

MSc Development Studies – SH522

1. Background and Objectives

Contemporary problems are becoming increasingly complex to handle. As countries across the globe wrestle to address the multiplicity of crises they are confronted with, they have to rely on expertise from diverse fields and disciplines. Development studies is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary field of study, seeking to understand development and change. Normative and policy concerns constitute the essence of development studies. The latter seeks to find solutions to problems created by development and/or the very absence of same. Development studies examines societal change within a historical, socio-economic, political, comparative and global perspective. The various insights of this interdisciplinary field of study can assist in providing local responses to regional and/or global processes and can inform development policy and public action.

The specific objectives of the MSc Development Studies course are to:

- 1 Develop the analytical capacities, theoretical expertise and research skills of a broad range of professionals including mid career ones as well as development practitioners.
- 2 Create a pool of expertise in diverse development areas pertaining to the traditional and emerging sectors of the economy, both locally and regionally.
- 3 Provide a platform for critical engagement with the view of engaging in further research and thus contribute to the consolidation of a South knowledge production as well as contributing to relevant policy making.

In so doing, Development Studies contributes to making societies and development more sustainability and people oriented.

2. General Entry Requirements

In accordance with the University General Entry Requirements for admission to Postgraduate degree Programmes.

3. Programme Requirements

Successful completion of an undergraduate degree with

- at least a Second Class or 50%, whichever is applicable
- **OR** alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius

4. Programme Duration

The duration of the Graduate programme should normally not exceed 4 years (8 semesters) and in any case (under Flexible learning programmes) not 7 years (14 semesters).

| | Minimum Years | Maximum Years |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Master's Degree | 2 | 4 |
| Postgraduate Diploma | 2 | 4 |

5. Credits per Semester:

As per University Regulation.

6. Minimum Credits Required for the Awards

| | Credits |
|----------------------|---------|
| Masters Degree | 39 |
| Postgraduate Diploma | 26 |

| Modules | Credits |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Core: | |
| Development Studies | 15 |
| Dissertation | 9 |
| Economics | 6 |
| Electives | 6 |
| Workshops | 3 |
| Total | 39 |

7. Additional Programme Specificities

- (1) Candidates who do not have any and/or sufficient relevant background may be required to follow some foundation modules as deemed appropriate by the University.
- (2) Teaching Methodology: Lectures, seminar presentations, tutorial, case studies and site visits.
- (3) Three compulsory/practitioners' workshops will be organised during the programme. Each workshop carries one credit.

8. Assessment

Each module will carry 100 marks and will be assessed as follows (unless otherwise specified):
Written examination of 2-3 hours duration and continuous assessment carrying 30-40% of total marks.

Continuous assessment may be based on seminar presentations and/or assignments and should include at least 1 class test.

An overall total of 40% for combined continuous assessment and written examination components would be required to pass the module, without minimum thresholds within the individual continuous assessment and written examination. The same criterion will apply for modules being assessed jointly. Note that all overall mark for the two modules will be considered and not the individual marks for each of the two modules.

All modules and workshops carry their own credit value.

The Dissertation will carry 9 credits + 3 credits from the compulsory workshops. Dissertations will be carried out in the area of specialisation, if applicable.

Submission Deadlines for Dissertations

- Research Proposal : By the end of second semester of the first year.
- First Draft : End of July in the Final Year.
- Final Copy : Last week day of August in the Final Year by 4.00 p.m at latest.

9. Choice of Electives

Students will be required to submit their choice of electives in order of priority by the end of Semester 1 of Year 1.

The University reserves the right not to offer a given elective module if the critical number of students is not attained and/or if there are resource constraints.

10. List of Modules

MSc Development Studies

CORE MODULES

| Code | Module Name | Hrs/Wk | Credits |
|-----------|---|--------|---------|
| | | L+P | |
| DVPT 5101 | Economics of Development | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5102 | Development with Gender Perspectives and Applications | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5103 | Poverty and Social Protection | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5201 | Social Economics | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 6101 | International Political Economy | 3+0 | 3 |
| ECON 5206 | Public Sector Financial Management | 3+0 | 3 |
| ECON 6103 | Sustainable Development and Economics of Environment | 3+0 | 3 |

DISSERTATION

| | | | |
|-----------|--|---|----------|
| DVPT 6000 | Dissertation | - | 9 |
| | + | | |
| | 3 Compulsory Workshops (During Years 1 & 2) | | 3 |
| | Research Methods | | |
| | Socio-Economics Governance, Development & Gender | | |
| | Contemporary Issues & Societal Dynamics | | |

ELECTIVES

| | | | |
|-----------|---|-----|---|
| ECON 5103 | Issues in Public Policy | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5205 | Democracy, Governance and Development | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5204 | Conflict, Reconstruction and Human Security | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 6201 | Development, Civil Society Actors and the State | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 6202 | Human rights, Development and Social Justice | 3+0 | 3 |
| ECON 6206 | Global Business, Development and Livelihoods | 3+0 | 3 |

Note: Timing and selection of electives will vary depending on resource availability.

Students will have to indicate their choice of electives by the middle of the first semester.

11. Programme Plan – MSc Development Studies

Year 1

| Code | Module Name | Hrs/Wk L+P | Credits |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|---------|
| DVPT 5101 | Economics of Development ¹ | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5102 | Development with Gender Perspectives and Applications ¹ | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5103 | Poverty and Social Protection ¹ | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5201 | Social Economics ² | 3+0 | 3 |
| ECON 5206 | Public Sector Financial Management ² | 3+0 | 3 |
| Electives – Choose one from: | | | |
| ECON 5103 | Issues in Public Policy ² | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5204 | Conflict, Reconstruction and Human Security ² | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 5205 | Democracy, Governance and Development ² | 3+0 | 3 |

Year 2

| Code | Module Name | Hrs/Wk L+P | Credits |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|---------|
| DVPT 6101 | International Political Economy ¹ | 3+0 | 3 |
| ECON 6103 | Sustainable Development and Economics of Environment ¹ | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 6000 | Dissertation | - | 9 |
| | 3 CREDITS FROM COMPULSORY WORKSHOPS (DURING YEAR 1 & 2) ON THE THEMES: | | |
| | Research Methods | 15 hrs | 1 |
| | Socio-Economic Governance, Development & Gender | 15 hrs | 1 |
| | Contemporary Issues & Societal Dynamics | 15 hrs | 1 |
| Electives – Choose one from: | | | |
| DVPT 6201 | Development, Civil Society Actors and the State ² | 3+0 | 3 |
| DVPT 6202 | Human Rights, Development and Social Justice ² | 3+0 | 3 |
| ECON 6206 | Global Business Development and Livelihoods ² | 3+0 | 3 |

1. Modules will be taught in the first semester of the concerned academic year.
2. Modules will be taught in the second semester of the concerned academic year.