

Uganda

Development Studies

Examine current concepts and debates in the development studies field, with particular emphasis on the cultural, economic, political, and social realities in Uganda.

Coursework

Development Studies Seminar

AFRS 3000 / 4 credits / 60 class hours

An interdisciplinary course conducted in English with required readings and relevant educational excursions. Lecturers are drawn from institutions such as Makerere University, the Uganda Change Agent Association, and Sustainable Empowerment for Economic Development.

Seminar topics typically include:

Ugandan Culture and Society

Precolonial, colonial, and postcolonial history; Uganda's geography and distribution of ethnic groups. Topics are covered in the context of Ugandan development.

Development Studies

This section of the course is divided into three parts. The first focus provides an introduction to theories of development. The second section covers development in practice, including political, economic, and environmental issues, and their role in Uganda's "crisis of development." Students consider Uganda's social service delivery, rural and urban development, indigenous knowledge, appropriate technology, resource allocation, planning and project evaluation, governance and development, multinational organizations, and nongovernmental organizations. In the third part of the course, students select one of the following in-depth modules: *gender and development*; *public health*; or *politics and grassroots development*. These elective modules, comprising lectures, seminar discussions, and field visits, are taught by scholars, practitioners, and development workers from Makerere University's School of Public Health and Department of Development Studies and the Uganda Human Rights Commission as well as political leaders and community activists.

Educational Excursions

Students carry out field visits in eastern and western Uganda to development organizations and associations with ongoing projects to allow firsthand examination of rural and

urban development initiatives. These may include the AIDS Support Organization, Action Aid International, Mwanamugimu Nutritional Unit, Child Restoration Outreach, Oruchinga Refugee Settlement, the UN Millennium Village Project, the Buganda Parliament, and traditional medicine clinics. Other site visits are conducted during the in-depth module weeks. In addition to these domestic excursions, the program conducts a one-week comparative study of development approaches and projects in Rwanda.

Intensive Language Study: Luganda

LUGA 1000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours

This course emphasizes speaking and comprehension skills through classroom and field instruction to facilitate daily interaction in Kampala. Language practice during the homestay, field visits, and day-to-day interactions supports formal instruction and prepares the students for their development practica.

Practicum Training and Ethics

ANTH 3500 / 3 credits / 45 class hours

This course is designed to prepare students to undertake a practicum with a development organization in Uganda and to do so in ways that are ethical, analytical, educational, and informed. The course covers concepts of learning across cultures and from field experience and prepares students for a practicum by using readings and activities designed to build skills in qualitative and quantitative research methods. These include skills in observation and interviewing; gathering, analyzing, organizing, and presenting data; and developing contacts and finding resources. Field-based methods include participatory rural appraisal; cross-cultural adaptation and skills building; and project selection and refinement. Students consider the norms and expectations of ethical field engagement and reciprocity, while reflecting critically on their role as "outsiders" in the development process. Special attention is paid to field study

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Credits 16

Duration Fall/Spring 15 weeks

Program Base Kampala

Language Study Luganda

Homestay Kampala, 6 weeks

Rural Visit/Homestay Eastern Uganda, 1 week

Other Accommodations Hostels, guest houses, or small hotels

Development Practicum 6 weeks

Prerequisites Although there are no prerequisites, a background in development studies or a related field is strongly recommended.

ethics and the World Learning/SIT Human Subjects Review Policy.

Development Practicum

PRAC 3000 / 6 credits / 180 class hours

Each student selects a development organization in Kampala or another area of Uganda with which to complete a six-week development practicum. The practicum helps to integrate the information gained through the Development Studies Seminar and the Practicum Training and Ethics course, giving students the opportunity to analyze development theories in a practical setting. A final paper and oral presentation evaluating the project, as well as the student's role within the organization, complete the practicum.