

Master's Programme in Development Studies



Department of Government



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET

Political protests in connection with meetings of large international and economic actors show that issues relating to *development* are increasingly dividing people around the world. Although the globalisation process may be reducing the importance of borders between some countries, vast inequalities between states and citizens persist and are even growing. Economic growth, governance, health, education, corruption, human rights, democracy, environmental protection, and the struggle for equality are areas where states develop in different ways. In an ideal world globalisation leads to a more democratic and equal society, and economic growth is based on sustainable development. The reality is more complicated. Although the number of democratic states in the world may be increasing, a multitude of states struggle to provide the most basic rights, and in many parts of the world the foundations of the rule-governed state have still never been established. Although class differences in some regions are decreasing, the number of people living in absolute poverty is growing around the world. According to the World Health Organisation, seventy percent of these are female. At the turn of the millennium about half the population of the world had less than two US dollars per day to live on.

Against this background, this course aims to provide knowledge of fundamental structures that decide the level of development of nations and societies. It seeks to describe the "developing state", not only from the political scientist's point of view, but also using

perspectives from such fields as law, economics, and demographic studies. Empirically based research will be used to describe the "soft state" in comparison with the "rule-governed state", corruption in neo-patrimonial as well as industrialised societies, the influence of the "predatory state" on economic growth, and how the protection of human rights can be achieved even in poor countries.

We work from the assumption that it is possible to measure and explain different levels of development. We compare development in and between states and we scrutinise and test explanations for development. Also, we try to understand how central players in the world try to solve development problems and how some of these players act as a brake on progress.

A unique feature of this course is that special attention is paid to policy perspectives relating to all the themes that are discussed. Policy strategies used by actors in the field of development politics will be presented and thoroughly analysed. These include those pursued by government aid agencies, the World Bank (WB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Trade Organisation (WTO), and various NGOs.

This programme is designed to attract students with a special interest in development issues. The course should also be useful for personnel working in the foreign services, aid organisations, the UN, and non-governmental organisations.

The structure of the programme

Autumn semester		Spring semester	
September-November	November - January	January - March	March - June
The state and the development processes	Democracy, human rights and the rule-governed society	Economic growth, justice and distribution	Master's Thesis
15 ECTS-credits	15 ECTS-credits	15 ECTS-credits	15 ECTS-credits

Total credits for the programme:

60 ECTS-credits, 40 Swedish points

Language of instruction:

English

Prerequisites:

Equivalent of Bachelor of Arts (BA). Good command of English (TOEFL 550/213 or IELTS 6.0)

Selection of students:

Students will be selected after applications have been considered from the following aspects:

- * previous academic studies and degrees
- * reason for applying (state in no more than 500 words)
- * if applicable, previous professional experience
- * one written contribution: for example, academic paper, thesis, article, report etc.

Study period:

1 September 2003 - 7 June 2004

Instruction:

lectures, seminars, web applications

Examination:

written tests, written papers

Application deadlines:

for students with non-Swedish degrees:

15 February 2003

for students with Swedish degrees:

15 April 2003

Application information and forms available on our web site:

<http://student.statsvet.uu.se>

For further information about the programme, please contact:

Sten Widmalm

phone: +46 18 471 3336

fax: +46 18 471 3308

e-mail: Sten.Widmalm@statsvet.uu.se

Department of Government, Uppsala University

P.O. Box 514

SE-751 20 Uppsala Universitet

Sweden



With a donation in the 1620's Johan Skytte inaugurated the professorship in rhetoric and political science. Ever since then the Skytteanum has been the official residence of the holder of this chair. Nowadays the Skytteanum is the centre for research in political science.

Front page illustration:

A masked unidentified "Black Block" demonstrator standing on an overturned car raises his fist in defiance of Italian anti-riot police on Saturday July 21, 2001, the second day of the G8 Summit in Genoa.

Photo: Luciano Del Castillo

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