Shuja Ahmad
shuja_ahmad@uop.edu.pk
Associate Professor
Head of the Department
Department of Philosophy
University of Peshawar
Pakistan
+92- 334 916 9871

I am an Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Peshawar. With over 25 years of experience in studying, teaching, and practicing Philosophy, I have cultivated a deep understanding of the field. I hold a Ph.D. in Philosophy, a Master's in Philosophy and Economics, and a Bachelor's in Mathematics. My areas of expertise include *Logic and Critical Thinking*, *Philosophy of Language*, and *Science*. At the University of Peshawar, I teach Philosophy courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels and also serve as a visiting faculty member at various other universities. Additionally, I supervise MPhil scholars. I have extensive experience in practicing Philosophy and facilitating workshops and seminars. Workshops, training sessions, and talks mainly focus on: *The Art of Argumentation*; *Philosophy and the Art of Living*; *Issues of Ethics*, *Logic, and Critical Thinking in Research*; *Discourse Analysis; Creative and Critical Thinking*; *Philosophy for Peaceful Coexistence*; *Emotional Intelligence; The Problem of Demarcation between Science and Pseudo-Science;* AI, Information Age and New Epistemic Environment and *The Importance and Significance of Philosophy in Life*.

CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor (Since 2026)
Head of the Department of Philosophy, University of Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Since 2018)

EDUCATION

Ph. D. from the University of Peshawar, Pakistan (2011)
Master of Arts in Economics from the University of Peshawar (2000)
Master of Arts in Philosophy (Gold Medalist) from the University of Peshawar (1995)
Bachelor of Science (Mathematics A, Mathematics B, and Statistics) from the University of Peshawar (1993)
Counselling Skills Certificate Course (Beginner to Advanced) (2024) Udemy

MEMBERSHIP & AFFILIATION

- **CURRENT**

Convener- Graduate Studies Committee (GSC), Department of Philosophy, University of Peshawar (Since 2019)
Convener- Board of Studies, Department of Philosophy, University of Peshawar (Since 2019)
Member- Board of Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Peshawar (Since 2021)
Member- Ethical Review Board- Institute of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine (IRNUM) – Peshawar- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Since 2022)
Member- Advanced Study Research Board (ASRB) Sub-Committee of Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Peshawar (2022)
Member- Institutional Scholarship Award Committee (ISAC), University of Peshawar (Since 2021)
Member- Graduate Study Committee, Area Study Center (Russia, China and Central Asia) (Since 2023)

Member- Graduate Study Committee, Department of International Relations- University of Peshawar (Since 2023)
Member Research Ethics Board- University of Peshawar (Since 2024)

- **PAST**

Coordinator Bara Gali Summer Camp- University of Peshawar (2018-2020 and 2024-2025)
Secretary- Advanced Study Research Board (ASRB) Sub-Committee of Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Peshawar (2018-2020)
Sub Editor- The Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences (2018-2021)
Member- Board of Studies, Law College, University of Peshawar (2017-2020)
Elected Executive Member of Peshawar University Teachers Association (PUTA) (2018-2019)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION, COMPETENCE, AND INTEREST

- ✓ Philosophy of Language- Cognitive Linguistics
- ✓ Philosophy of Science
- ✓ Logic and Critical Thinking
- ✓ Ethical Issues in Research and Workplace
- ✓ Emotional Intelligence
- ✓ Philosophical Counselling
- ✓ Philosophy for Peaceful Coexistence
- ✓ Philosophy in the Age of AI

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **M.Phil. SUPERVISION AND TEACHING**

✓ Permanent faculty member of the Department of Philosophy, University of Peshawar, since 2000
  - Taught, "Introduction to Logic" and "Twentieth Century Philosophy" to MA Philosophy students
  - Teaching, "Advanced Symbolic Logic", "Advanced Epistemology", "Philosophy of Language" and "Studies in Methodology and Philosophy of Science" to MS/ MPhil/PhD scholars.
  - Supervise M. Phil. scholars

✓ Visiting faculty member Department of English, University of Peshawar (since 2020)
  - Teach, "Introduction to Philosophy" to BS students.

✓ Visiting faculty member, Department of Psychology, University of Peshawar (since 2019)
  - Teach, "Introduction to Philosophy" to BS students
  - Teach, "Studies in Methodology and Philosophy of Science" to MPhil/MS scholars

✓ Visiting faculty member at Institute of Management Sciences, Hayatabad, Peshawar. (since 2012)
  - Teach "Advanced Logic and Critical Thinking" to MS Management Science Scholars
  - Teach "Philosophy of Science and Research" to PhD Scholars

✓ Online Course, "Logic and Critical Thinking", Atomcamp. Cohort 1. January 19- 25 February 2022; Cohort 2. 11 May to 19 June 2022; Cohort 3. 21 September to 20 October 2022.

- **PROJECTS**

✓ Project Director- Fellowship Program on Promoting Peaceful Coexistence. A project of the Department of Philosophy, University of Peshawar, funded by the United States

Institute for Peace (USIP). The project was aimed at training 60 fellows as budding peace leaders and digitizing Mirror of Society- A students' magazine. (2020-2021)

- ✓ Taught "Elements of Creative and Critical Thinking" in Independent Project Reporting (IPR). IPR was a three-month certificate course in Developmental Journalism, organized by the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (JMC) at Peshawar University. The project was an integral part of the FATA Development Program implemented by the FATA Secretariat and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), funded by the German Government. (2014-2016)

- ➢ **CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS**
- ➢ Keynote Speaker in 9th International Conference on 'Research and Practices'(Evolving Learning Ecosystem: Connect, Teach and Grow); Paper presented titled, "The New Epistemic Environment: Cultivating Critical Thinking and Ethical Responsibility in the Evolving Learning Ecosystem (22-23 September 2026)
- ✓ Guest Speaker at Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy: Facilitate sessions on "Critical Thinking- Effective Decision Making " for District and Sessions Judges.(Since 2024)
- ✓ Conduct workshops on "Critical Thinking" as part of the Senior Management Course (SMC) at the National Institute of Management (NIM) in Islamabad. This course participants comprise a diverse group from Civil Services, including the Pakistan Administrative Service, Pakistan Customs Service, Secretariat Group, Pakistan Audit & Accounts Service, Foreign Service of Pakistan, Commerce & Trade Group, Inland Revenue Service, Police Service of Pakistan, Information Group, as well as various Ministries and Autonomous Bodies. (Since 2023)
- ✓ Facilitate sessions on "Critical Thinking and Mindfulness for Peace Promotion" Salamti Fellowship, organized by Shaoor Foundation for Education and Awareness. (Since 2023)
- ✓ Regular Guest Speaker at Higher Education Academy of Research and Training (HEART), Peshawar. Facilitate sessions on "The Art of Argumentation- Critical and Analytical Thinking Skills" to the Academic and Managerial staff working in the Government Colleges of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. (Since 2019)
- ✓ Regularly participate as a Resource Person in the In-Service Certificate Training Program organized by the Center for Human Resource and Career Development (CHRCD,) University of Peshawar. The modules I teach are "The Art of Argumentation- Logic & Critical Thinking" and "Professional Ethics" (Since 2014)
- ✓ Regularly conducted training as a resource person in the Master Trainer Faculty Professional Development Program (MT- FPDP) at the Higher Education Commission (HEC), Islamabad. The module I taught was "Logic & Critical Thinking". Young faculty of various universities from all over Pakistan participated in the training. (2015-2018)
- ✓ Regular Guest Speaker- Junior Command and Staff School (JC & SS) Pakistan Air .Force-PAF (2014- 2016)

- ✓ Seminar on "What is Philosophy?" at City University of Science and Technology (CUSIT), Peshawar. (February 15, 2011)
- ✓ Seminar on "Informal Fallacies in Business and Management" at City University (April 29, 2014)
- ✓ Conducted sessions on "What is Knowledge" and "Philosophies of Research" in a workshop, "Research Philosophies and Research Methods in Finance", organized by Quaid Azam College of Commerce, University of Peshawar, at Bara Gali Campus, University of Peshawar(5 to 8 August 2015)

- ✓ Conducted a seminar on "Knowledge" at the University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar (December 9, 2016)
- ✓ Participated as a guest speaker in the "Career Development Workshop for Women in Science" organized by the Career Counseling Center at the Woman University of Multan (21-22 February 2017)
- ✓ Conducted two two-day workshops, "Logic and Critical Thinking" on Capacity Building of Faculty Members of Distance Education at Allama Iqbal Open University in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission Pakistan(January 22-24, 2018)
- ✓ Invited Guest Speaker on "What is Knowledge?" 3rd National Training Workshop on Capacity Building of Librarians Using Research Tools at Bara Gali Summer Campus, the University of Peshawar, organized by Central Library University of Peshawar with HEC Pakistan (July 20-22, 2018)
- ✓ Conducted a session on "Critical Thinking" in a three-day workshop on Designing a Research Report and Research Paper at Bara Gali Summer Campus, University of Peshawar, organized by the Directorate of Higher Education Khyber (HED) Pakhtunkhwa (10-12 September 2018)
- ✓ Conducted a session in the Research Methods Workshop for the faculty on "Issues of Critical Thinking in Research" at the National Institute of Pakistan Studies (NIPS), Quaid Azam University, Islamabad, organized by NIPS and Hans Seidel Foundation (HSF) Pakistan Office (November 12, 2018)
- ✓ Conducted three sessions on "Developing Critical Thinking" in a Workshop, "Understanding the Learner's Psychology and Developing Critical Thinking" at Bacha Khan University, Charsadda, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (11 January 2018)
- ✓ Conducted a workshop for the Officers Grade-2, Assistant Chief Managers, and Deputy Chief Managers of State Bank of Pakistan "Argumentation – Critical Thinking" (April 21, 2018)
- ✓ Resource Person in "Cascading of Master Trainers: Faculty Professional Development Program" organized by Woman University, Swabi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for the faculty of the University. (9 to 11 July, 2018)
- ✓ Conducted a session on Capacity Building of Faculty Teaching at Undergraduate Level on "Issues of Ethics and Critical Thinking in Research" held at Govt Post Graduate College No.1, Abbottabad, organized by Directorate of Higher Education Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (4-6 January, 2019)
- ✓ Conducted a Seminar on "Critical Thinking and the Social Sciences Research'' on Friday, 08-10-2021, at the Area Study Center(Russia, China, and Central Asia)
- ✓ Participated as Resource Person in a workshop, "Strengthening Faculty Leaders as Catalysts for Change- A Discussion & Networking Workshop for Ulasi Taroon (Social Cohesion)". Organized by the Center for Research and Security Studies (CRSS) at PUTA Hall University of Peshawar (September 10, 2020)
- ✓ Facilitated a session in the Fellowship Program on Promoting Peaceful Coexistence "Argumentation- Building Peace through Logic and Language". A project of the Department of Philosophy, University of Peshawar
- ✓ Facilitated a session on "Language of Peace" Reginal Youth Summit at Bara Gali-Community Resilience Activity- North (CRA-N) – Youth Empowerment and Leadership Development (October 28-31, 2021)
- ✓ Reviewed a book, "Sophie's World" written by Jostein Gaarder at the Archives Library Peshawar, organized by Peshawar Circle (November 12, 2022)
- ✓ Facilitated a session on "Language and Communication" as Master Trainer in 6 days Capacity Building Employability Skills Training Program for Minority Youth,

organized by Minorities Affairs Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Liaison Corporation (November 21, 2022)

- ✓ Facilitated a session on "Language and Communication" as Master Trainer in 6 days Capacity Building Employability Skills Training Program for Minority Youth, organized by Minorities Affairs Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Liaison Corporation (December 12, 2022)
- ✓ Keynote talk on "Emotional Intelligence" in Youth Leadership Summit organized by the Minority Youth Organized by Minorities Affairs Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Liaison Corporation (April 13, 2023)
- ✓ Guest Speaker at Data Science Bootcamp Cohort 3 at atomcamp (August 6, 2023)
- ✓ Keynote talk on "Emotional Intelligence" in Youth Leadership Summit organized by Minority Youth Organized by the Minorities Affairs Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Liaison Corporation (September 2, 2023)
- ✓ Key Note on "The Role of Philosophy in Shaping our Worldview" in Dosti Peshawar Literature Festival (February 22, 2024)
- ✓ "Main Themes of Objectivism with Specific Focus on the Work of Ayn Rand" Organized by John Galt School, Pakistan, under the auspices of Ayn Rand Center Europe and Students for Liberty (April 2024)
- ✓ "Effective Decision Making" Post Promotion Statutory Training for District & Session Judges/ Zilla Qazis on Leadership & Management Organized by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy (March 27, 2025)

RESEARCH WORK AND PUBLICATIONS

PhD Thesis from the University of Peshawar- *Logic and Language of War with Special Reference to the War on Terror in Afghanistan: Appearance and Reality*- Supervised by Prof. Dr. Sarfraz Khan (SOAS)

Professor Peter S Fosl, Transylvania University, USA, and Prof. Dr. Ismail Latif Hacinebioglu, Suleyman Demirel University, Turkey, undertook PhD thesis reviews.

- ✓ "Free Will and Determinism in the Poetry of Ghani Khan: A Philosophical Inquiry" Volume 9, Issue 1 (2026) Journal of Islamic Civilization and Culture [with Muhammad Saqib Shinwari]
- ✓ "Philosophy Of Art according to Hegel and Heidegger" Volume 41, Issue 2 (2025) Journal of European Studies [With Shahzad Noor and Samina]
- ✓ "Nietzsche and Iqbal on Nihilism and Religion" Vol. 7, Issue 1 (2024) Islamic Civilisation and Culture [With Sher Zada]
- ✓ "Metaphors in Pakistani Politics: An Analysis of Imran Khan's Speeches in General Election 2018" Vol. 2 No. 2 (2023) Khair Ul Ummah [With Shakira Bibi and Mohammad Shafiq]
- ✓ "Mutazilites and Asharites on Causation and the Nature of the Physical World." Al-Azhar, Volume 9, Issue 1 (2023) [With Syed Jawad Ali Shah]
- ✓ "Nietzsche and Iqbal on Human Perfection: A Comparative Study" The Dialogue- Vol. 17, Issue 4 December 2022 (59-71) [With Sher Zada]
- ✓ "Conceptual Analysis of Pashto Love Metaphor" Pakistan Journal of Social Research- Vol. 4, Issue 4- December 2022 (619-628) [With Fazli Subhan]
- ✓ "Wahdat-Al-Wujud" and "Wahdat-Al-Shuhud" With Special Reference to Azeemia School Of Thought" Vol. 2 Issue 1- November 2022 Khair Ul Ummah [With Muhammad Awais]

- ✓ “Covid-19 and War Metaphor; A Linguistic Projection through Pakistani Advertisements” City University Research Journal of Literature and Linguistics Vol. (5), no. (1) June 2022 [with Fatima Khaliq]
- ✓ “Al-Ghazali and Hume On Natural Causal Necessity and Miracles” Al-Idah Volume 39, Issue 1 June 2021, 71-83 [with Syed Jawad Ali Shah]
- ✓ “Anti-Foundationalism in Nietzschean Perspectivist Epistemology” International Review of Social Sciences, Vol. 9, Issue May 2021 [with Fazli Subhan and Muhammad Omer Khan]
- ✓ “Wittgenstein from Realism to Conventionalism” The Dialogue, Vol. 15, Issue 3 (July-September 2020)[with Sher Zada]
- ✓ “The Language of War: Loss Gain Metaphorical Framing in the Context of the War on Terror” Journal of Central Asia, Issue No. 83 (Winter 2018) 143-156
- ✓ “Conditions of Knowledge: A Comparative Analysis of Traditional Theories Vs Social Theory of Knowledge” Journal of Law and Society Vol. XLIX, No. 72 (January 2018), 111-129 [with Syed Jawad Ali Shah]
- ✓ “Conceptual Metaphors for Life in Pashto” Journal of Central Asia, Issue No. 81 (2017) [with Imran Khan]
- ✓ “Fallacious Arguments that Led to Preemptive War in Iraq” The Dialogue, Vol. XII, Number. 4 (October-December, 2017) 397-413
- ✓ “Believers versus Infidel Framing in the Context of War and Conflict with Special Reference to the War on Terror in Afghanistan” Journal of Central Asia, Issue No. 79 (Winter 2016), 53-65
- ✓ “Metaphors for Life and Love: A Comparative Analysis” Journal of Law and Society Vol. XLVII No: 68 (January 2016) 115-124
- ✓ “Philosophy of Language from Positivism to Contextualism: A Brief Exposition” Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Vol. 22, No 3 (2014), 21- 34
- ✓ "False Either Or: A Fallacious Argumentative Strategy in the Context of War in General and the War on Terror in Afghanistan in Particular" Journal Central Asia 71 (2012), 83-96
- ✓ “Good Versus Evil: An Argument to Begin Global War on Terrorism” Journal of Central Asia 64 (Summer 2009), 1-41 [with Sarfraz Khan]

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES AND INTERVIEWS

- ✓ What we get wrong in Sexual Harassment Cases. February 3, 2017 (The Friday Times)
- ✓ Philosophy as Subject in the Curriculum Proposed- November 4, 2022 (Dawn)
- ✓ Pakistanis are Materialists but Think They’re Spiritual Beings- February 9, 2018 (The Friday Times)
- ✓ Crises of Knowledge, Truth and Trust: Philosophy in the Age of AI- May 27, 2025 (The Friday Times)
- ✓ From Conflict to Coexistence: Climate, Peace and Pakistan Diplomatic Role- June 1, 2026 (The Friday Times)