



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

MIDA11, Development Studies: International Development Perspectives, 15 credits

Development Studies: International Development Perspectives, 15 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Steering committee for the Master of Science Programme in International Development and Management on 2018-11-29 to be valid from 2019-01-21, autumn semester 2019.

General Information

The course is offered as the introductory course of the Master of Science Programme in International Development and Management (LUMID).

The course is the first of two first cycle courses within the programme and prepares students for the second cycle courses in the second, third and fourth terms of the programme.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Development Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

GXX, First cycle, in-depth level of the course cannot be classified

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of past and contemporary processes of development, focusing on the three keyprocesses of economic, social and political development.
- Demonstrate an understanding of development theories and research within the themes of the course.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key concepts studied in

relation to processes of economic, social and political development, at both macro and micro levels.

Competence and skills

- Apply their knowledge and understanding, and problem-solving abilities, to independently identify development issues within the context of the three processes outlined above.
- Demonstrate an ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyse and assess complex phenomena and issues in the fields of economic, social and political development.
- Critically analyse development phenomena using key concepts studied during the course.
- Independently formulate research questions using theories and concepts tied to the three themes of the course.
- Independently access relevant academic literature and data to treat research questions in written work.
- Demonstrate an ability to clearly present and discuss conclusions, and the knowledge and arguments behind them, orally and in writing.

Judgement and approach

- Demonstrate an ability to make assessments in the field of development, taking into account relevant scientific aspects.
- Demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

Course content

The course provides students from different academic backgrounds with an interdisciplinary overview of development processes, including critical perspectives on such processes, and an understanding of the development strategies followed by individual states and international organisations, both presently and historically.

The course is divided into three modules:

Module 1: Processes of Economic Development, 5 credits

The process of economic development covers how and why we measure development, poverty and growth. A key focus is on gendered aspects of poverty and growth measures. It also covers agricultural development and the wider process of structural transformation, and the potential role of agriculture in alleviating poverty and encouraging broad based economic growth as well as major challenges in this respect.

Module 2: Processes of Human and Social Development, 5 credits

The process of human and social development covers issues related to quantitative aspects of population focusing on the demographic transformation with declining fertility and mortality rates as a global phenomenon, as well as qualitative aspects taking its point of departure in the weighing of human capital development vs. human capabilities development. Gender issues are discussed in the form of women's access to resources, both at the macro-level as well as within households.

Module 3: Processes of Political Development, 5 credits

The political processes cover aspects of power and democracy in the governance of development. A point of departure is that a traditional focus on the state and government is insufficient and that we need to analyse the politics of complex networks of state and non-state actors on various levels – from the local to the global

– in order to understand contemporary governance of development. Moreover, the political aspects and power relations inherent in all kinds of development interventions are stressed.

Course design

Through individualised course work students will be given the opportunity to critically examine current theoretical debates and phenomena related to development issues. Students will acquire the knowledge to understand, assess and work in development-related fields, either with direct poverty reduction or with other aspects of social and institutional development.

The course comprises a series of lectures covering three key development processes: processes of economic, social and political development. Each lecture is followed by a number of seminars in which these themes are treated in more depth. Students are required to search individually for information in relation to these processes and to analyse and present syntheses of the relevant literature.

Assessment

The three modules described above will be assessed separately and will be based on:

- Course papers, in which students using the course literature, as well as individually selected literature, identify and treat a topic in relation to the themes covered by the course. Each module is assessed through one course paper. The modules on Processes of Economic Development and Processes of Human and Social Development are assessed through individual course papers, whereas the module on Political Processes is assessed pairwise.
- Group presentations and active participation in seminars and group supervision sessions.

Examinations will be scheduled during the academic year only. Re-examination will be offered after the end of the course. If necessary, a second re-examination will be arranged at a later date.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

Course components such as conversation practice, study visits, group exercises are

exempted from the grading scale above. The grades awarded for such components are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

Entry requirements

Students are required to have the equivalent of at least 120 higher education credits (representing three years of successful full-time studies) to be eligible for the course.

A good command of English language both spoken and written, equivalent to English6/B (advanced) proficiency in the Swedish secondary system, is required. Equivalence assessments will be made according to national guidelines.

Further information

This course replaces MIDA10.

Subcourses in MIDA11, Development Studies: International Development Perspectives

Applies from H20

- 2001 Processes of Economic Development, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2002 Processes of Human and Social Development, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2003 Processes of Political Development, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

Applies from H12

- 1201 Processes of Economic Development, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1202 Processes of Human and Social Development, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1203 Processes of Political Development, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1204 Global Classroom: Foundations of Sustainable Development, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass