



Executive Master in Governance & Development Policy

COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. Introduction

In a constantly changing world, development has become one of the major issues of the 21st century. This is why we believe that a specialised course must be devoted to it. The programme's overall aims to study development issues from the points of view of both the emerging countries and industrialised societies. The *Executive Master in Governance & Development Policy* tackles topics of growing importance, such as the impact of climate change, energy or migration issues on development.

Climate change summits are introducing new global development issues. The economic development of emerging countries and the growing shortage of traditional energy resources call for a reappraisal of the development models of industrialised countries. **Economic “globalisation” is followed by increased awareness of the globalisation of environmental issues and sustainable development.** In addition to this, the failure of the current model of international aid applied to sub-Saharan Africa and the challenge of IMF monetary policies casts doubt on the western vision of development which has been imposed on these regions. Therefore a study of various development models according to geographical criteria is a crucial key to understanding these issues.

2. Curriculum

The aim of the *Executive Master in Governance & Development Policy* is the acquisition of a practical, critical and holistic understanding of development issues by taking an **interdisciplinary approach enhanced by a comparative analysis of the various development models.** This programme includes **10 thematic and geographical modules** and is organised into two parts. The first semester, focuses on the **"Foundation"** is made up of five thematic modules entitled: **“Economics of Development”, “Political governance”, “Economic Resources & Development (including Energy)”, “Environment and development”, and “Population Growth, disparities & Migration”.** The second semester is dedicated to **"Development experiences"** according to geographical zones such as **“Russia and Central Asia: beyond transition”, “Middle East & North Africa”, “South and East Asia: the new epicentre of Global Economy”, “Latin America: making up for lost time” and “Sub-Saharan Africa: from basket case to Development”.** Each module ends with a specific seminar.

The program is **designed for professionals** who would like to acquire specific skills and knowledge which will help them get a comprehensive understanding of development and governance issues. This objective is pursued through lectures, discussions and self-study from the reading & online materials available. The course is made up of **60 ECTS : 30 ECTS** for class attendance and online courses + **30 ECTS** for student workload, learning outcomes and contact hours.

The classes are conducted in English and held in Brussels on **Saturday afternoons (from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm)**. Exceptionally, classes are organised on Friday evenings (6 pm – 7.30 pm) and Saturday mornings (9.30 am – 12.30 pm). In addition to the 4 hours/week delivered in the auditorium and by Zoom Videoconference, the **classes are complemented by online courses (e-learning courses) that count for at least 4 hours/week**. The recordings of the live courses, as well as the recordings of the online courses are available on the e-learning platform (see e-community).

3. The Faculty

The high quality of the programme depends above all on its participating faculty. **CERIS** has developed an extensive network of contacts with **renowned scholars drawn from leading academic and research institutions and with key experts from international organisations**. This pooling of resources provides a high-profile professorial corps which few institutions could provide on their own. Every year, the programme is supported by thirty experts from such academic institutions as the London School of Economics and Political Science, the School of Oriental & African Studies, the University of Oxford, King's College, CITY-University of London, the Institute of Social Studies - The Hague, Erasmus University - Rotterdam, the Graduate Institute of International and Development studies of Geneva, College of William & Mary - USA.

Among those who are lecturing at CERIS for a number of years, we are able to name:

Richard Caplan (Oxford university, Linacre College) - **Laura Hammond** (School of Oriental & African Studies – SOAS) – **Laura Hammond** (School of Oriental & African Studies – SOAS, London) - **Theodore Trefon** (Royal Museum for Central Africa - Tervueren) - **Richard Baldwin** (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies-IHEID, Geneva) - **Hassan Hakimian** (Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Director of MESD) - **Afredo Saad-Filho** (King's College, London) - **Jean-Pascal van Ypersele** (UCLouvain, IPCC) - **Ronan Palan** (CITY, University of London) - **Andrew Fischer** (Erasmus University - Rotterdam, ISS - The Hague) - **Murat Arsel** (Erasmus University - Rotterdam, ISS – Den Haag) - **Howard Nicholas** (Erasmus University - Rotterdam, ISS – The Hague) - **David Sogge** (Transnational Institute – Amsterdam) - **Ambassador Janet Rogan** (Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office - COP26 Regional Ambassador for the Middle East and Africa) - **Photis Lysandrou** (CITY, University of London, CITYPERC) – **Juan Grigera** (Institute of the Americas-University College, London) - **Tania Kaiser** (School of Oriental & African Studies – SOAS, London) - **Frédéric Lasserre** (Laval University, Quebecq, Canada) - **Barbara Hogenboom** (Amsterdam University, Director of CEDLA) - **Jun Borrás** (ISS- The Hague, Transnational Institute Amsterdam) - **Neil Robinson** (University of Limerick) - **Anastasia Nesvetailova** (CITY, University of London) - **Anne Booth** (School of Oriental & African Studies – SOAS, London) - **John Sauven** (Greenpeace UK Director) - **Elliot Green** (London School of Economics & Political Science - LSE) - **Daniel Large** (Central European University - CEU) - **Adel El Gammal** (ULB, Director of EERA) - **Tanguy Struye de Swielande** (UCLouvain, Director of CECRI) - **Riccardo Petrella** (UCLouvain, Director of IERPE) - **Thierry Vircoulon** (SciencesPo Paris) - **Stefano Pagliari** (CITY, University of London) - **Admasu Shiferaw** (College of William & Mary, USA).

Module 1 Economics of development

Economic Globalization & Development - The Governance & the Global Economy- Multilateral and bilateral aid- International trading system - International financial system- Economic Diplomacy – Global Financial Governance – Globalization and Regionalization – Tax Havens - Geoeconomy: Theoretical approach – Geoeconomy: Case studies - New technologies and the future of Work.

Seminar 1 : Questioning the models of International aid

Module 2 Political governance

Peacekeeping Theory and Practice – Developmental States - Law and Governance in the Developing world - Theory and practice of political development - Clientelism & Corruption in Developing Countries - State building, democracy building and electoral management - The development challenges of poverty, inequality and insecurity – Natural Resource Governance.

Seminar 2 : Democracy Building & Good Governance

Module 3 Primary Resources & Development

Geopolitics of energy - Water Resources - Water and Development - Water and Urbanisation - Food Security - Mineral resources – Geopolitics of Water - Geopolitics of Arctic & Antarctic - Natural Resource Governance.

Seminar 3 : Land Grabbing & Land Concentration

Module 4 Environment and development

Climate Change and Global Politics – Climate Change and Energy Policy - Natural Resource Management & Development - Global Climate Change & Environment Policy - Climate change and its impact on development.

Seminar 4 : Sustainable Development

Module 5 Population Growth, disparities and Migration

Demographic Foundations of Human Development - International & Regional migrations - Migration & International Law - Refugees & Human rights protection - The EU & Migrant Crisis - Population, Poverty & inequality

Seminar 5 : Development Strategies in Comparative Perspective.

Module 6 Russia and Central Asia: beyond transition

Political Economy of Russia - Russia: the Petrostate & the global crisis – Russian domestic political development - Political Economy of Central Asia - Central Asia in Global Politics & Development.

Seminar 6 : Central Asia: Resources, Environment & Development

Module 7 Middle East & North Africa : Islam, oil and economic development

The Political Economy of Oil & Economic Development - Economic Sanctions against Iran - The Political Economy of Maghreb & Middle East – Economic Development in the Middle East and North Africa.

Seminar 7 : Arab Uprisings and Post-ISIS MENA Disorder.

Module 8 South and East Asia: the new epicentre of the global economy?

Beyond the Belt and Road Initiative: China's Strategy - The State & the market: lessons from India - India's economic Success - Will China's economic success continue and will it become the dominant world economic power? - Trade and Development : South & East Asia Experience - Four Asian Tiger & Economies of the Tiger Clubs – The Economic Development of Southeast Asia.

Seminar 8 : Economic Cooperation & Development in Asia

Module 9 Latin America: making up for lost time

Political and Economic Development of Latin America - The political economy of Brazilian Development - Regional Integration in Latin America & Caribbean - Latin America and China – Democracy in Latin America – Environmental Governance in Latin America.

Seminar 9 : Latin America & Caribbean Environment & Development

Module 10 Sub – Saharan Africa: from basket case to Development?

China and the Geopolitics of South-South Development in Africa - The flowering of sub-Saharan African economies - Africa's Socio-Economic performance & Prospects -The culture & economy in central Africa - Natural Resource Governance in the Congo - Resources Conflict in Africa.

Seminar 10 : African Development Challenges & Growth Opportunities.

4. Teaching system

The program, based on empirical methods, aims to relate conceptual and theoretical frameworks to the contemporary realities of development policy and policies. This objective is pursued through lectures, discussions, seminars in small groups and self-study from the reading and on-line materials available.

Lectures are delivered in English. Lectures are always followed by a discussion with the guest speaker. Seminars complement the lectures, providing course participants with an opportunity to discuss the critical issues presented in the lectures. In addition optional visits can be organised during the year.

Self study is vital to this course. The modules are supported by **Background Readings** and by **Audio/Video Recordings downloadable from the Moodle e-learning platform** (e-community). The textbooks consist of a selection of recent and authoritative academic publications on the topics and a bibliography which is updated every year. The textbooks are no longer printed but are downloadable from the e-campus or e-community. Participants are provided with the textbooks to pursue a more in-depth study in preparation for the end of course **oral exam**.

The **e-community is an essential teaching tool**. Here, participants can download the course outlines & handouts prepared by the lecturers, the Proceedings (or course synopses) and Background reading or indeed any other printed document. **Access to audio/video recordings** of the lectures forms a crucial part of the course materials. In addition, participants have access to a virtual library for research purposes and coursework. Finally, participants are also invited to visit the **CERIS Facebook or YouTube page¹**, where they will find interviews with the lecturers on issues of related interest for the MA course and which aim to stimulate **interaction with the course participants**.

4.1. Certificates & International Audience

CERIS or "**CERIS-Diplomatic School of Brussels**" is an English-language international school based in the Brussels-Capital Region. This specificity means that our school does not depend on the French Community of Belgium (dedicated in the Brussels region to the institution whose teaching language is French), nor on the Flemish Community of Belgium (dedicated in the Brussels region to the institution whose language of instruction is Flemish). As a result, our certificate is not recognized by either the French Community or the Flemish Community. **Our education is a non-subsidized private education, which gives it a great independence and autonomy**. Our teaching is geared towards globalization. Indeed, it is dispensed on 5 continents in more than 50 countries around the world. Moreover, **the rate of integration in the fields of international relations conferred by our certificate is very high**. Our school and our certificates enjoy a high reputation. Most of our teachers come from the top 10 of the best universities in the world. Major international institutions finance the training of their staff in our institution and promotions within some of them are obtained on the basis of our certificates. CERIS has developed partnerships with universities, International Institutions and Research Centers. Our "Executive Master" (English style Master 60 ECTS) is a Postgraduate Certificate and is not equivalent to a Graduate Certificate, Bologna-type Master (120 ECTS) or specialized master's (60 ECTS). The great majority of our participants already have a Master or a Phd.

4.2. How to qualify

In order to qualify for the *Executive master in Governance & Development policy* successfully, participants are required to participate in all 10 teaching modules of the programme (**30 ECTS**), write two Seminar essays, produce a dissertation or Master thesis and pass an oral examination (**30 ECTS**).

The **Seminar essay** is a dissertation of 3,000 words. Participants are expected to react from their own perspective and to discuss one of the issues presented during the seminars.

The **Master thesis** is a piece of work that all course participants have to produce in order to qualify for the Executive Master in Governance and Development Policy. The thesis can be written in either English or French. It should address a specific question related to development policy issues and an initial proposal must be submitted by each student to the academic supervisor for approval. The thesis should have the form and style of a scientific article.

It should demonstrate that it has taken into account most of the existing work on the subject and make a contribution to the knowledge in the area. Its length should be around 15.000 and 20.000 words. Each participant will be assigned a supervisor and will be expected to be in regular contact with the latter during his or her research. Once submitted, the thesis will be assessed by the supervisor and at least one external examiner. CERIS reserves the right to publish the outstanding dissertations on its website (www.ceris.be).

The **Final examination** is an oral assessment of the candidate's understanding of governance & development policy issues. Candidates sit the “major oral” in English or in French, in front of a panel of at least two professors. They are asked questions on their thesis as well as any current issue in development policy and are required to demonstrate their understanding of the deeper causes of current problems and their capacity to analyse complex issues.

The exams are organized during the **last week of June and October**. If this opportunity is not used, it is still possible to sit the exam **in late January, late June or late October of the following academic year**.

A **re enrolment fee** of **2000 €** will be charged for re-registration. However, in case of **non consecutive re registration** (if the re registration occurs after an interruption of more than one year) the fee will be of **€ 2.500**. No one may sit the same examination more than twice.

The **final grade** is calculated as follows: 40% of marks for the thesis - 40% of marks for the oral examination - 20% of marks for the seminar essays.

A combined average mark of more than 55% is required for the certificate to be awarded. The grading system is as follows: Satisfecit (55-64), Cum Laude (65-74); Magna Cum Laude (75-84); Summa Cum Laude (85 or more).

5. Admission and fees

Prospective applicants must hold a relevant university degree and several years of professional experience. As a matter of principle, admission requires either a Bologna master's degree or an equivalent diploma delivered after four years of university studies (240 ETCS). A bachelor's degree might be accepted, if combined with a relevant professional background. In addition, applicants should demonstrate an excellent command of English.

Given the large number of annual applications, only candidates fulfilling these criteria will be considered. Interested candidates are required to submit the application form, along with copies of their university degrees and detailed curriculum vitae, to the CERIS main office in Brussels. An electronic version should be sent by e-mail to info@ceris.be

There are two intakes a year:

October intake: Most participants attend the programme from October to May; closing date for applications is October 31. **February intake:** It is also possible to attend the course from February to January; the closing date for applications is 28 February. **Participants are nonetheless encouraged to apply early, as only a limited number are accepted each academic year.**

The **tuition fees** for attending the programme are € 4.500 for the whole course. There are no additional costs. Fees are payable in several installments. A first instalment of € **2.000**, called **booking fees**, needs to be paid after receipt of the admission letter. Booking fees are part of the tuition fees. A **discount** is offered to groups of at least 3 applicants working in the same organization or company. Prospective candidates might also benefit from an "early birds rate", if applications are submitted before **June 15th** (October intake) or **December 15th** (February intake). **Discounts are not cumulative.** Future tuition rate is subject to change and CERIS reserves the right to determine tuition rate differential between EU residents and non-EU residents status.

5.1. Cancellation policy.

Once you confirm your registration for the October or February intake, a deposit of € 2.000 is required. **The deposit is non refundable / non transferable.**

In case of visa refusal, the applicant has the possibility to re apply for the following academic term or to shift to the distance learning program. Payment of fees' balance will be required prior to the activation of e-learning facilities.

6. Online study: Online access to course facilities

The *Executive master in Governance & Development Policy* may be taken entirely online. Using a personal login, participants have access to the courses through the **Moodle e-learning platform** (e-Community)². The **e-community is the essential teaching tool** for online participants. Here, they can download the course outlines & handouts prepared by the lecturers, the Proceedings (or course synopses) and Background reading or indeed any other printed document. **Access to audio/video recordings** of the lectures forms a crucial part of the course materials. In addition, it enables to use a virtual library for research purposes and coursework.

Online participants are assisted by an **academic tutor** who provides them with the teaching framework and necessary guidance. They keep in regular contact by e-mail or by Zoom Video Conference. In addition, a **thesis supervisor** will be assigned according to the candidate's research project.

Online participants are not necessarily bound by the October/February intake. It is possible to start the program the **first working day of every month** (except in July or in August). Payment of the fees is requested prior to the activation of the access code to the e-campus.

Distance-learning Programme:

To be awarded the *Executive Master in Governance & development policy*, the online course participants are required to write two seminar essays, produce an original dissertation or Master thesis on a subject of their choice, previously approved by the core faculty and pass an oral examination. Online participants will take the oral exam by Zoom Videoconference.

Additional Information

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