Twin Cities Campus

Development Practice M.D.P.

HHH Administration

Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Link to a list of faculty for this program.

Contact Information:
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- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2018
- Length of program in credits: 50
- This program requires summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Master of Development Practice

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the General Information section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The master of development practice (MDP) prepares students for careers in international development. The degree provides rigorous interdisciplinary training and equips students with the skills needed to address the problems of poverty and sustainable development in the developing world.

The MDP program is jointly administered by the Humphrey School of Public Affairs and the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change (ICGC) and spans several academic units across the University of Minnesota. The degree provides training in policy analysis and management, health and education, natural sciences, social sciences, and interdisciplinary research methods. An international field experience and capstone workshop in development practice also are required.

The MDP degree is part of a global consortium of international development programs.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.00.

A four-year bachelor's degree from an accredited US university or foreign equivalent at time of enrollment.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:
While no specific experience or academic pathway is required, students with a strong liberal education background and sound quantitative and analytical skills will be best prepared for academic success at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Previous coursework in mathematics, statistics, and economics is recommended. Past applicants needing to strengthen this part of their skill set have found courses in introductory microeconomics, college algebra, and introductory statistics to be helpful preparation. Prior to admission students may find such courses available online; many are also available at the University of Minnesota.

International professional experience and foreign language competency are strongly preferred.

Special Application Requirements:
A complete application will include a University of Minnesota graduate application, personal statement, resume or C.V., transcripts, GRE scores, TOEFL scores, at least three letters of recommendation, and an optional diversity statement.

Applicants must submit their test score(s) from the following:

- GRE

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
  - Internet Based - Total Score: 100

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- Paper Based - Total Score: 600
- IELTS
  - Total Score: 7

The preferred English language test is Test of English as Foreign Language

Key to test abbreviations(GRE, TOEFL, IELTS).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the General Information section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Plan C: Plan C requires 50 major credits and up to null credits outside the major.The is no final exam.A capstone project is required.
Capstone Project: The capstone project is an opportunity for MDP students in their second year to apply their knowledge through a client-based team project. Each student team and the workshop instructor will work with an NGO or public sector client engaged in some dimension of international development, preferably situated in a developing country, to identify a suitable project. While the specifics of each project will vary, all will include in-depth research, analysis, and the creation of a professional written report. Student teams will be expected to develop an appropriate presentation of this product to the relevant stakeholders. The projects will be done by small groups and can have multiple dimensions. Students will have the opportunity to integrate various aspects of development such as economic development, public health, environmental sustainability, education and skills development, and citizen participation.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A minimum GPA of 2.80 is required for students to remain in good standing.

At least 1 semesters must be completed before filing a Degree Program Form.

Core Courses

AGRO 5321 - Ecology of Agricultural Systems (3.0 cr)
MDP 5001 - Ways of Knowing for Sustainable Development (2.0 cr)
MDP 5002 - Program Development Workshop (3.0 cr)
MDP 5004 - International Field Experience (3.0 cr)
MDP 5005 - Qualitative Methods for Development Practice (3.0 cr)
MDP 5100 - Capstone Prep Workshop (1.0 cr)
MDP 5200 - Capstone Workshop in Development Practice (3.0 cr)
PA 5031 - Statistics for Public Affairs (4.0 cr)
PA 5501 - Theories and Policies of Development (3.0 cr)
PA 5503 - Economics of Development (3.0 cr)
PA 5521 - Development Planning and Policy Analysis (4.0 cr)

Additional Methods

PA 5003 - Introduction to Financial Analysis and Management (1.5 cr)
or PA 5032 - Applied Regression (2.0 cr)
or PA 5044 - Applied Regression, Accelerated (2.0 cr)
or PA 5311 - Program Evaluation (3.0 cr)
or EPSY 5243 - Principles and Methods of Evaluation (3.0 cr)
or OLPD 5501 - Principles and Methods of Evaluation (3.0 cr)

International Education

OLPD 5104 - Education and the Sustainable Development Goals (3.0 cr)
or OLPD 5107 - Gender, Education, and International Development (3.0 cr)

Environmental Science

GEOG 5401W - Geography of Environmental Systems and Global Change [ENV, WI] (3.0 cr)
or GCC 5008 - Policy and Science of Global Environmental Change [ENV] (3.0 cr)

Leadership and Management

PA 5151 - Organizational Perspectives on Global Development & Humanitarian Assistance (3.0 cr)
or PA 5405 - Public Policy Implementation (3.0 cr)

Public Health

PUBH 6320 - Fundamentals of Epidemiology (3.0 cr)
or PUBH 6134 - Sustainable Development and Global Public Health (2.0 cr)

Electives

Electives to bring total degree credits to at least 50. See www.hhh.umn.edu/degrees/mdp/ for further information.

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