

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

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| Academic School/Department: | Communications, Arts and Social Sciences |
| Programme: | MA in International Development |
| Level: | 7 |
| Course Title: | Development Methodologies and Practices |
| Course Code: | DEV 7105 |
| Course Leader: | Dr Michael F. Keating |
| Student Engagement Hours: | 200 |
| Seminars: | 39 |
| Tutorials: | 6 |
| Independent / Guided Learning: | 155 |
| Semester: | Fall |
| Credits: | 20 UK CATS credits 10 ECTS credits 4 US credits |

Course Description:

This course explicitly seeks to provide students with experience in some of the key methods and practices of international development. Students will learn skills that are intended to translate directly into the workplace, specifically in an NGO, charity, corporate or development agency context. Students are prepared to undertake fieldwork, and learn principles of data collection and analysis. Writing research proposals, undertaking project costing, and writing funding applications are all addressed, and students are introduced to widely used approaches such as the Logical Framework Approach, Stakeholder Analysis, and Socio-Economic Activity Profiling. This course is designed as an ideal preparation for fieldwork in the form of a summer internship, but will also be of general advantage for MA graduates in terms of employability

Pre-requisites: MA International Development students only

Aims and Objectives:

- To teach core development practices
- To teach core methods used in development project and project evaluation
- To teach transferrable skills and enhance employability

- To prepare students for fieldwork, internships and future employment in international development
- To critically engage with core practices in international development

Programme Outcomes:

B; C; D; E; F; G

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

- Show critical and innovative responses to core methodologies and practices in International Development.
- Demonstrate a deep, systematic and innovative ability to adapt and apply methods and practices in International Development to multiple contexts
- Design and undertake substantial investigations addressing significant areas of practice in International Development, using selected advanced methodological approaches.
- Engage with and evaluate complex, incomplete or contradictory evidence while critically reflecting on the different methodological tools used.
- Demonstrate the ability to exercise initiative in organising and pursuing both supervised and self-directed individual and/or team projects, while accepting full accountability for outcomes
- Demonstrate the ability to gather, organise and deploy complex and abstract ideas and diverse information in practical empirical contexts, while reflecting upon and improving the skills required for effective communication

Indicative Content:

- How NGOs work
- Logical Framework Analysis
- Key analytical tools
- Project design, costing, implementation and evaluation
- Fieldwork preparation
- Overview of core methods and practices in the contemporary development paradigm

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

Teaching Methodology:

