UNIVERSITY OF THE

FREE STATE

CALENDAR

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT

SUPPORT (CDS)

FACULTY

OF ECONOMIC AND

MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

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MASTERS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

GENERAL ORIENTATION

Faculty and general regulations

Unless specifically stated otherwise, the general regulations of the university and the faculty, which apply to magister degrees, apply to the MDS and specialised fields.

Information

Purpose of qualification

The Centre for Development Support within the Faculty of Economics and Management Sciences at the University of the Free State is presenting an inter-disciplinary Masters in Development Studies programme with lecturers from 16 different departments and centres at the University and several other collaborating Universities (Monash University, Rhodes University and the University of North West) facilitating course material. The Centre for Development Support has completed several rapid scan-assessments identifying a large demand for qualified development managers and development workers in the public, NGO and private sectors in Southern Africa. This training field is relatively untapped and a definite niche market exists to deepen the understanding of development issues amongst participants. The programme definitely meets the expectations and needs of society.

On completion of this programme, a candidate will be competent in understanding and debating important development related issues in order to design, implement and evaluate development policies and development initiatives in a sustainable human-centred manner. Graduates of the MDS programme will be able to interpret and execute applied development research and critically reflect on development policy.

Teaching and learning methods

The programme involves resource-based learning. This means self-study, with the aid of pre-selected sources of learning material as disclosed in an organised manner with a study guide. The contact sessions are largely devoted to seminars, case studies, group work and applications of theory and methodology. On-campus tuition takes place for one week at the beginning of the year, for a week in the middle of the year and the final week in the last quarter of the year (year one). In the second year students are required to attend one week of lecturers at the beginning of the year and again in the middle of the year. The rest of the second year will involve the completion of the mini-dissertation.

Assessment

Assessment methods can include:
- Class participation and presentations
- Assignments
- Project proposals
- Simulated research/development proposals
- Research reports
- Formal written examinations
- Mini-dissertation

Capabilities and competencies of students

Students will have to demonstrate the following capabilities to:
- understand the most important development approaches related to development and underdevelopment and to analyse the development situations according
- analyse and critically debate pertinent development issues in the Southern African context
- identify and understand potential problems/phenomena that lead to underdevelopment and poverty in the Southern African region
- conduct and utilise applied development research techniques to inform policy.

The specific outcomes that students will have to demonstrate include the following competencies:

- analyse and critically reflect on current and future development approaches and development initiatives in Southern Africa
- design strategies to address underdevelopment and alleviate poverty in the Southern Africa context
- monitor and evaluate development initiatives (i.e. Programmes and projects)
- conduct and utilise applied development research methods in order to make a real contribution in solving development-related problems
- integrate development research findings into development decision-making and development policy making
- manage development programmes and projects in a financial and environmental sustainable and human-centred manner.

REGULATIONS

Faculty requirements

General admission requirements

Over and above the general regulations regarding admission to this university and the admission to magister degree, the following admission requirements must be met:

- A recognised three year tertiary qualification, equal to 360 credits on NQF level 6 or Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) equivalent (See paragraph below).
- A satisfactory academic record.
- Work-related learning experience in development.
- Appropriate English language proficiency.

A selection takes place at the end of the year and the admission requirements apply. An admission committee will assess all applicants' prior learning against a set of outcomes written according to level descriptors at the NQF level 7. A policy of limited enrolment will be practiced. Applicants that are not admitted may appeal to the Dean of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. The outcome of this appeal will be final.

Registration

- Annual registration as a student of the University of the Free State is compulsory until the qualification is completed.
- The final registration date of the Centre for Development Support corresponds with the final registration date of the university.

Duration

- The programme is aimed at part-time students.
- The minimum time for completing the programme is 2 years on a part-time basis.
- The maximum time for completing the programme is 4 years (2 years + 2 additional years). No further admission will be granted beyond this maximum completion time.

Exemptions/Recognition of prior learning

- Exemptions and recognition of prior learning will only be granted for courses passed during the past five years.
- Exemptions and recognition of prior learning will only be granted for postgraduate courses.
- Students may apply for exemption from a maximum of five semester courses (modules).

Degree with distinction

- The MDS is obtained with distinction if an average of 75% is obtained for the required number of courses and/or mini-dissertation/dissertation or publishable article(s) within four consecutive semesters.
- If a student is granted exemption for certain modules only those modules that have been completed in the MDS programme at the University of the Free State will be taken into consideration in calculating the average mark.

Class attendance

- It is compulsory to attend all contact sessions. Not attending could lead to an incomplete module.

Reg. F 1   MAGISTER IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (240 credits)
MDS
Study code (06782)

CURRICULUM

Students registering for the MDS degree must meet the requirements of the Faculty and that of the University on completion of their curriculum as set out in the following schedule.

In order to obtain a Master degree in Development Studies, the programme consists of five core modules in the first year and two elective modules, as well as a mini-dissertation in the second year.

The curriculum comprises of the option to do seven modules and a mini-dissertation/ one publishable article, or five modules and a dissertation/two publishable articles. After successfully completing the programme, a student will be able to continue with a Ph.D. in Development Studies. However, admission to a doctor's degree is subject to the general regulations of the university and approval by that particular Programme Director or Chairperson/Head of Department in which the doctorate is envisaged, based on a satisfactory academic background and the submission of an approved research proposal in conjunction with the prescribed procedures of that particular department and the faculty.

The programme will consist of the following core modules in the first year:

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
MDS 701	Development, Underdevelopment and Poverty	24
MDS 702	Governance and Development	24
MDS 703	Development and the Natural Environment	24
MDS 704	Applied Development Research	24
MDS 705	Project Management for Development	24

- In the second year of study, students can, in consultation with the Programme Director and Study leader(s), choose between:

a) doing a mini-dissertation/publishable article (72 credits) and 2 (two) elective modules (24 credits each) from below

or

b) doing an extended-dissertation/2 (two) publishable articles (120 credits)

Second year elective modules:

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
MDS 706	Rural and Agrarian Development	24
MDS 707	Gender and Development	24
MDS 708	Tourism Development	24
MDS 709	Entrepreneurship and Development	24
MDS 710	Urban Development Management I	24
MDS 711	Urban Development Management II	24
MDS 712	Health and Development	24
MDS 713	HIV/AIDS and Development	24
MDS 714	Migration and Development	24

Mini-dissertation/Publishable article: MDS 791 (72 credits)

In consultation with the Programme Director and assigned study leader the student may opt for a publishable article on an approved topic instead of the mini-dissertation.

Extended-dissertation/Two publishable articles: MDS 794 (120 credits)

In consultation with the Programme Director and assigned study leader the student may opt for two publishable related articles, on one approved topic, instead of the dissertation.

Research Masters in Development Studies: MDS 700 (Research without course work modules) (240 credits)

Students selecting this option have to submit a Research Masters dissertation or the equivalent of three related articles, on one approved topic, and presented in a format suitable for publication as accredited articles.

PHILOSOPHIAE DOCTOR IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
Ph. D. Development Studies: MDS900
Study code (06960)

Refer to the yearbook of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences and general regulations of the University of the Free State.

Additional prerequisites for admission: Ph.D.

- Admission to a doctor's degree is subject to the general regulations of the University and approval by that particular the Programme Director or Chairperson/Head of Department in which the doctorate is envisaged, based on a satisfactory academic background and the submission of an approved research proposal in conjunction with the prescribed procedures of that particular department and the faculty. A further admission requirement to a Ph.D. in Development Studies is that the applicant should have completed a mini-dissertation/dissertation at Masters level.

Curriculum

The qualification is awarded on the basis of a thesis.
Or

5 publishable related articles on one approved topic.

SYLLABUSES FOR MDS PROGRAMME

CORE MODULES FOR FIRST YEAR

MDS 701: Development, Underdevelopment and Poverty (24 credits)

The aim of this module is to familiarise students with the history of the development debate, the nature of development indicators, and the variety of theories attempting to explain development or the lack thereof. Particular emphasis is laid on poverty. The causes and consequences of poverty are studied, while strategies of poverty alleviation are appraised by means of southern African case studies.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Conventional Theories of Economic Development
Theme 2:   Alternative Development Approaches
Theme 3a: Conceptions and Dimensions of Poverty
Theme 3b: Poverty Comparisons
Theme 4:   Development Goals and Development Indicators y

MDS 702: Governance and Development (24 credits)

This module aims at orientating students towards the topic from a multi-disciplinary point of departure; broadening their knowledge basis on the relationship between governance and development; and sensitising the student to the importance of the political environment and the legal framework to comply with the ideal of good governance. Focus points of this course are:

-      concepts, explanations and trends in the field of political development;
-      the institutional character and dynamics of the political environment;
-      constitutional provisions for governance and development;
-      public management.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Political science:

        Section 1:   Political Development

        Section 2:   Political Environment

Theme 2:   Constitutional Law

        Section 1:   Law, Human rights and developmental governance

Theme 3:   Public Management

        Section 1:   Political and Administrative Phenomena of Governance
        Section 2:   Normative principles of public management
        Section 3:   The Public Policy Process
        Section 4:   Policy Environment and Policy Formation
        Section 5:   RDP and GEAR

MDS 703: Development and the Natural Environment (24 credits)

The aim of this module is twofold. Firstly, it aims to familiarise students by means of five introductory themes, with environmental processes and dynamics that interact with development programmes and impact upon the stride towards sustainable development. Secondly, the module sets out to sensitise students in respect of the latest strategies and policies that have been formulated and implemented to accommodate and direct the interaction between environmental and developmental interests.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Population, Environment and Development
Theme 2:   Conservation and Development
Theme 3:   Sustainable settlements
Theme 4:   Environmental Law and Policy
Theme 5:   Resource Economics and Resource Management

MDS 704: Applied Development Research (24 credits)

The aim of this module is to introduce and explain different research methods and techniques that can be used/applied in the field of development. The module will inform the making of appropriate operational choices (and motivation/justification of these choices) throughout the research process. Furthermore, it will enable the researcher to develop appropriate methodologies and implementation plans for research projects. Attention will also be devoted to the writing of research proposals in order to elicit support and funding for projects and to the preparation of research report, research data and research findings to various stakeholders and audiences.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Theoretical Overview of Research Methodology
Theme 2:   The Research Proposal

MDS 705: Project Management for Development (24 credits)

This is a competency-based course. The course consists of a number of simple competencies to be mastered by students. A competency is a practical skill or knowledge required to complete a particular task. Students will be able to learn a series of competencies, which will enable them to set up and run simple projects. It is expected that the best place to learn about project management is to do it in real life. More complex project management competencies will develop over time, but the initial focus is to master the art of running small and simple projects.

This reading is only a part of the learning process. Students will add to it from their own experience in the field. It is suggested that students work together in small groups and discuss the contents of this reading and learn in this way form each other. This module is nothing more than a rough road map; the details have to be completed by the students whilst developing and implementing real-life projects. The readings alone will not be enough to develop skilled project managers. It is the aim of this module to suggest one

way in which policies can be implemented; it is not the only way and we expect that students will develop their own approaches as they develop the confidence to run projects.

It is assumed that learning is optimised when students are engaged in practical tasks (such as running a small project) and then progressing to more complex levels. The setting up and running of well-defined projects is seen as an ideal vehicle to learn about more complex and develop general management skills.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Introduction to Project Management – The process
Theme 2:   Situation Analysis and Sustainability (feasibility study)
Theme 3:   Stakeholder Participation
Theme 4:   Project Selection and Planning
Theme 5:   Network Analysis and GANTT Charts (Time Management)
Theme 6:   Project Estimation and Costing and Procurement Management
Theme 7:   Project Accounts, Project Management Accounting and Budgeting
Theme 8:   Project Implementation (Ensuring quality and dealing with risks)
 Theme 9:   Control and Earned Value, Monitoring and Evaluation

ELECTIVE MODULES FOR SECOND YEAR

MDS 706: Rural and Agrarian Development (24 credits)

This module is intended to equip students with an understanding of the following:
* a broad frame of reference concerning the key problems facing people in rural areas;
* the impact of government policies on people in rural areas;
* agricultural systems and how these are influenced by various factors;
* land tenure arrangements in rural areas and their effect on agricultural production production, food security, etc.;
* the impact of land reform policies;
* the factors that determine the adoption of new technologies especially in rural areas and

- the way forward for rural areas.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Rural Areas in Perspective

Theme 2:   Government policies, land reform and spatial dynamics in rural development

Theme 3:   Agricultural Systems, Land Tenure and Land Reform

Theme 4:   Innovative natural resource management techniques for agriculture

MDS 707: Gender and Development (24 credits)

Theme 1 of this module aims to familiarise and sensitise students in respect of critical variable of gender, in particular its use in analysing roles, responsibilities, constraints and opportunities in developing countries. In addition, the aim is to aim provide students with skills to do gender planning and to assess development projects in terms of gender.

The second theme on Gender and the Law aims at empowering students to use the law to effect change in the developing World and to influence policy-makers.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Gender and Development

Theme 2:   Gender and Law

MDS 708: Tourism Development (24 credits)

The aim of this module is to assist students in implementing a sustainable approach to tourism development in their communities. This module therefore acquaints students with the concepts, principles and techniques of planning for integrated and sustainable tourism development.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Development Theories and Tourism Theory
Theme 2:   The Relationship between Development and Tourism
Theme 3:   Barriers to Tourism Development
Theme 4:   Tourism Policy in South Africa
Theme 5:   Tourism and development issues in contemporary South Africa

MDS 709: Entrepreneurship and Development (24 credits)

The aim of this module is to promote a better understanding of SMME business development, entrepreneurial development and management development.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   SMME Business development
Theme 2:   Entrepreneurial development
Theme 3:   Management development

MDS 710: Urban Development Management I (24 credits)

The broad aim of the module is to build and strengthen the capacities of existing and future persons involved in the field of urban development and management to cope with the urban challenges in a more effective, efficient and sustainable manner in order to increase the quality of life of those living in urban areas.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Global Urban Challenges and responses to these Challenges
Theme 2:   Urban Development Policy Environment
Theme 3:   Development and Planning

MDS 711: Local Economic Development and Housing Policy (24 credits)

The broad aim of the module is to build and strengthen the capacities of existing and future persons involved in the field of urban development and management to cope with the urban challenges in a more effective, efficient and sustainable manner in order to increase the quality of life of those living in urban areas.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   Local Economic Development
Theme 2:   Housing Policy

MDS 712: Health and Development (24 credits)

The aim of this module is to introduce students to the study of health and to engender a basic understanding of the link between health and development. It is endeavoured to relate the issues of health policy, or main epidemics and/or he situation of high-risk groups to development in general, and specific case study development projects. The module is directed towards an understanding of the South and Southern African health situation and health care systems and how these impact on development, and *vice versa.*

This module consists of the following themes:

- Theme 1: The reciprocal relationship between health and development: Key issues in health, western health care and development on the African continent

- Theme 2: The health of the South African population: the impact of the HIV and AIDS – Tuberculosis dual epidemic on development

- Theme 3: High-risk group case studies: the health of women and young people

MDS 713: HIV/AIDS and Development (24 credits)

The aim of this module is to familiarise students with the nature and characteristics of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, its root causes, issues of gender and HIV/AIDS, the development-related impacts of the epidemic, and responses to the epidemic. The HIV/AIDS epidemic, therefore, is studied here in the context of development and development work.

This module consists of the following themes:

Theme 1:   AIDS: Current trends and fuelling factors
Theme 2:   Gender, Poverty and HIV/AIDS
Theme 3:   Impacts: HIV/AIDS as Development Challenges
Theme 4:   Responses to the HIV/AIDS Epidemic

MDS 714: Migration and Development (24 credits)

The aim of this module is to introduce the student to the field of migration studies, including not only the conceptual and theoretical issues pertaining to migration studies, such as defining and measuring migration and describing migration patterns, but also the particular links between migration and development, including the role that employment plays in explaining migration patterns, as well as the link between quality of life and migration. Issues of forced migration are also tackled from a development perspective, while the module also deals with cultural aspects of migration. In addition, the module focuses on the role of migration policy and of development policy in making the most of the positive relationships between migration and development in achieving development and poverty alleviation, but also in addressing the negative relationships between migration and development in fighting underdevelopment and poverty.

This module consists of the following:

Learning Objective 1:   Define and measure migration
Learning Objective 2:   Describe the nature of migration patterns in Africa,
                             Southern Africa and South Africa

Learning Objective 3:   Discuss the various theoretical and conceptual explanations of migration

Learning Objective 4:   Discuss the links between migration and employment, both at a national and international level

Learning Objective 5:   Explain how migration is related to the life-course

Learning Objective 6:   Explain the links between migration and development (quality of life)

Learning Objective 7:   Explain how development contributes to or are linked to forced migration

Learning Objective 8:   Discuss the cultural aspects of migration and the impact of migration on culture

Learning Objective 9:   Discuss the implications of the links between development and migration for migration and development policies