

MSc Social Development - SH520 (Under Review)

1. Objectives

Contemporary societies are experiencing rapid changes in their social and economic structures in the wake of globalisation. Liberalisation of markets and new technologies with emphasis on neo-liberal policies present challenges for sustaining welfare systems, meeting human needs and for the alleviation of poverty.

The aim of the MSc Social Development is to provide academic training to develop the analytical, planning, monitoring and research skills of a range of professionals concerned with social development. The Programme is also intended for graduates interested in developing career outlets in areas related to social justice and equity, distribution of resources, basic needs fulfilment and poverty alleviation.

2. General Entry Requirements

Successful completion of an undergraduate degree with

- at least a Second Class or 50%, whichever is applicable or
- a GPA not less than 2.5 out of 4 or equivalent, from a recognised higher education institution

OR alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius

3. Programme Requirements

Same as above.

4. General and Programme Requirements – Special Cases

The following may be deemed to have satisfied the General and Programme requirements for admission:

- (i) Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.
- (ii) Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but who in the opinion of Senate submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.
- (iii) Applicants who hold a full practising professional qualification obtained by examination.

5. Programme Duration

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

	Normal (P/T)	Maximum (P/T)
Master's Degree:	4 Semesters	8 Semesters
Postgraduate Diploma:	4 Semesters	8 Semesters
Postgraduate Certificate:	2 Semesters	4 Semesters

6. Credits per Semester: Minimum 3 credits subject to Regulation 5.

7. Minimum Credits Required for the Awards

Master's Degree:	36 credits
Postgraduate Diploma:	24 credits
Postgraduate Certificate:	12 credits

Breakdown as follows:

	(Minimum) Core Taught Modules	Dissertation	Electives/ Optional Modules
Master's Degree:	18 credits	12 credits	6 credits
Postgraduate Diploma:	12 credits		6-12 credits
Postgraduate Certificate:	6 credits		6 credits

8. Additional Programme Specificities

- (i) Candidates who do not have any relevant Social Science background, may be required to follow foundation module/s in Introductory Sociology/Social Policy.
- (ii) Teaching Methodology: Lectures, Seminar presentation, tutorials and site visits.
- (iii) A series of compulsory non-assessed workshops will be organised during the Programme.

9. 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 10-40% of total marks.

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

For a student to pass a module, a minimum of 30% should be attained in both of Continuous Assessment and Written Examination separately, with an overall total of a minimum of 40% in that module.

All modules carry their own credit value.

Dissertations will carry 12 credits. They will be carried out in the area of specialisation, if applicable.

Submission Deadlines for Dissertations

- First Draft: End of July in the Final Year.
- Final Copy: Last working day of August in the Final Year.

10. Choice of Electives

Students will be required to submit their choice of electives in order of priority by the middle 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.

11. Important Note

The rules as stipulated in this Programme Structure and Outline Syllabus will replace all other rules and regulations found in previous Programme Structures.

12. List of Modules

CORE MODULES

Code	Module Name	Hrs/Wk L+P	Credits
SCDV 5101	Perspectives on Social Development	3+0	3
SCPL 5001	Social Policy: Values, Approaches and Planning	3+0	3
SOCI 5002	Social Research Methods	3+0	3
SCDV 5202	Globalisation & Livelihoods	3+0	3
SCDV 5302	Social Dislocation and Conflict Resolution	3+0	3
SOCI 5304	Engendering Development	3+0	3

DISSERTATION

SCDV 5000	Dissertation	-	12
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ELECTIVES

ECON 5114	Perspectives of the Mauritian Economy	3+0	3
LAW 5001	Human Rights and Governance	3+0	3
SCDV 5004	Decentralisation, Good Governance and Civil Society	3+0	3
SOCI 5003	Democracy, Religion and Development	3+0	3
SCDV 5003	Social Sector Development: Health, Education and Housing	3+0	3
SCPL 5004	Social Security & Income Maintenance	3+0	3
SCPL 5005	Planning & Managing the Health Sector	3+0	3
COMS 6201	Communication and Networking: Empowering the Grassroots	3+0	3

COMPULSORY WORKSHOPS

Social Policy Paradigms
Project Planning and Management
Writing Skills Workshop
Dissertation Workshop

Note: Timing and selection of electives will vary depending on resource availability and viability. Students will have to indicate their choice of electives by the middle of the first semester.

13. Programme Plan - MSc Social Development

YEAR 1							
Semester 1 Code CORE	Module Name	Hrs/Wk	Credits	Semester 2 Code CORE	Module Name	Hrs/Wk	Credits
SCDV 5101	Perspectives on Social Development	3	3	SCDV 5202	Globalisation and Livelihoods	3	3
SCPL 5001	Social Policy: Values, Approaches and Planning	3	3	SOCI 5002	Social Research Methods	3	3
YEAR 2 (Semesters 1 & 2)							
Code CORE	Module Name					Hrs/Wk	Credits
SCDV 5302	Social Dislocation and Conflict Resolution					3	3
SOCI 5304	Engendering Development					3	3
SCDV 5000	Dissertation					-	12
ELECTIVES	CHOOSE TWO FROM						
ECON 5114	Perspectives of the Mauritian Economy					3	3
LAW 5001	Human Rights & Governance					3	3
SCDV 5004	Decentralisation, Good Governance and Civil Society					3	3
SOCI 5003	Democracy, Religion & Development					3	3
SCDV 5003	Social Sector Development: Health, Education and Housing					3	3
SCPL 5004	Social Security and Income Maintenance					3	3
SCPL 5005	Planning and Managing the Health Sector					3	3
COMS 6201	Communication and Networking: Empowering the Grassroots					3	3
COMPULSORY WORKSHOPS DURING YEARS 1 & 2							
	Social Policy Paradigms					non-assessed	
	Project Planning and Management					non-assessed	
	Writing Skills Workshop					non-assessed	
	Dissertation Workshop					non-assessed	

14. Outline Syllabus

This outline syllabus is not prescriptive and is intended to serve as a guide only.

COMS 6201 - COMMUNICATION AND NETWORKING: EMPOWERING THE GRASSROOTS

This module provides theoretical and practical knowledge to use communication effectively in the field of social development through an examination of the following: 'Communication for development' perspectives. Success and failure in 'communication for development' projects and programmes. Use of media. Community radio. Audience and target. Technology and information networking for development. The process of networking: building on social capital for the grassroots.

ECON 5114 - PERSPECTIVES OF THE MAURITIAN ECONOMY

Economic transformation and sectoral analysis; labour and employment issues; Social and economic indicators; information and the economy; public budgets and Welfare; demography, ageing population and government policy; Banking and Finance; exports, imports and regional co-operation.

LAW 5001 - HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE

The concept origin and history of Human Rights, The issue of Legitimate Governance. Human Rights and relevance for Social Development. Human Rights and human development. Rights to adequate standards of living, to health care, education, the rights to work and workers' rights; Human rights family and Gender issues. Human Rights for special groups - children, youth elderly and differentially abled and migrants.

SCDV 5000 - DISSERTATION

SCDV 5003 - SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT: HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HOUSING

This module is divided into two main parts. The first section introduces the theoretical and practical issues of sector-wide approaches to development planning and the implications for attempts to address cross-sectoral issues. The second part of the module examines the health, education and housing sectors focusing on critical analyses of approaches to service provision, differential access to services, and issues of quality, equity and rights.

SCDV 5004 - DECENTRALISATION, GOOD GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY

A comparative study of decentralisation, good governance and civil society with a focus on institutions and linkages. This module will examine the emergence of the three concepts and their relevance in the development discourse. Characteristics of NGOs and critical analysis of their role and functions; provision of services, advocacy, research and lobbying. Volunteerism. Comparative study of the organisational structures and changing trends. Management and funding of NGOs.

SCDV 5101 - PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Concepts: Social Evolution and Change. Under-development and Development; Causes and consequences of under-development and development. Obstacles to development. Dimensions and indicators: Social, economic and human development. Major theories of economic growth and Development. Capitalist, Market, Mixed and Socialist form of economies. State and Social Welfare. Social Planning: National, Sectoral and Decentralised planning. Governance, People and Development: Participation, Capacity Building and Empowerment.

SCDV 5202 - GLOBALISATION AND LIVELIHOODS

Perspectives and concepts of globalisation. Globalisation and problems of small states; The Developmental State; structural adjustment and its impact on livelihood strategies; Social conscience of the private sector and the role of the NGOs in poverty alleviation; The gendered changing labour market and its impact on livelihoods.

SCDV 5302 - SOCIAL DISLOCATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Introduction to the community and its evolution. Development process and impact on the Community; factors contributing to integration and those leading to dislocations, different forms of community instability: criminality, substance abuse, violence: stimulants and obstacles to change and development. Sub-groupings, interaction and cohesion. Promotion of a culture of peace and stability in the community. Initiating and managing community projects.

SCPL 5001 - SOCIAL POLICY: VALUES, APPROACHES AND PLANNING

Key concepts in Social Policy. Models of welfare. The growth of collective action. The concepts of poverty, inequality and social deprivation. Social exclusion and the 'underclass' debate. Key factors which determine the formation and implementation of social policy. The changing role of government in the provision of social services.

SCPL 5004 - SOCIAL SECURITY AND INCOME MAINTENANCE

Definitions and measurement of need and poverty. Approaches to social security and income maintenance in Mauritius and selected countries. The impact of social assistance, social insurance and demogrants on social and economic behaviour. The financing of social security and income maintenance programmes.

SCPL 5005 - PLANNING AND MANAGING THE HEALTH SECTOR

Health planning models. The role of government in health care. The organisational context of health planning and management. Factors crucial to determining successful planning. Evaluation of the health services. Alternative methods of financing health care. The role of the private sector in the provision of health services.

SOCI 5002 - SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS

Introduction to Social Research: Types and their importance: Philosophy and ethics of Social Research. Design, operationalisation and measurement. Introduction to qualitative and quantitative data analysis: Validity and reliability. Presentation of research findings.

SOCI 5003 - DEMOCRACY, RELIGION AND DEVELOPMENT

Democracy and Religion: Nature, types and their inter-relationships. Religious ethics and development. Transformation from traditional religious societies to industrial/modern society. The interplay between social, political, economic and religious institutions and their contribution to economic growth and social development. Development in multi-ethnic and multi-religious societies.

SOCI 5304 - ENGENDERING DEVELOPMENT

Basic concepts and definitions; Frameworks of analysis and evolution of policy approaches of States and International Organisations; the economy as a gendered structure; Developmental issues: structural adjustment and new industrialisation processes and their gender impact, male bias in the development process, feminisation of poverty. Gender Empowerment: economic and political participation, grassroots organizations and NGOs, alternative routes to women's empowerment.

COMPULSORY WORKSHOPS**Writing Skills Workshop**

Skills for improving essay writing, choosing the material to include, developing the argument, essay organisation and structure, style guide for references.

Dissertation Workshop

Aims and objectives of the dissertation, identifying a research question and assessing whether it is researchable, preliminary reading, planning and undertaking a literature review, sources of data and other primary material, finding a supervisor and the supervisor's role, writing and structuring a dissertation, planning and time management.

Project Planning and Management

Nature and purpose of projects – Scope, Time, Cost; Performance goals. Cost benefit Analysis and Project Appraisal. Organising Systems and procedures for project implementation; Project direction, coordination, control and review, social appraisal and social impact analysis.

Social Policy Paradigms

Analysis of social values, political ideologies and policy paradigms. Discussion on role of the state in contemporary society and introduction of different perspectives on welfare provision.