

MSA: International Development

(off-campus degree)

International Development Program
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Administration

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Education at Andrews University has always been rooted in the concept of Christian service. Educators, nurses, agronomists, and various technicians have developed schools, hospitals, agricultural programs, and a host of other institutions and facilities that can improve the quality of life for people everywhere. Through its Affiliation and Extension Programs Andrews University has made it possible for students to earn degrees at off-campus locations around the world. The MSA: International Development is one such program. Its principle purpose is to provide a venue for in-service training of professionals (whether working with humanitarian assistance, economic development, international business, or other social and community initiatives) whose work responsibilities and life situation do not permit a return to full-time study at a university campus. The interdisciplinary program takes four to five years to complete and it draws on the strength of all six schools of the university. Students attend three-week intensive sessions once a year for four years at extension sites in various locations around the world. The goal of the Program is to strengthen organizations in project management skills. The ultimate goal is to enable graduates to acquire whatever capacities they need to be effective agents in assisting communities to attain well-being for its present members and their future generations.

Administration of the Program

The off-campus Master of Science in Administration: International Development program is administered by the MSA/ID Council, an inter-school council, made up of administrators and faculty from the Affiliation and Extension Program, the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business, the Division of Architecture, the College of Technology, the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, and the School of Graduate Studies. The council works with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and other governmental and non-governmental organizations in planning and implementing new courses and curricula and in scheduling venues for delivery of intensives. It also develops and monitors compliance with policies governing admission of students to the program, student academic progress, and admission to candidacy status. The day-to-day administration of the program is the responsibility of the International Development Program Office.

Faculty guidance is provided by the IDP Coordinating Committee. These teams are headed by the Senior Director of the International Development Program.

Teaching Sites

The International Development Program offers its classes in multiple regions and languages around the world. Venues and languages are subject to change but may include the following: Africa (French and English), Eurasia (Russian and English), Europe (Italian and English), and Latin America (Spanish). A university campus is the planned venue in each region for the teaching sessions.

Admission Requirements

To be admitted to regular standing into the International Development Program, students must

- Qualify for general admission into graduate studies at Andrews University (see p. 44)
- Have a four-year baccalaureate degree or its equivalent
- Demonstrate computer literacy skills such as word processing and internet usage

Note:

- Access to email communication is very important for participation in this program.
- The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) transcript requirement is waived for students in the overseas program.

MSA: International Development—34-35

Core Courses—24

Social Science Foundations—7

SOCI520; EDPC622; ANTH417; IDSC689

Planning/Evaluation—6

SOCI530, 535, 545

Management—6

BSAD515, 530

Individual Organizational Accountability—5

ACCT625; IDSC640

Concentration—10-11

Research and Practicum Requirements—5-6

IDSC680; IDSC698 or IDSC699

Development Concentration—5

IDSC640, 690

TOTAL—34-35

CONCENTRATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Students in the International Development Program are required to complete a concentration involving a minimum of ten semester credits in a given specialization area. The majority of the Concentration courses are completed in an independent format. This allows the student's specialization area to be uniquely tailored to suit his/her needs and professional goals. Examples of concentration topics include: Agro Forestry; Civil Society; Community and Global Economics; Cross Cultural Relations; Development Policies of Government and Religion; Disaster Preparedness; Education; Environmental Studies; Food Security; International Agriculture; Management of Non Profit Organizations; Mass Communications; Peace and Conflict Resolution; Poverty Mitigation; Public Health; Women in Development; and Social Policy. A Concentration Area is selected in consultation with the Academic Advisor during the first two years of study. Once a topic has been decided upon, a Concentration Mentor is assigned who,

together with the Academic Advisor, guides the student through the Concentration requirements.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Graduate certificates may be added as an option and offered in conjunction with focused study in core curricular areas such as social science foundations, planning and evaluation, management, and individual and organizational accountability or in conjunction with the focused study in concentration areas such as listed above.

Interested individuals should consult with the Senior Director for further information about which graduate certificates will be offered during a given school year and how to proceed with enrollment.

Graduate certificates are developed and offered in accordance with standards set by the Graduate Council. While they serve to give evidence of focused study in a given field of specialization at the graduate level, they do not take the place of certification and licenses offered by professional associations and guilds.

Courses

(Credits)

See inside front cover for symbol code.

ACCT625 (3)

Financial Analysis and Reporting

Develops business leaders' financial-statement literacy. Topics include: understanding the nature of business transactions, identification of relevant economic events for reporting, determination of appropriate financial measures for those events, analysis of the effects of those events in the organization's performance and financial condition.

ANTH417 (2)

Applied/Development Anthropology

An introduction to cultural anthropology with special emphasis on principles and techniques of research applicable to community and international development.

BSAD515 (3)

Organizational Behavior

Application of behavioral-sciences to management. The examination of contemporary theories and principles of human behavior. Topics include perception, personality, attitudes, motivation, leadership, decision making, communication, group processes, diversity, organizational change, self awareness, and stress management. A research paper and case analyses are required. Prerequisite: BSAD355.

BSAD530 (3)

Management for Not-for-Profit Organizations

Issues facing managers in third-sector organizations. Studies of the mission and objectives pursued, strategic leadership and board composition, organizational structure and operation, marketing and fund-raising, financial management, training and motivation of volunteers, assessment of stakeholder satisfaction and overall operating effectiveness. A major field project is required. Prerequisite: BSAD355 or permission of instructor.

EDPC622 (2)

Seminar: Development Research

Introduction to social science research methods as applied to problem solving in the fields of community and international development. A unit on best practice bench marking is also included.

IDSC550 (1-3)

Certificate Seminar

A web-based seminar providing an orientation to a topic associated with a graduate certificate, including an introduction to the most important sources, an overview of salient issues and problems, and an inventory of baseline competencies and professional opportunities.

IDSC640 (1)

Topics: Concentration Workshop in: Area of Concentration

This workshop provides an opportunity for students to clarify for themselves and others how the various components of their concentration fit together.

IDSC640 (2)

Topics: Ethics in Development

An ethical framework for the understanding of social transformation. Ethical paradigms are explored, as well as historical examples of how development interventions have generated social change. Focus on contemporary approaches to development, revolution, and liberation.

IDSC640 (3)

Topics: Professional Training in: Area of Concentration

Students are required to participate in a minimum of 45 contact hours of Professional Training related to their area of Concentration. In addition, the student in the final year of the program will design and implement a Colloquium to present best practices in his/her area of Concentration.

IDSC680 (2)

Field Practicum

Students integrate interdisciplinary course content and theory into practice during a (300-hour) field practicum coordinated by the academic advisor with each student's research project and concentration. This time is divided between (1) development of a program portfolio, (2) a self-study of the employing organization, (3) field experiences in the concentration, and (4) the design and implementation of a training workshop.

IDSC689 (1)

Seminar: Applied Statistics

Concepts and applications of basic statistics as it relates to community and international development. Topics include level of measurement, frequency distribution, central tendency, measures of variation, correlation, logic of hypothesis testing, and the use and applications of chi-square, t-tests, analysis of variance and regression analysis.

IDSC690 (1)

Independent Study: Area of Concentration

Students are required to broaden their knowledge in their area of Concentration through independent study of books, scholarly journal articles, professional association publications and newsletters, local government publications, publications of multi-government organizations such as the United Nations or the World Bank, publications by various international non-government organizations, or internet resources. The outcome of this research should be a "Specialist Paper."

IDSC698 (3)

Research Project

A research project typically carried out by a master's-degree candidate in which the student's mastery of the research process is demonstrated. A typical end product might be a community-assessment study, a program evaluation study, a best practice bench-marking study, or a problem-solving study.

IDSC699 (4)

Master's Thesis

SOCI520 (2)

Concepts of Community Development

Community development refers to the practice of planning and implementing projects to improve the quality of life for people living in poverty, both locally and internationally. Development will be presented as the building of social capital in our communities that enables them to function at a higher and more efficient level. Building on the core Christian principles that emphasize development, this course will provide students with a better understanding of community, while applying basic development concepts to local and international realities.

SOCI530 (2)

Community Needs Assessment & Capacity Mapping

Introduction to various methods for assessing community needs and mapping community capacity to address those needs.

SOCI535 (2)

Program Planning, Budgeting, and Grantsmanship

Building on assessment and capacity mapping, the related topics of program planning, budgeting, and grant-writing are presented. Hands-on experience is sought, linking classroom instruction and real community situations.

SOCI545 (2)

Project Implementation and Evaluation

Grant writing, strategies for implementing a community project, and methods for evaluating a project are the main topics. Hands-on experience is utilized to link instruction with real community needs.