDP and CGISP), Institutional Infrastructure, Development in Micro Finance Sector in Nepal, Regulation of Micro Finance, Development Banks, Micro Insurance, Performance Management and Indicators, Interest rate setting, Corporate governance, Business planning, Monitoring and Supervision, Sources of fund (RSRF, RMDC, SKKB, NCDB, BFIs, and Donor Agencies), Micro Finance Networking and regional Association (APRACA, CICTAB, CGAP, Grameen Trust, MIFAN, EMN, AMFIN, GNN,CMF, INAFI, SEEP, BWTP, MIX Market, and Research & Training.

## **ENVT301 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND LAW**

The course covers introductory parts including concepts & sources of environmental law, and thematic parts including Polluter Pays Principle, Precautionary Principle, Environmental Impact Assessment, Principle of Absolute Liability, Principle of Inter-governmental equity, and public trust doctrine. The international perspectives cover soft laws pertinent to resolutions & declaration of United Nations system, hard laws pertinent to conventions, and experiences in the South Asian countries. The national perspectives cover historical review, policy, and legislatures on the selected fields, and judicial measures as well as constitutional mechanisms in urban & rural areas.

## **ENVT402 GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) AND REMOTE SENSING**

The course includes introduction to GIS (definitions, functions, components, applications, data & information, digital & paper maps). It covers spatial data, data modeling, database design. It also covers data development, analysis and visualization, image processing and analysis. Along with global positioning system, it covers remote sensing and its applications. It also covers application of GIS in sociology, anthropology, Natural Resource Management, Ecology and Environment. The course is complemented with laboratory works.

## **DEVS304 GOOD GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT**

The course contains multiple aspects of governance such as meaning & concepts, dimensions & elements (organizations and their roles), responsiveness (political culture and process),

accountability, efficiency including performance evaluation, transparency (meaning and dimensions), administrative cleanliness (corruption, methods of control corruption and legal framework), and participation (meaning, typology, elements and importance).

### **THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER COURSES: BRIEFS**

#### **DEVS305 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The course covers various aspects of research methodology including the introduction part and components. The topics on sampling design include census, sample survey, criteria for sample selection, sample size, sampling theory, standard errors, and types of sample designs. The other topics are measurement & scaling techniques (scales, errors, tools etc), data collection (primary & secondary, questionnaire, case study, participatory rural appraisal, interview, focus group discussion etc.), data processing and analysis (operation, elements & types, central tendency and dispersion, regression and correlation), and hypothesis testing (power of tests, z, t and F tests, non-parametric tests etc). It also includes interpretation and report writing, and use of computer in research.

#### **DEVS401 URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

The course deals with the concepts of urban planning & development and their implications in the process of development with reference to Nepal. It covers emergence of urban planning (history, practices, and policies), organizations (relevance, arrangements, roles & issues), and financial resource (nature & type, sources, issues, personnel management, financial & human resource management). It also covers urban infrastructure (nature, types and issues), and problems, issues and challenges of urban planning and development.

#### **DEVS 407: PROJECT EVALUATION**

The course aims to endocrine students with project management through conceptual knowledge and field exercise. It covers various aspects of project management such as Monitoring and Evaluation (including international approaches e.g. UNIDO, World Bank, UNDP, ADB), Logical Framework Approach, Project Evaluation Techniques (shadow Pricing techniques, PERT, CPM, Slack time), Utilization of Evaluation Results, Current Issues and practices. It will also include presentation of Field Exercise on Project Management and Analysis.

#### **ECON401 DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS**

This course focuses the concept of economic development and ways to achieve the economic development. It deals with modern and traditional economic measures, social indicators (Physical

Quality of Life Index, basic need approach, and Human Development Index), Kuznet's six characteristics of economic growth. It covers on determinants of development (natural and human resources, capital formation, technology, values and institutions), and issues in development (population, poverty, inequality & unemployment, education, agricultural transformation and rural development, gender, privatization, globalization and liberalization, urbanization and rural-urban migration). It also covers development planning (nature, rationale, perspectives, spatial/local, investment, strategies etc).

#### **ENVT401 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS**

The course contains concepts and importance of environmental impact assessment, its types and process, contents setting, and prediction preparation methods. It contains basic steps, assessment and predictions on components of environment such as air, water, noise, socio-economics, culture, biological diversity. It also deals with public participation (concepts, need and methods), and impact analysis. Mainly it helps to use proper modellings to predict and analyze impacts.

#### **SOCL301 TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT**

The course focuses on introduction to tourism (definitions, nature & scope, history, typology etc), and sociological & anthropological aspects with its implications in tourism industry and human development. Specifically, it deals with cultural tourism including specific topics like arts & authenticity, change agent, pseudo-events etc. It also covers village tourism, domestic tourism, and pilgrimage tourism, and covers tourism planning and management.

#### **FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER COURSES: BRIEFS**

##### **DEVS403 REPORT AND PROPOSAL WRITING**

The course includes introduction to proposal writing (meaning, types, project cycle, format etc), development concept and participatory processes of change (logical framework approach, sustainability issues, identification and selection of problems), and effective proposal writing (vision, mission, goal, objectives and hypothesis, marketing creative ideas, concept paper). It covers logical framework, and report writing skills and practical.

##### **ECON 407 POVERTY AND FOOD SECURITY**

The course includes the conceptual theory of population, food production, distribution and security. It relates Poverty and Hunger amid Economic Growth as well as Food Price Volatility and Market Instability. It highlights on the Food Security Information Systems and Networks,

Food Security Information, and Food Security Assessment and Analysis. It analyzes Policy Issues in Food Security and Poverty, Advocacy and Action, and the options of Averting Food Crisis

### **PHLT401 PUBLIC HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

This course introduces concepts and practices of public health, with emphasis on the structure and functions of the public health system, as well as the planning, implementation, management, and evaluation of health programs including, practical observation Topics covered include the mission/vision, history, core functions, infrastructure, processes (essential services and programs), and outcomes of the public health system.

### **DEVS 411 INTERNSHIP**

The main objective of this internship course is to give students first hand work experience in the fields of socio-economic development. By doing so, students will get familiarized with the professional working environment. Under the technical supervision of a mentor or a faculty, a student has to work in a development project that may range from an awareness building, community mobilization, natural resource management, agricultural entrepreneurship, tourism enterprises, physical infrastructure construction and management etc. The internship period will be minimum two months in country, and 45 days in the case of a foreign country. At the end of the internship, students will have to write an operational report which will be basically confined on practical exposure with corporate and organizational systems.

### **FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER COURSES: BRIEF**

#### **DEVS405 PROJECT WORK (6 CREDIT HOURS)**

Based on the knowledge and skill developed through the previous seven semesters, students will develop a project proposal for independent research work. Upon finalizing the proposal, students will conduct field works under the supervision of experts, and make presentation in front of an external examiner.

### **SOCL407 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

This course will include concepts and principles of international relations as applied in development practices. The topics will include world politics, international law, types and functions of international organizations, world system, and regional cooperation in south Asia. Cases of socio-economic, political and environmental issues will be used for analysis.