



Bangladesh University of Business and Technology (BUBT)

(Outcome-Based Curriculum)

Faculty of Law

Program LLB(Hons)

Course Outline

Part A

1. **Course Code** : LAW 3103
2. **Course Title** : General Clauses Act & Interpretation of Statutes
3. **Course Type** : Compulsory
4. **Year/Semester** : Third Year, Semester-1
5. **Academic Session** : Fall 2025

6. Course Teacher's Information

- Name and Code : Keya Das (KD)
- Designation : Lecturer
- Department : Department of Law and Justice
- Contact Details : Cell Phone: 01517856265, Email: keyadas@bubt.edu.bd
- Room Number : Building 01, Room No. 504-C

7. **Pre requisite (If any)** : None

8. **Credit Value** : 4.00 Credit Hours

9. **Contact Hours** : Class Hours = 17 Weeks = (34 Classes x 1.15 Hours per class+ 17 Classes x 50 Minutes) = 56 Hours) = 42.5 Hours
Counseling Hours = 17 Weeks x 2 Hours per week = 34 Hours

**For optimum utilization of physical resources, the duration of our class weeks are 17 weeks.*

10. **Total Marks** : 100

11. Class Schedule and Counseling Hours

Intake	Section	Class Schedule			Counseling Hours		
		Day	Time	Room No.	Day	Time	Room No.
50	1	Tuesday	01:30 P.M- 02.45 P.M	B1-501	Tuesday	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	B1-504-C
		Wednesday	02.45 P.M- 04.00 P.M	B1-501	Wednesday	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	B1-504-C
		Thursday	02.45 P.M-04.00 P.M	B1-508	Thursday	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	B1-504-C

12. Rationale of the Course : Interpretation of Statutes is a core course. Statutory interpretation is the process by which legislative instruments are given meaning, so that they can be understood and applied. This subject will systematically examine different types of statutes, the body of law which is relevant when determining the intention of Parliament as expressed in legislative instruments. The course will enable the students to consider and apply the rules, approaches and practices in case of interpretation of the legislation. In addition, the course also focusses on the statutory laws on interpretation of statutes like the General Clauses Act, 1897.

13. Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course are as follows:

- a) To explain and demonstrate different types of statutes, parts of statutes, meaning and objectives of interpretation & construction, general principles of interpretation.
- b) To describe and Specify different rules of interpretation.
- c) To explain different internal & external aids of interpretation
- d) To explain, Analyze and Design the rules of interpretation of penal statute and constitutional law
- e) To describe the objectives of the General Clauses Act, generate, analyze and apply ideas regarding the rules of interpretation related with various documents, deeds, instruments.

14. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) and Mapping of CLOs with Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):

The expected learning outcomes of this course are as follows:

1. Explain and demonstrate different types of statutes, parts of statutes, meaning and objectives of interpretation & construction, general principles of interpretation.
2. Describe and Specify different rules of interpretation.
3. Explain different internal & external aids of interpretation.
4. Demonstrate the role of judiciary in interpretation. Explain, Analyze and Design the rules of interpretation of penal statute and constitutional law.
5. Describe the objectives of the General Clauses Act Generate: analyze and apply ideas regarding the rules of interpretation related with various documents, deeds, instruments.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

PLO 1	Legal knowledge: Apply the knowledge of evaluation, fundamentals and legal specialization to solve the legal problems;
PLO 2	Problem analysis: Identify, formulate, research the literature and analyse legal problems and reach substantiated conclusions using provisions of law.

PLO 3	Investigation: Conduct investigations of various legal problems, considering provisions of law, analysis and interpretation of case laws to provide lawful conclusions.
PLO 4	Legal Professionals and society: Apply reasoning informed by relative knowledge to assess societal, health, safety, legal and cultural issues and the consequent responsibilities relevant to professional manners and etiquette.
PLO 5	Ethics: Apply ethical principles and commit to professional ethics, responsibilities and the norms of the lawyers professional manners and etiquette.
PLO 6	Individual work and team work: Function effectively in the individual law chamber and as a member or leader of particular law chamber or legal work base office/teams as well as in multidisciplinary settings.
PLO 7	Communication: Communicate effectively about legal issues with the general people and with society at large. Be able to comprehend and write effective opinion, prepare legal documentation, make effective presentations before the court and clients and give and receive clear instructions..
PLO 8	Life-long learning: Recognize and need for and have the preparation and ability to engage in independent, life-long learning in the broadest context of legal changes.

Mapping of CLOs with Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO 8
CLO1	2							3
CLO2	2	2	1		1			3
CLO3	2	3	1	2		2	1	3
CLO4	1	2	1					3
CLO5	2						1	3

Part B

15. Course plan specifying contents, CLOs, teaching-learning and assessment strategy with corresponding CLOs:

Week	Lecture	Topics	Book(s) & Other Reference(s)	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLO (s)
1	1	General Clauses Act, 1897: Scope, Applicability,	The General Clauses Act.1897 Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture		CLO1, CLO5
	2	Definitions,		Lecture		CLO1, CLO5
2	3	Definitions,	The General Clauses Act.1897 Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture		CLO1, CLO5
	4	General Rules of Construction Section 5 to 13A, Powers & Functions (Section14-19),		Lecture, Group Study		CLO1, CLO5
3	5	. Rules relating to construction of Orders made by President		Lecture		CLO1, CLO5
	6	. General rules of Construction-Coming into operation of enactments,		Lecture, Group Study		CLO1, CLO5
4	7	Repeal of enactment & its effect, Revival of repealed enactment & its effect. Rules relating to fine & punishment	The General Clauses Act.1897 Mahmudul Islam-	Lecture		CLO1, CLO5

	8	Rules relating to time, gender & number	<i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture		CLO1, CLO5
5	9	Provisions as to orders rules etc. made under enactments. Delegated legislation.		Lecture		CLO1, CLO5

	10	Rules relating to construction of Ordinance,	The General Clauses Act.1897 Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture	Class test 1	CLO1, CLO5
14	11	Provisions as to Orders & Rules made Under enactments, Miscellaneous provisions		Lecture		CLO1, CLO5
	12	Interpretation of documents: Meaning of documents,		Lecture		CLO1, CLO5
15	13	ascertaining intention of the parties	The General Clauses Act.1897 Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture, Interactive Discussion		CLO1, CLO5
	14	Meaning to be sought from document itself, Intention may prevail over the words in case of ambiguity,		Lecture		CLO3
16	15	Rule of ordinary meaning, Technical meaning to legal terms, ,		Lecture, Interactive Discussion		CLO3
	16	Meaning to 'Exemption Clauses'		Lecture, Interactive Discussion		CLO3
17	17	Ejusdem Generis etc.		Lecture, Interactive Discussion		CLO2
	18	Revision Class		Interactive Discussion		
	Midterm Examination					
18	19	Objectives of Interpretation, General principles of interpretation.	Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents.</i>	Lecture	Class Test 02	CLO2

	20	Rules of Interpretation:		Lecture		CLO5
19	21	Definition of statutes, Definition of Interpretation & Construction, Differences between Interpretation & Construction		Lecture		CLO1
	22	Different parts of statutes,		Lecture		CLO2
20	23	Different types of statutes	Statutory Interpretation and the General Clauses Act by Md. Abdul Halim Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture, Interactive Discussion		CLO2
	24	Special rules of interpretation- Literal rule, Golden rule		Lecture, Interactive Discussion		CLO2
21	25	Purposive construction, Mischief rule, Rules of Harmonious Construction Rules of Beneficial construction		Lecture	Assignment and Presentation	CLO4
	26	General Principles of statutory Interpretation: Intention of the legislature, Statute to be read as a whole in proper context,	Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture		CLO4
22	27	Construction to avoid unconstitutionality and to make law effective		Lecture, Group Study		CLO4
	28	Presumption against absurdity, Statutes speaks for itself, Principle derived from legal policy,	Statutory Interpretation and the General Clauses Act by Md. Abdul Halim	Lecture		CLO3
23	29	Interpretation of Penal statute,	Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture		CLO4
	30	Interpretation of Constitutional law		Lecture		CLO2, CLO3, CLO4
24	31	Role of Judiciary in Interpretation	Statutory Interpretation and the General Clauses Act by Md. Abdul Halim	Lecture, Interactive Discussion		CLO2, CLO3, CLO4

	32	Internal aids of interpretation	Mahmudul Islam- <i>Interpretation of statutes & documents</i>	Lecture		CLO4
25	33	External aids of interpretation		Lecture		CLO2, CLO4
	34	Maxims of interpretation	Statutory Interpretation and the General Clauses Act by Md. Abdul Halim	Lecture		CLO2 CLO3

Part C

16. Assessment and Evaluation:

a) Assessment Strategy:

- Students will have **two class tests (CTs)** during the semester in this course. The date and time of each Class Test will be announced before the tests. All CTs will be closed book.
- The marks of the **two class tests** will be counted and averaged.
- There will be **one assignment** with **presentation**.
- No late submission of any assignment will be accepted.
- If students cannot submit their assignments within due time for any valid reason(s), their assignment will be accepted as late submission but the marks of assignment will be deducted.
- Failure to submit assignments will carry Zero Mark(s).
- Evaluated copies of assignments will be shown to the students during the class time.
- Zero tolerance will be shown in case of copy/manipulation in assignment. Two or more copied assignments will carry zero mark.
- Remaining absent in any presentation will carry zero mark in that presentation and there will be no make-up presentation.
- There will be one **Midterm Examination** and the **Final Examination** according to the rule of BUBT.
- All the examined scripts of Class Tests and Midterm Examination will be shown to the students during the class time.

b) Marks Distribution:

Marks distribution of each course at BUBT is made on 100 marks and the distribution of weightage is given below:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Marks</i>
Class Attendance	05

Class Test	15
Assignment and Presentation	10
Midterm Examination	30
Final Examination	40
Total	100

Marks distribution for class attendance

A student must attend at least 70% classes in all the courses. 5% marks in each course is allocated for attendance and this score will vary from 1 to 5 according to his/her percentage of presence as shown below:

Percentage of Attendance	Marks
91% to 100%	5
86% to 90%	4
81% to 86%	3
76% to 80%	2
70% to 75%	1

c) Grading Policy:

The grading policy of BUBT will be followed to grade the students:

Marks (%)	Letter Grade	Grade Point
80 -100	A+	4.00
75 to less than 80	A	3.75
70 to less than 75	A-	3.50
65 to less than 70	B+	3.25
60 to less than 65	B	3.00
55 to less than 60	B-	2.75
50 to less than 55	C+	2.50
45 to less than 50	C	2.25
40 to less than 45	D	2.00
Less than 40	F	0.00

d) Make-up Procedure:

- i. If any student remains absent in CT(s) because of valid reason(s), he/she must report it to the course teacher immediately. The course teacher may consider the reason(s) of remaining absent in CT(s) and may give a make-up schedule for that CT(s). No further make-up schedule of CT(s) will be given if a student fails to comply with the earlier make-up schedule.

- ii. If any student fails to attend the Mid-term Examination or and Final Examination for valid reason(s), he/she may apply for supplementary examination(s) **according to the rules of BUBT** and the supplementary examination(s) will be conducted by the Controller of Examination according to the examination rules of BUBT.
- iii. If any student remains absent in any class(es) due to valid reason(s), he/she needs to submit a 'Written Application' to the course teacher supported by proper document(s). After verifying the submitted documents, the class teacher may grant him/her a 'Leave of Absence' and may consider the attendance for those class(es).

Part D

17. Learning Materials

a) Recommended Readings:

1. Mahmudul Islam- *Interpretation of statutes & documents*.
4. *Statutory Interpretation and the General Clauses Act* by Md. Abdul Halim

b) Supplementary Readings:

1. Singh "*Principles of Statutory Interpretation*", (9th Edition), Wadhwa, Nagpur (2008)
2. St. Langan (Ed.) *Maxwell on The Interpretation of Statutes*, Lexis Nexis Butterworths, New Delhi (1976)
3. S. Bindras's *Interpretation of Statutes*, Lexis Nexis Butterworths, New Delhi (2007)
4. P, *Interpretation of Statutes*, Orient Publishing, New Delhi (2008)
5. Bakshi, P.M. *Interpretation of Statutes*, Orient Publishing, New Delhi (2008)
6. Dr. Akhtarujjaman, *Ainer Bekkha* (Bengali), Dhaka (2014)

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