



Master of Science (MS) Program

Policies and Procedures

Summer 2012

The Master of Science (MS) in International Development at the Payson Center in Tulane's Law School emphasizes a comprehensive approach to international development, incorporating economic, political, social, environmental, and cultural dimensions. The goal of the MS in International Development is to provide students with a focused, international framework for research, analysis, and action on current development issues. A student in the program will graduate with a sophisticated understanding of contemporary development issues, especially as they pertain to the developing world.

After completing the program, graduates will be:

- At the cutting edge of theoretical and applied knowledge in the field of international development;
- Competent in accessing and analyzing reliable development data using statistical and analytical tools;
- Capable of applying the latest knowledge to development problems in areas such as economics, political development, environment, health, education, project management and evaluation, and information technology for development.

MS Program Requirements

MS students are required to complete a total of **36 credit hours: 18** credit hours from the core curriculum (see below) and **18** elective credits offered at the Payson Center as well as across Tulane University. Students should check course listings for recommended electives offered by the Payson Center and other Departments and Centers at Tulane, which are available for consultation.

At least **18** credit hours must be taken **live** (i.e. not online) either on Tulane University's New Orleans campus or at the Payson Center's Summer Institute held at various sites abroad (this applies to all students having enrolled in the MS program in Spring 2011 or later).

All MS students are required to take the following core courses (18 credit hours):

- IDEV 6100 – Introduction to Economic Analysis (3)
- IDEV 6110 – Introduction to Quantitative Analysis (3)
- IDEV 6120 – Introduction to Research Analysis (3)
- IDEV 6640 – Sustainable Human Development (SHD) (3)
- IDEV 6670 – International Political & Economic Relations (IPER) (3)
- IDEV 6680 – Six Decades of Development (3)

Foreign Language

Students are strongly encouraged to achieve proficiency in a second language that is relevant for work in international development, This can be done in many ways including taking foreign language courses offered at Tulane, studying, working or volunteering abroad or with immigrant communities in the US. This is not a requirement for graduation but is highly recommended.

Transfer Credit

Students may apply to transfer in a maximum of **12** credits from previous graduate course work, subject to approval by the Executive Director of the Payson Center. To request transfer credits, students must submit to the Payson Center Executive Director: the original course syllabus, an official transcript from the institution where the course was taken, and a “Request for Transfer Credit” form. No transfer credits can be accepted until the student completes one semester in the program. To be considered for transfer credit, graduate work must related to international development. It must have been completed at an accredited institution or in another division of Tulane University no more than four years from the date of first registration for graduate work, and must carry a grade of B or better. Final approval rests with the Dean of Tulane’s Law School.

Core Course Load and Sequence

Depending on their employment situation, students can opt to take one to three courses per semester. Full time in the program is 9 credit hours per semester (3 courses) for fall and spring.

The following suggested sequence is based upon three courses per semester starting in the fall. This order ensures that students get maximum benefit from the program and acquire knowledge, skills and competencies in a logical sequence. As indicated below, certain courses include prerequisites.

Semester 1 (Fall)

IDEV 6100 – Introduction to Economic Analysis
IDEV 6110 – Introduction to Quantitative Analysis
Elective

Semester 2 (Spring)

IDEV 6120 – Introduction to Research Analysis
IDEV 6640 – Sustainable Human Development (SHD) (Prerequisite: IDEV 6100)
or IDEV 6680 – Six Decades of Development (Prerequisite or to be taken concurrently: IDEV 6100)
Elective

Semester 3 (Fall)

IDEV 6640 – SHD (Prerequisite: IDEV 6100)

or IDEV 6670 – International Political and Economic Relations (IPER) (Prerequisite or to be taken concurrently: IDEV 6100)

Elective

Elective

Semester 4 (Spring)

IDEV 6640 – SHD (Prerequisite: IDEV 6100)

or IDEV 6680 – Six Decades of Development (Prerequisite or to be taken concurrently: IDEV 6100)

Elective

Elective

International Development Colloquium Series

MS students are strongly encouraged to attend the International Development Colloquium. Held regularly (four times per semester), the events aim to foster interaction and discussion among graduate students and faculty on current topics in international development research and practice.

Advising and Monitoring

The Graduate Studies Advisor will organize 1-2 round-table/luncheon meetings per semester for Payson Center MS students. This will be an opportunity for students to discuss issues relevant to the program, raise questions, and make suggestions as well as strengthen their ties as a community.

In addition, MS Students should make at least one one-on-one appointment per semester with the Graduate Studies Advisor. This will allow students to discuss any concerns in a more personal way, and will help us monitor their progress. Students will prepare a short report ahead of the meeting so as to make this exchange as efficient and productive as possible. The report should be e-mailed to the Graduate Studies Advisor at least two days before the meeting and include:

- Name, email, phone number, address
- Skype name (for distance-based students)
- Advising meeting day/time
- Undergraduate major(s)
- Expected graduation date
- Coursework completed, in progress and remaining (including tentative schedule)
- Foreign language(s)
- Plans for the summer (courses, internships, etc.)
- Post-graduation plans
- Current research or teaching assistantships
- Current work-study or work outside Payson
- Outside activities: presentations at conferences, publications, grant applications
- Financial or other awards received

- Other matters that seem relevant to assessing your progress (or lack thereof, such as family emergencies, financial issues)

Policies on Academic Standing

The following rules establish the standards for dismissal of a graduate student from the Payson Center's programs because of an unsatisfactory academic record:

1. No student may remain in school that has a cumulative grade point average of less than 3.0 at the end of the first semester or at the end of any subsequent semester.
2. Grades of B- are less than acceptable in the graduate programs. Students are warned the first time they receive a grade of B- and any additional grades of B- can lead to academic probation or dismissal.
3. Grades below B- are not acceptable in the graduate programs and lead to academic probation or dismissal from the program, depending on the grade. In addition, the student does not receive credit for courses with grades below B-.
4. No student may remain in school who has received a grade of F.
5. No student may graduate with a cumulative grade point average of less than 3.0.

For more details such as appeal of grades and readmission, please refer to the Graduate Student Handbook (Policies on Academic Standing), as well as the following link:

<http://payson.tulane.edu/content/student-area>