

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

POSTGRADUATE Programme

Master of Arts in Community Development

Introduction

The M.A. in Community Development has been developed based on the need to train a cadre of human resources that will work in diverse communities to bring about social transformation.

Definition and Nature of the Programme

This programme seeks to train the student in the science and art of mobilizing communities, identifying their felt needs, designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating of community-based projects aimed at poverty alleviation among communities especially those in the developing countries. Approaches such as Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), Participatory Learning and Action (PLA), People Empowering People (PEP), Participatory Appraisal Monitoring and Evaluation (PAME), and others will be used to enhance community participation

It recognises that there is the people's desire is to overcome the many obstacles that prevent them from enjoying a fuller human life. Freedom of participation, choice and decision-making of the people is therefore paramount. The programme will also seek to respect cultural diversity and integration among communities, promote and emphasise truth, justice and reconciliation in society regardless of faith, culture, race or political affiliations of the communities the graduates of this programme will work with. The programme also gives credence to the promotion of intellectual and scholarly discourse in matters pertaining to development. It aims at equipping development practitioners with practical skills and knowledge that will facilitate their work and promote research-based approaches and strategies to enhance community development.

Indeed the M.A in Community Development programme believes fundamentally that development must be founded on Christian principles and values. But it also believes that people-centred development must uphold key development principles such as, justice, empowerment, capacity building, sensitization, advocacy and sustainability.

Philosophy of the Programme

This programme believes that the development of communities is not only a Human Rights concern but most importantly a divine mandate. The total and complete transformation of communities is its ultimate goal. When communities are empowered, regions are made better (regional development) and thus when regions are developed national development is achieved and communities have their dignity restored or enhanced.

It seeks to affirm that change must be people-oriented. The involvement of all communities in their own welfare is a major principle. Today, there is a widespread and unanimous belief that development cannot be authentic if it does not involve the target communities. It seeks to acknowledge that all communities desire change, aspire to be freed from their day to day limitations, and to overcome the many obstacles that prevent them from enjoying a fulfilled life.

The programme also gives credence to the empowerment of all stakeholders involved in community development. High level training of manpower is rightly acknowledged and given emphasis. Partnerships, networking and collaboration are key in this programme.

Rationale of the Programme

- Kenya being a signatory to the Millennium Development Goals, the MA in Community Development will contribute to meeting these goals by providing the necessary technical and professional expertise.
- Community Development is still a new discipline in most countries today. There is a need therefore to develop an MA programme that provides students graduating with a first degree an opportunity to further their studies. This will facilitate continuity for doctoral studies in this discipline.
- The MA in Community Development Programme is practical and relevant to many socio-economic, cultural, environmental and political realities of communities

- This programme will contribute to academic discourse and also broaden the knowledge base on community development which will in turn contribute to the international debate on sustainable development.
- The MA programme in Community Development is unique because of its holistic approach which integrates Christian approaches to development and practical learning.

Benchmarking

The M.A in Community Development Program has been designed to meet the growing demand for people with relevant knowledge and skills needed to steer community development programs in developing countries. Despite this M.A program having some units addressing community development from a Christian perspective it draws to a large extent from other similar postgraduate programs in the same field offered by other universities including Kenyatta University (Community Resource Development) Moi University (Community Development & Environment) St. Paul's University (Development Studies) Catholic University (Development Studies) and the University of Nairobi (Development Studies). Consideration of the courses offered in these other institutions has ensured that the course is relevant and fills the gaps not addressed by them. Periodic review and comparison with other courses, current or those which will come up in the future will ensure that the course remains unique, relevant to market needs and in line with what is offered elsewhere.

Goal of the Programme

The goal of this program is to equip students with knowledge and skills for a holistic approach to community development for social transformation.

Programme Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program the student will be able to:

- evaluate and critique current development issues from a professional perspective
- conduct research aimed at expanding the body of knowledge of Community Development,
- present/disseminate community development theories and practices from a Christian perspective,
- provide professional service and consultancy to development agencies aimed at enhancing their efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery,

- examine factors that account for underdevelopment in developing countries,
- explain factors that hinder development developing countries and the actors involved in development processes.

Clientele

The programme is designed for all parties interested in engaging in various dimensions of community work. Types of students will include:-

Those working with the church and para-church organisations.

- Those intending to promote formation of local development institutions in society.
- Individuals in government departments and international development/relief agencies.
- Development practitioners committed to and involved in initiating change in society
- Those graduating from undergraduate programmes and desiring to advance their studies in this field.
- Policy makers and practitioners in government and international development agencies

Admission Requirements

Qualifications for admission to the Master of Arts in Community Development are/will be:

- An undergraduate or a higher degree in Community Development or related degrees from an accredited institution of higher learning, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale), or a degree awarded with an upper second class honours or a practical involvement, or with demonstrated commitment to and interest in community-oriented service,
- Applicants with a first degree in fields unrelated to development studies may be admitted but will be required to start with specified zero credit hours in community development. These courses are DEV-111 Introduction to Community Development, SOC-111 Introduction to Sociology, and PSY-111 Introduction to Psychology,
- Applicants from undergraduate community development programme will not be exempted from any course or have any credit transfers since this is an advanced level programme
- A born-again Christian.

Students Assessment Policy

Course grades will be derived as follows:

- For courses that are essentially conceptual (much of what is required is mastery of information or the cognitive aspect of learning): 60% from final examination, and 40% from continuous assessment, projects, term papers, field reports and field evaluations. For courses that are essentially skills-oriented (these are courses that will require the students to demonstrate specific skills as demanded by the particular content): 40% for final examination, and 60% from continuous assessment, projects, term papers, field reports and field evaluations.
- Grading System: A course receiving less than a C grade (an equivalent of 56%) will automatically be graded an F and must be repeated in order to receive credit.

Students will be allowed to repeat failed courses. Whatever grade the student achieves after repeat will be averaged in the GPA.

Courses which are required but carry no credit are not used in calculating the GPA.

GPA for a student is obtained by dividing the total number of credits attempted by the total number of grade points obtained.

Requirements For Graduation

In order to graduate, a student must successfully complete 49 credit hours as specified below:-

Courses	Credits
Common Postgraduate courses	9
Required courses	28
Elective	6
Academic thesis/practicum	6
Total	49

Programme Curriculum

Code/Title	Credits
MCD 601 Advanced Rural Sociology	3
MCD 602 Poverty in a Globalizing World	3
MCD 603 Role of NGOs in Sustainable Community Development	3

BIL 615 Biblical Foundations of Christian Service	2
MCD 604 Advanced Sociological Theory	3
MCD 605 Microfinance for Community Development	3
MCD 606 Dynamics of Leadership	3
MCD 608 Statistical Methods in Community Development	3
MCD 609 Participatory Development Techniques	3
MCD 610 Advanced Community Based Research	3
GRA 611 Introduction to Graduate Studies	1
MCD 612 Project Planning and Management	2
MCD 613 Project Monitoring and Evaluation	2
MCD 614 Social Change and Community Development	3
MCD 615 Christian Environmental Stewardship and Management	3
MCD 617 Disaster Management	
MCD 607 Demography and Development	3
MCD 618 Human Resource Management for Community Development	3
MCD 619 Gender and Development	3
MCD 620 Conflict Transformation and peace Building in Development	3
MCD 623 Practicum/MCD 624 Thesis	6
TOTAL	49

NOTE: Students enrolled in the MA Community Development program must complete either MCD 624: Academic Thesis or MCD 623: Practicum as a requirement for graduation.

Common Postgraduate Courses	Credits
BIL 615 Biblical Foundations of Christian Service	2
MCD 606 Dynamics of Leadership	3
MCD 610 Advanced Community Based Research	3
GRA 611 Introductions to Graduate Studies	1

Required Courses	Credits
MCD 601 Advanced Rural Sociology	3
MCD 602 Poverty in a Globalizing World	3
MCD 604 Advanced Sociological Theory	3
MCD 608 Statistical Methods in Community Development	3
MCD 609 Participatory Development Techniques	3
MCD 612 Project Planning and Management	2
MCD 613 Project Monitoring and Evaluation	2
MCD 614 Social Change and Community Development	
MCD 615 Christian Environmental Stewardship and Management	
MCD 617 Disaster Management	3

Electives courses	Credits
MCD 607 Demography and Development	3
MCD 603 Role of NGOs and Sustainable Community Development	3
MCD 605 Microfinance for Community Development	3
MCD 618 Human Resources Management for Community Development	3
MCD 619 Gender and Development	3
MCD 620 Conflict Transformation and peace Building in Development	3

Year 1, Semester 2	
MCD 609 Participatory Development Techniques	3
MCD 604 Advanced Sociological Theory	3
MCD 608 Statistical Methods in Community Development	3
MCD 614 Dynamics of Change and Sustainable Community Development	3
MCD 615 Christian Environmental Stewardship and Management	3
TOTAL	15 hrs

Year 2, Semester 1	
MCD 606 Dynamics of Leadership	3
MCD 610 Advanced Community Based Research	3
MCD 617 Disaster Management	3
MCD 613 Project Monitoring and Evaluation	2
Elective 2	3
TOTAL	14 hrs

Year 2, Semester 2	
MCD 623 Practicum	6
OR	
MCD 624 Thesis	6
GRAND TOTAL	49 hrs

Implementation Strategy

The course will take 2 years full-time or four years part-time.

It will consist of course work, practicum or thesis for a minimum of fifteen weeks.

Year 1, Semester 1	
MCD 601 Advanced Rural Sociology	3
MCD 602 Poverty in a Globalizing World	3
BIL 615 Biblical Foundations of Christian Service	2
GRA 611 Introduction to Graduate Studies	1
MCD 612 Project Planning and Management	2
Elective 1	3
TOTAL	14 hrs

A student is required to take 6 credit hours from the following which will be offered alternately:

MCD 603 Role of NGOs in Sustainable Community Development	3
MCD 605 Microfinance for Community Development	3
MCD 607 Demography and Development	3
MCD 618 Human Resources Management for Community Development	3
MCD 619 Gender and Development	
MCD 620 Conflict Transformation and peace Building in Development	3

The academic thesis in M.A in Community Development will require the student to :

Write and defend a research proposal at the department level	20 marks
Undertake data collection, processing and analysis	20 marks
Compile a thesis report and defend it in a panel of research experts	60 marks
Effect the recommended corrections, if any, after defense	
TOTAL MARKS	100 marks

NOTE: The student will be required to orally defend the research thesis before a panel of at least three post-graduate faculty appointed by the Dean Post-graduate studies and must pass with a minimum grade of B. A copy of the thesis with final corrections must be submitted within 90 days after successful defence and before graduation.

In addition to the above, thesis work will be done in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Daystar University postgraduate students' handbook. Any student considering entrance into a doctoral program or an academic career is strongly advised to complete the academic thesis.

POSTGRADUATE Programme

Master of Arts in Monitoring and Evaluation

Introduction

The M.A. in monitoring and evaluation has been developed to respond to the need for expert human resource for tracking the performance of diverse programmes and projects with the view to enhancing quality performance. It is also designed to ensure rapid and sustainable development of monitoring and evaluation education and discipline.

Definition and Nature of the Programme

This is a skills based course aimed at equipping the student with the appropriate capacity to pursue a career in monitoring and evaluation. It is designed to present the requisite information that will enhance the students' knowledge and skills needed to effectively impact on project management processes. The programme gives credence to the promotion of intellectual and scholarly discourse in matters pertaining to monitoring and evaluation. Students will acquire skills in monitoring and evaluation, management and administration, programme design, planning and implementation, research and analytical skills, leadership dynamics, dynamics of change, participatory monitoring and evaluation approaches, communication of results, human rights,

application of the Christian Principles and values, and ethical issues in monitoring and evaluation. The programme will cover 48 credit hours spread within a period of two years. This is an equivalent of six sessions in a trimester system or four in a semester system.

Philosophy of the Programme

This M.A in Monitoring and Evaluation programme is based on the premise that efficiency, integrity, accountability, and quality performance are core ingredients to programming, management and administration for transformational community development. Further, it is founded on the belief that monitoring and evaluation is a critical element for the realization and enhancement of the programmes universal human rights concerns and most importantly a divine mandate.

Rationale of the Programme

Kenya is a signatory to the Millennium Development Goals. In order to achieve these goals it has launched vision 2030. This is aimed at transforming Kenya into a medium income economy. To realize this the government, has charged the Ministry of Planning and Development