

MSc International Development (THSP-APM41)

Course and Award Details

Course title	MSc International Development
Route(s)	MSc International Development
Awarding body	University of Bath
Award	Masters Degree not mainly by Research
Award name	Masters - Postgraduate Taught
Course mode of delivery	Part time
Course length	2 years
Entry point	September 2024
Main location of study	University of Bath, Main Campus, Claverton Down
Course-owning school/department	Social & Policy Sciences

Course Description

Course Summary Gain the skills and understanding to tackle the global challenges of poverty, inequality, conflict, sustainability and social justice.

Course Description Learn what it means to be a global citizen and gain the skills and tools to make a difference in the world.

Whether you're aiming to further your career as an international development professional or looking to start working in this field, our International Development master's courses could be for you.

This degree will equip you with interdisciplinary research and interpersonal skills to constructively engage with the different social, political and cultural environments shaping countries' development processes. It will also prepare you to explore these topics at a deeper, doctoral level by pursuing a relevant PhD.

>Watch our webinar about this course(<https://vimeo.com/805064385>)

Different course pathways to specialise your skills

You have the choice of taking this interdisciplinary MSc International Development course, or one of three specialist pathways:

- MSc International Development with Conflict and Humanitarian Action(/courses/postgraduate-2024/taught-postgraduate-courses/msc-international-development-with-conflict-and-humanitarian-action-full-time)
- MSc International Development with Economics(/courses/postgraduate-2024/taught-postgraduate-courses/msc-international-development-with-economics-full-time)
- MSc International Development, Social justice and Sustainability(/courses/postgraduate-2024/taught-postgraduate-courses/msc-international-development-social-justice-and-sustainability-full-time)

The selection of a distinct pathway allows you the flexibility to pursue areas that interest you and are relevant to your career aspirations. Each pathway is available as full-time or part-time study.

Gain real-world experience with a work-based practicum

As an alternative to writing a dissertation, you'll have the opportunity to undertake an eight-week work-based practicum. This is your chance to gain practical experience to complement your studies.

During your practicum, you'll work with an organisation involved in international development. You'll use the experiences you'll gain to write an academic report reflecting on a particular area of professional practice as part of your assessment.

Some previous students have completed their practicum with:

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- The Centre for Development Studies
- MicroSave Consulting
- EdUKaid
- The Washing Machine Project

Finding a practicum is your own responsibility. We can't guarantee a practicum, but you will receive tailored support from our specialist team to help you find suitable opportunities.

Some practicums are paid, others cover expenses, and some are unpaid. Please see the budgeting section of this page for more details(/courses/postgraduate-2024/taught-postgraduate-courses/msc-international-development-full-time/fees-funding).

Learn from experts in their field

You'll learn from experts in international development and economics, as well as staff in the wider Department of Social & Policy Sciences(/departments/department-of-social-policy-sciences) community. Their passion, knowledge, experience and research shape their teaching to enhance your learning experience.

Gain important career skills

Upon successful completion of this course, you'll leave with:

- a critical understanding of the concepts and approaches used in international development and humanitarian action, as well as their strengths and limitations
- practical skills in research, analysis and communication and an understanding of how these can be applied when working in social, economic and environmental justice in both global North and global South
- the ability to analyse the complex interaction of social, economic, political and environmental factors in shaping problems and proposed solutions
- a rich experience of working with people from a wide range of disciplinary, professional and national backgrounds

Graduate prospects

This course provides an excellent background for those wishing to pursue careers in fields that aim to improve people's lives. These include the international development, sustainability, humanitarian and peacebuilding sectors.

You will be qualified to work in a wide variety of roles, including social research, public policy, public information and campaigning.

Graduates from our suite of International Development master's courses have gone on to secure the following roles:

- Senior Program Officer, Hashoo Foundation
- Relief Support Worker, United Response
- Analyst, Start Fund Bangladesh
- Programme Assistant, The Advocacy Team
- Fundraising Assistant, Refugee Cafe

- Director of Programmes for North West Syria, Mercy Corps
- Programme Specialist, African World Heritage Fund
- Operations and Finance Officer, The Washing Machine Project
- Local Ambassador to the World Trade Organisation

Other graduates have chosen to work for themselves and set up their own charities, while others have gone on to complete doctoral studies.

> Matthew Wilson graduated from MSc International Development at Bath in 2001. He's now Barbados' Ambassador to the United Nations, the World Trade Organization and other international organisations. Read more about his career and his experience at Bath(<https://blogs.bath.ac.uk/on-parade/2023/02/21/parade-profile-matthew-wilson-msc-international-development-2001/>).

Contact hours

Students studying the full-time variant of this course are expected to spend approximately 35-40 hours per week studying, with around 10 hours of this being structured classes.

__Part-time students typically study for approximately 50% of the full-time equivalent__, across one or two units each semester.

This will be made up of a combination of lectures, seminars, and workshops. You will work as an individual and as part of small groups.

Delivery methods

The following list provides an indication of some of the learning and teaching methods used on the course:

- Lectures
- Online resources
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Research project

Assessment summary

You'll experience a balance of different forms of assessment designed to support your professional development. This will be made up of coursework, including essays, reports, presentations, and group-based assessments, and a dissertation/final project.

We can make reasonable adjustments to assessment procedures for students with disabilities. Take a look at our Disability Service's pages(/professional-services/disability-service/) for information.

Assessment methods

The following list provides an indication of some of the assessment methods used on the course:

- Coursework
- Essay
- Dissertation
- Report
- Visual or recorded presentation
- Oral presentation

Budgeting statement

You will need to budget at least £100 for the cost of photocopying, printing and binding. You will also need to budget for the cost of textbooks. Some courses involve visits away from campus and you may be required to pay some or all of the costs of travel, accommodation and food and drink. If you're on a placement, you're responsible for your own travel, accommodation and living costs. You should also consider the financial implications if you go on an unpaid or overseas placement.

Additional Costs

If you receive an offer, you will need to pay a non-refundable deposit of £1,000 when you accept to secure your place. This will be deducted from your tuition fee when you register.

When doing a work-based practicum, you (or your practicum provider) are responsible for your travel, accommodation and living costs. You should consider the financial implications if you choose to do an unpaid or overseas practicum.

The University of Bath's Centre for Development Studies offers a set of stipends to support students via its Bath Research into International Development (BRID)

fund(/announcements/bath-research-in-international-development-brid-fund/). You'll be able to apply for this support once you join the course.

Course Assessment Regulations

Applicable Assessment Regulations	Postgraduate Taught Assessment Regulations - https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/postgraduate-taught-assessment-regulations/
Exemptions from Regulations	Not specified
Course Progression Requirements	Not specified

Course Structure

Year 1

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
AY	SP00000	Academic integrity training & test	Extra	Foundation (FHEQ level 3)	0	
AY	SP52096	Doing research for international development	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	15	
S1	SP52099	History and theory of international development	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	15	
S2	MSc Intl Dev S2 optional units					Select 1 module from this group in this period
	ED52028	Education and sustainable development	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
	SP52098	Global political economy	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
	SP52101	Humanitarianism	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
	SP52118	The politics and practice of sustainability	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S2	SP52106	Management of international development	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Option	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
Additional rules for module selection						
None						

Year 2

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
S1	MSc Intl Dev S1 optional units					Select 1 module from this group in this period
	SP52094	Conflict, development and peacebuilding	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
	SP52097	Economics of international development	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
	SP52117	Social and environmental justice	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S2	MSc Intl Dev S2 optional units					Select 1 module from this group in this period
	ED52028	Education and sustainable development	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
	SP52098	Global political economy	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
	SP52101	Humanitarianism	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
	SP52118	The politics and practice of sustainability	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S2	SP52106	Management of international development	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Option	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
DIS	MSc Intl Dev CT project options for PT progs PG					Select 1 module from this group in this period
	SP52095	Dissertation	PGT Project/Dis Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	30	
	SP52108	Placement	PGT Project/Dis Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	30	
Additional rules for module selection						
None						

Year 3

No units found

The availability of optional units is subject to constraints such as staff availability, minimum and maximum group sizes, and timetabling factors, as well as a student's ability to meet any pre-requisite rules.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, you will be able to

	Knowledge and Understanding	Intellectual Skills	Professional and Transferable Skills	Placement	Study Year Abroad
Understand the key theoretical and methodological frameworks which underpin the international development discourse and practice	✓				
Critically appreciate quantitative and qualitative research methods and their use in international development	✓				
Draw upon multi-disciplinary perspectives to address global challenges in a variety of cultural and political context		✓			
Summarise and synthesise written information from multiple sources to communicate with specialist and non-specialist audiences		✓			
Critically evaluate the origins and purposes of development and humanitarian models, as well as their appropriateness and effectiveness in theory and practice			✓		
Communicate complex data in a clear, ethical and rigorous way in a range of formats suitable for diverse professional and policy audiences			✓		
Design and systematically undertake an independent research project in in the subject area specific to their chosen pathway either in an academic or professional context	✓	✓	✓		

Alternative Courses and Exit Awards

Designated Alternative Courses (DAC) and exit

Exit awards:

Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma

For further information see <https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/postgraduate-taught-assessment-regulations/>

For information on possible named exit awards, please contact your Director of Studies

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