



Department of International Development, Community and Environment (IDCE)  
950 Main Street  
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**GRADUATE PROGRAM IN  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL CHANGE (IDSC)**

**STUDENT HANDBOOK  
2011-2013**

<http://clarku.edu/departments/idce/programs/idsc/>

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## Overview

The Master of Arts degree in International Development and Social Change (IDSC) emphasizes the connection between critical thinking and effective action. It is designed for scholars of international development, as well as for present and future practitioners of grassroots, community-based development.

Offering alternatives to centralized planning and implementation, the IDSC Master's program has been a pioneer in participatory development and a leading force in creating tools for social change. The challenge for the 21st-century is to promote just and equitable development and sustain environmental resources through critical thought, local planning, and action. The IDCE Department and the IDSC program stress participatory approaches that foster alliances and partnerships between local institutions and broader entities such as external development agencies, universities, and state and non-governmental organizations.

This master's program helps students conceptualize innovative approaches to development problems by building an understanding of the complex causes, influences and implications of poverty, social injustice, and conflict. Rooted in the belief that effective approaches merge many disciplines, the IDSC program employs a trans-disciplinary focus, with faculty from anthropology, economics, environmental sciences, women's studies, geography, history, government, and management. Links with collaborating institutions in countries such as Kenya, Nepal, Ghana, India, Senegal, and Mexico provide important real-world perspectives and field work opportunities. The IDSC Master's program has three key elements:

1. Challenging conventional ideas about development and seeking innovative alternatives,
2. Understanding how the interplay of power relationships gives rise to social injustice and inequity, and
3. Exploring the linkages between critical thinking and effective development practices at the community, regional, national, and global levels.

Courses introduce classical and contemporary approaches and critiques of development and provide practical skills to advance professional goals in the field of development. The unique blend of theory and practice enables students to link local planning and action to policy making at different levels. The program themes include gender issues and social justice, health and social disparities, race and international development, refugees and migrants in diaspora, international education, bridging differences in post conflict areas, building alliances among institutions, and learning from the voices of marginalized people.

# IDSC Course of Study

## Master's Degree Requirements

The master's degree in International Development and Social Change requires a minimum of 12 graduate course units. These include five required core courses, including a final M.A. project, and seven electives courses to form the student's field of specialization.

Through action-oriented, critical studies linking theory and practice, this master's program offers opportunities to specialize in such topics as political economy, conflict and development, education and development, health and development, culture and development, resource management, community-based development, gender and development, and more.

## Core Requirements

Graduate students come to IDSC with a variety of interests and experiences. Students work with their advisors and other faculty to assess their level of experience and specific interests to identify a trajectory through the M.A. core course listings. Regardless of program orientation, all IDSC M.A. students must satisfy the following requirements:

1. **Development Theory** provides a critical overview of classical and contemporary theories of development across many disciplines. Encourages thinking historically, politically and analytically about the multiplicity of development processes and the complex relations of power that underlie them. Courses that may be taken to fulfill this requirement are:

- *IDCE 360 Section 1: Theories of Development: A Critical Introduction*
- *IDCE 360 Sections 2 or 3: The History and Politics of Development Theory*

2. **Development Policy and Project Management** develops skills in needs assessment, project design and implementation, management, budgeting, monitoring/evaluation, and policy formulation and methods with emphasis on alternative methods of social change. Courses that may be taken to fulfill this requirement are:

- *IDCE 361: International Development Project Management for Social Change*
- *IDCE 3XX: The Policy Process: Topics in Development (e.g. IDCE 30243: Seeing Like a Humanitarian Agency, or an equivalent course.)*

3. **Development Economics** introduces economic history, as well as microeconomics and macroeconomics to the non-economists, while illustrating practical applications of these techniques to real-world development situations. Courses that may be taken to fulfill this requirement are:

- *IDCE 30217: Economic Fundamentals for International Development*
- *IDCE 30247: Development Economics*

4. **Research Methods for Development** reviews topics in social research design and methodology including problem definition, research strategies, sampling, data collection techniques and procedures, and proposal writing.

- *IDCE 30285 Section 1: Introduction to Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods*
- *IDCE 30285 Section 2: Intermediate Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods*

5. **IDCE 30213 Final M.A. Project** is the culminating experience of the IDSC Masters program where students develop their research and professional interests independently.

### *Elective Courses*

Students select electives to focus their research and practice, deepen their understanding of, and develop an area of specialization. IDSC MA students are encouraged to develop critical and practical skills and develop a research or career focus through choosing from electives offered by the IDSC program, other IDCE programs (CDP, ES&P and GISDE), and across Clark University, including the School of Geography and the Graduate School of Management. Clark is also a member of the Colleges of Worcester Consortium, and students may thus take a limited number of classes at other member institutions. Students work with their advisors to develop an individualized course of study.

Internships and directed studies for credit may also be taken as elective courses. You can take a total of two (2) internship and/or directed study credits over the course of your IDSC M.A. program. If you want to take more than 2 credits of internship and/or directed study, you must submit a written request and rationale to the coordinator of the IDSC graduate program and the IDCE Director.

A sampling of recently offered electives offered through the IDCE department includes:

- IDCE 30190 Field Research Data Analysis
- IDCE 30201 GIS and Community Profiles: Mapping Strategies for Planning and Community Development
- IDCE 30221 Education and Development
- IDCE 30225 Grantwriting for Community Development
- IDCE 30229 Program Monitoring and Evaluation
- IDCE 30235 Globalization and its Illicit Commodities
- IDCE 30239 Microfinance, Gender, and Liberalism
- IDCE 30242 W(h)ither Social Change?
- IDCE 30243 Seeing Like a Humanitarian Agency
- IDCE 30248 Gender and Health
- IDCE 30254 Gender, Power and Social Change
- IDCE 30256 Peasants, Rural Development and Agrarian Change
- IDCE 30261 Globalization, Immigration and Workforce Development in Knowledge-Driven Industries
- IDCE 30264 Environmental and Social Epidemiology
- IDCE 30269 Capitalism, Nature, Development
- IDCE 30271 NGOS and Advocacy
- IDCE 30272 Environment and Justice in Latin America
- IDCE 30273 Aid and Empire
- IDCE 30281 Humanitarian Assistance in Complex Emergencies
- IDCE 30284 Transnationalism and Social Networks
- IDCE 30292 Participatory Development Planning
- IDCE 30297 Displacement and Development in the Contemporary World
- IDCE 30327 Ideologies of “Race” in Development
- IDCE 304 International and Comparative Analysis of Community Development
- IDCE 312 Famine and Food Security
- IDCE 341 Management of NGO Organization
- IDCE 353 International Political Ecology
- IDCE 354 Beyond Victims and Guardian Angels: Third World Women, Gender and Development
- IDCE 357 Sex and Development
- IDCE 366 Principles of Conflict Negotiation

- IDCE 373 Social Movements, Globalization and the State
- IDCE 375 States of Violence
- IDCE 377 Africa's Development: Global Context
- IDCE 388 Advanced Vector GIS
- IDCE 396 Advanced Raster GIS

Please view Clark's official **Academic Catalog** ([www.clarku.edu/academiccatalog](http://www.clarku.edu/academiccatalog)) for a complete listing of current course offerings.

### ***Directed Study – IDCE 399***

As part of your elective credits, you have the option of doing an internship or a directed study with any IDSC core or affiliate faculty member. Directed studies are an opportunity for students to engage in advanced level work (beyond what they learn in seminars) on issues of special interest to them. Directed studies take different form (e.g. literature review, annotated bibliography, research paper, thesis preparation, grant proposal development, etc.) depending on the interest and abilities of each student, and the degree of involvement from the faculty.

To undertake a directed study, you must first develop a preliminary reading list and a draft proposal describing the topic you wish to explore in depth, the rationale for it, the shape of the final product (e.g. literature review, annotated bibliography, a brief research paper, etc.), and a timeline for it. Once you have those issues outlined, share the draft proposal with the faculty member you wish to work with. The faculty member will let you know if s/he feels your topic matches with his or her area of interest and can direct your study. If the faculty member agrees to work with you, you must finalize your course of study and get the faculty's permission to register for the necessarily credits (IDCE 399).

Given the complexity and level of thought that goes into a directed study, you must begin to prepare for this well in advance of (minimally, at least one month prior to) course registration. Typically, a directed study is not undertaken until your second year of the program, when you have a clear idea of the focus for your final project.

### ***B.A./M.A. Fifth Year Program in IDSC***

Eligible Clark University students who proceed to the fifth year M.A. degree program in IDSC take eight credits over two semesters. These include the five required courses described above and three elective courses to form the student's focus or "area of specialization," which may be the same or different from the undergraduate major area of specialization.

The fifth-year scholarship requires students to complete all requirements within the prescribed year. The IDSC faculty highly encourage all participants in the B.A./M.A. program to complete a M.A. paper, thesis or technical report at the same pace as the regular M.A. students (to be filed in late March). However, students can extend their M.A. studies into subsequent semesters at their own cost.

Due to the intensive nature of the fifth year, B.A./M.A. students must petition their faculty readers for extension to this deadline.

## Sequencing and Program Plan for IDSC/M.A.

<p><b>First-year Fall Semester</b></p> <p><i>Core Requirements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDCE 360 Development Theory</li> <li>• IDCE 30217/30247 Development Economics</li> </ul> <p><i>Elective Course in an area of your interest</i></p> <p><i>Progress towards M.A. Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss research interests with your advisor, other faculty and second year students.</li> </ul>	<p><b>First-year Spring Semester</b></p> <p><i>Core Requirements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDCE 361 Development Policy and Project Management</li> <li>• IDCE 30285 Research Methods for Development</li> </ul> <p><i>Elective Course in an area of your interest</i></p> <p><i>Progress towards M.A. Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In early spring, begin assessing your research interests and professional goals and what final M.A. project format (research paper, practitioner report, or thesis) is best suited to meeting them.</li> <li>• By pre-registration advising week (late March): Draft a five-page final M.A. project prospectus with specific topic, students' courses, field research or work, and methods relevant to the topic student plans to use. Submit to your faculty reader, advisor, and IDSC Graduate Program Coordinator for approval.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Second-year Fall Semester</b></p> <p><i>Core Requirements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IDCE 30213 Final M.A. Project Sign up for half or one credit with faculty reader.</li> </ul> <p><i>Two Elective Courses in an area of your interest</i></p> <p><i>Progress towards M.A. Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize project aim and plan of work by first month of fall semester.</li> <li>• Work on drafts independently, and in conjunction with peers throughout the fall semester.</li> <li>• Submit a draft of your final M.A. project to your faculty reader for review before the December holidays or, if you plan to work over the winter break, submit the draft well ahead of schedule. Please work with your faculty reader to ensure positive communications and to agree on deadlines and goals. Don't forget to check the dates of the winter break as most faculty are not</li> </ul>	<p><b>Second-year Spring Semester</b></p> <p><i>Core Requirements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDCE 30213 Final M.A. Project Sign up for half or one credit with faculty reader.</li> </ul> <p><i>Two Elective Courses in an area of your interest</i></p> <p><i>Progress towards M.A. Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work on finalizing a draft by late January/early February, submit it to your faculty reader, and meet with him/her to discuss changes necessary to create a polished draft.</li> <li>• Identify second reader</li> <li>• Submit an Intent to Graduate form, including date of review session, to the IDCE Student and Academic Affairs Office by the end of February.</li> <li>• Send polished draft to your faculty readers by late February (or at least a week before Workshop) and have a Workshop with your faculty readers before Spring Break</li> </ul>

<p>on campus during the holidays, may be traveling and otherwise out of communication during this time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• During Spring Break incorporate comments, revise, and put paper in final Graduate School-ready format.</li><li>• By end March submit one formatted copy of final paper signed by your advisor and a CD to IDCE Student and Academic Services Office for processing.</li><li>• Consider presenting your final IDSC M.A. project at Clark's Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference. The conference is usually held in late April, but the Call for Presentations is much earlier.</li></ul>
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**Please check regularly with your program coordinator, advisor, and CICADA for the most accurate due dates and deadlines.**

## **IDSC Final M.A. Project**

All four programs within IDCE offer three options for a final M.A. project, which is the culminating experience of an IDCE Masters degree. In IDSC the three options are: (1) a Research Paper, (2) a Practitioner Report, or (3) a Thesis. None of the options is considered more prestigious than the others. Students choose the option that is most compatible with their research and professional interests, and then develop these interests independently through the final project.

### **Option 1. Final M.A. Research Paper**

The final M.A. research paper must focus on a question or problem of particular within the field of international development and social change. Students identify a suitable topic for a paper (from course work, library research, and/or field experience) and review the existing literature on this topic. They then formulate a line of argument regarding the topic, collect the relevant data, describe the research methodology, and synthesize and analyze the data carefully to develop their argument. Finally, they offer critical insights on the central question or problem analyzed in the paper. The may be based on primary or secondary data, be 25-35 pages long (double spaced; 12 pt. font size) and must be reviewed by a faculty reader (a core IDCE faculty member). Students should submit a research proposal to their advisor by the end of the first year of their program, have a confirmed faculty reader by their third semester (usually the fall semester of their second year), and submit the final paper by their fourth and last semester (details of this schedule are below).

### **Option 2. Final M.A. Practitioner Report**

The final M.A. practitioner report should reflect an innovative, applied project carried out by the student that contributes to a development process or organization—e.g. in building capacity, fomenting better participation, improving monitoring and evaluation, raising funds, or contributing new data for planning—whatever the case may be. The practitioner report should describe and reflect upon an original contribution that the student has made. That is, the work must be original and demonstrate state-of-the-art practice.

The work may be either voluntary or paid, but it should have been carried out during the two years of the M.A. program. The standard of work for this practitioner paper should go beyond something carried out for an internship both in timing (it should be more than the required 210 hours of an internship) and substance (as reflected by the professional responsibilities assumed). That is, the student must demonstrate both initiative and creativity in some aspect of the project cycle and give appropriate credit and cite should any information or data acquired from the organization but not collected by the student.

The student is solely responsible for making contacts and establishing a relationship to a development organization or process of their choice. The faculty reader may provide some ideas, but it is the task of the student to do all the necessary groundwork for finding a practice experience suitable to his/her own skills and interests.

While the student may choose to write up a separate report for the internal purposes of the development organization with which he/she collaborated, the practitioner report submitted to IDSC should be understandable to a broader audience that may not be familiar with the background, context, and institutional history of the actors involved.

### **Option 3: Final M.A. Thesis**

Graduate students of extraordinary academic achievement may pursue a thesis option with the written permission of the IDSC Graduate Coordinator and IDCE Director. Like a M.A. research paper, a thesis must focus on a theme, question, or problem of particular interest within the field of international development and social change. However it must be based on a deeper review and analysis of the chosen topic than a M.A. paper. To reflect this depth, the thesis is expected to be longer than a research paper, approximately 100 pages, and must be defended orally before a committee of two faculty, including one core IDSC faculty member. The first reader or thesis committee chair should be a core IDCE faculty member.

To pursue the thesis option, students must make a written request to the IDSC Graduate Coordinator before the end of the student's second semester (by mid April). The request must contain a transcript, a note outlining the student's ability to pursue independent thesis research, and well-developed thesis proposal (including central question/hypothesis located within the relevantly reviewed literature, data to be collected, research methodology to be used, timeline of research and writing, and a preliminary bibliography of 10-20 sources). A recommendation from the prospective thesis reader may also be included. This request is reviewed and approved by the IDSC Graduate Program faculty before the summer break.

Students who get approval to pursue an IDSC M.A. thesis must sign up for one credit of directed study (IDCE399) in addition to IDCE 30213. This credit may be taken in the fall or spring semesters of the second year of the M.A. degree.

**(Please note: IDCE reserves the right to modify guidelines and procedures at any time.)**

# IDSC Faculty

## Program Faculty

### **Kiran Asher, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of International Development and Social Change

*Political economy, feminist and critical development theory, post-colonial studies, cultural politics, Latin America*

### **David Bell, Ed.D.**

Associate Professor of Practice - International Development and Social Change

*Education and development, community empowerment, social transformation, teacher education and social change, educational policy reform, power-relations and development, peace building and conflict transformation, participatory development, child labor and education, monitoring and evaluation, research-learning and service-learning, and African perspectives and contributions to education and educational leadership*

### **Nigel Brissett, Ed.D**

Visiting Assistant Professor, International Development and Social Change

*Educational policy and leadership; globalization and education; educational access and equity; critical policy analysis; postcolonial studies; critical theory; public policy; Caribbean studies.*

### **Anita Fábos, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of International Development and Social Change

Coordinator of the Graduate Program in International Development and Social Change

*Ethnicity and race, gender, urban refugees, Sudanese immigrants and refugees, Middle Eastern immigration and naturalization policies, transnationalism and citizenship, transnational Islam, narratives of exile, Hungarian refugees*

### **Jude Fernando, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of International Development and Social Change

*Economic development and political economy, with emphasis on non-profit organizations, environment, gender, and child labor, particularly in South Asia*

### **William F. Fisher, Ph.D.**

Professor of International Development and Social Change

IDCE Director

*Anthropology, social movements and development, global civil society, NGOs, involuntary resettlement, ethnicity, political economy, South Asia*

### **Ellen Foley, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of International Development and Social Change

Coordinator of the Undergraduate International Development and Social Change Program (Fall 2010)

*Anthropology of development, gender, Islam, knowledge systems, medical anthropology and West Africa (specifically in Senegal), gender and household health, reproductive care and fertility and healthcare reform*

### **Liza Grandia, Ph.D.** (on leave Fall 2011)

Assistant Professor of International Development and Social Change

*Political economy and corporate capitalism, the commons, political ecology and the politics of biodiversity conservation, peasants and agrarian change, Mesoamerica and the Q'eqchi' Maya people, DR-CAFTA and the Puebla to Panama Plan, indigenous knowledge and cultural survival, the global cancer epidemic*

**Ken MacLean, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of International Development and Social Change  
Coordinator of the Undergraduate International Development and Social Change Program (Spring 2011)  
*States and state-effects, political violence, extractive industries, displacement and irregular migration, critical humanitarianism, (late and post-) socialism, legal regimes, science and technology studies, and comparative cartographies in Mainland Southeast Asia and the Greater South China Sea*

**Marianne Sarkis, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of International Development and Social Change  
*Medical and demographic anthropology, social networks analysis in health research, disparities in obstetric care among refugees and immigrants, race and development, gender and health particularly in East and Horn of Africa, Lebanese demographic shifts and re-conceptualizations of womanhood*

**Research Faculty**

**Denise Humphreys Bebbington, Ph.D.**

Assistant Research Professor, International Development and Social Change  
*Extractive industry and infrastructure development in South America, Social-environmental movement organizations, Political ecology of natural resource extraction in Latin America, Extraction and indigenous peoples, Environmental justice, Non governmental organizations, and Institutional Development*

**Cynthia Enloe, Ph.D.**

IDCE Research Professor of International Development and Social Change  
*The interactions of feminism, women, militarized culture, war, politics, and globalized economics in countries such as Japan, Iraq, the U.S., Britain, the Philippines, Canada, Chile, and Turkey*

**Richard Ford, Ph.D.:**

IDCE Research Professor of International Development and Social Change  
*Resource trends and resource management in Africa, community participation and sustainable development, conflict mediation, community-based planning, monitoring and evaluation*

**Heidi Larson, Ph.D.**

Associate Research Professor of International Development and Social Change  
Coordinator of aids2031  
*Risk analysis, risk communications, public health issues, including HIV/AIDS, TB, and child health and vaccines, particularly focusing on the socio-cultural and political determinants of health, including the role of religion and belief systems*

**Barbara Thomas-Slayter, Ph.D.**

IDCE Research Professor of International Development and Social Change  
*Local institutions, women and public policy, peasant-state relations, gender issues, non-governmental organizations*

**Affiliate Faculty**

**Parminder Bhachu, Ph.D.**

Professor, Department of Sociology

**Joseph de Rivera, Ph.D.**

Professor, Hiatt School of Psychology  
Director, Peace Studies Program

**Jody Emel, Ph.D.**

Associate Director and Professor, School of Geography

**Odile Ferly, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of French, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

**Jacqueline Geoghegan, Ph.D.**

Professor, Department of Economics

**Amy Ickowitz, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics

**James T. Murphy, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, School of Geography

**Richard Peet, Ph.D.**

Professor, School of Geography

**Paul W. Posner, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

**Dianne Rocheleau, Ph.D.**

Professor, School of Geography

**Paul Ropp, Ph.D.**

Research Professor, Department of History

**Srinivasan Sitaraman, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

**Valerie Sperling, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

**Kristen Williams, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

**Adjunct Faculty**

**Sarah Woodside, M.A.**

Adjunct Instructor, International Development and Social Change

**Alexandra Pinschmidt, M.A.**

Adjunct Instructor, International Development and Social Change

## IDSC Checklist for the Masters Degree Program

**Name:**

**Core Courses (5 units)**

Core course name	Course number	Semester completed	Taught by
1. <b>Development Theory</b>	<b>IDCE 360</b>		
2. <b>Development Policy and Project Management or equivalent policy analysis and implementation course</b>  Class chosen:	<b>IDCE 361</b>		
3. <b>Development Economics</b>	<b>IDCE 30217 or IDCE 30247</b>		
4. <b>Research Methods for Development</b> Class chosen:	<b>IDCE 30285</b>		
5. <b>Final M.A. Project</b> (1 credit in fall or spring semester of second year, or half credit each in both semesters of second year)	<b>IDCE 30213</b>		

**Elective Courses (7 units)**

Elective course name	Course number	Semester completed	Taught by
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
<i>Additional space, if any are taken as half credits</i>			
<i>Additional space, if any are taken as half credits</i>			

## Checklist for the Graduate Component of the B.A./M.A. Degree Program

Name:

### Transferred Credits (2 units)

Course name	Course number	Semester completed	Taught by
1.			
2.			

### Core Courses (5 units)

Core course name	Course number	Semester completed	Taught by
1. <b>Development Theory</b>	<b>IDCE 360</b>		
2. <b>Development Policy and Project Management or equivalent policy analysis and implementation course</b>  Class chosen:	<b>IDCE 361</b>		
3. <b>Development Economics</b>	<b>IDCE 30217 or IDCE 30247</b>		
4. <b>Research Methods for Development</b> Class chosen:	<b>IDCE 30285</b>		
5. <b>Final M.A. Project</b> (1 credit in fall or spring semester of second year, or half credit each in both semesters of second year)	<b>IDCE 30213</b>		

### Electives (3 units)

M.A. students are required to take three electives, preferably from ones that parallel their area of specialization.

Skills/Electives course name	Course number	Semester completed	Taught by
8.			
9.			
10.			
<i>Additional space, if any are taken as half credits</i>			

### Internships (2 units)

Graduate-level internships require 210+ hours, plus submission of an appropriate written academic component (15-20 pages) to be determined in conjunction with the faculty internship supervisor.

<b>Graduate-level Internship</b>	<b>Course number</b>	<b>Semester completed</b>	<b>Taught by</b>
11.			
12.			