

Masters in Development Economics list of courses

First year: M1

Semester One

- Advanced International Trade (36 hours)
- Econometrics II (36 hours)
- Development Economics (36 hours)
- M1 thesis seminar (18 hours)

Semester Two

- Development policies (36 hours)
- Mathematical economics II (36 hours)
- Open macroeconomics (12 hours)
- Labor economics (24 hours)
- M1 thesis seminar (18 hours)

Second year: M2

Semester Three

- Development theory (36 hours)
- Microeconomics of development (36 hours)
- Methods in empirical development economics (36 hours)
- Econometrics (36 hours + 18 hours tutorials)
- M2 thesis seminar (18 hours)

Semester Four

- Population, Migration and Development (12 hours)
- Human capital and development: Education and health (12 hours)
- Institutions, governance and development (12 hours)
- Macroeconomics and development (36 hours)
- Inequality, Development and Gender (36 hours)
- M2 thesis seminar (18 hours)

M1 – First Semester:

Economic Development (compulsory)

The course deals with the principal issues of economic development, with the objective of preparing students for policy-oriented research in this subject area. Emphasis will be on economy-wide aspects of economic development, with special references to international dimensions and cases studies. The course is mostly a theoretical course with case studies and is not intended to focus on econometric techniques.

International Trade (compulsory)

This course introduces students to the theories of international trade, with a special emphasis on the role of firms. The course starts with a deep understanding of traditional theories of international trade and their empirical validity. Second, we move on to study the most recent work in international trade at the firms' level.

Econometrics II (compulsory)

This is a course in applied econometric methods. The emphasis is on modern techniques appropriate for the econometric analysis of both time-series and cross-sectional data. The purpose of this course is to provide the students with the necessary econometric theory and concepts, and practical training to know what econometric methods to use in different circumstances and how to interpret and appraise the results of the empirical analysis. The emphasis in this course is on applied methods, not on econometric theory. The course is made up of two main parts. Part I is related to discrete choice models in which we will cover the binary choice models. The importance of such models in the economic applications, their specifications and estimation methods are presented. STATA will be used for practical examples of estimating some of the models. Part II is related to new directions in timeseries analysis. It starts with univariate analysis including stationarity tests, autocorrelation function, and unit root test. This is followed by the multivariate analysis including cointegration, vector autoregression analysis and vector error correction models. E-Views will be used for computer-based calculations for this part.

Research Seminar (compulsory)

This course introduces foundational methods and techniques of academic research in economic development. It helps students understand the main components of a research framework and develop their own term paper. By the end of this course, the student will be able to: develop an understanding of various research designs and techniques, write a critical literature review, identify various sources of information for literature review and data collection and appreciate the components of scholarly writing.

M1 Second Semester:

Development Policies (compulsory)

This course starts by reviewing up to date world indicators and facts. It studies also inequality and redistribution policies. It then moves to understanding the role of industrialization from a development point of view as well as the urbanization policy. After it analyses in general terms birth control and good governance policies. To add additional value, it finishes up with a detailed analysis of the development policy of China in the last century.

Labor Economics (compulsory)

The « labor economics » course presents the main microeconomic and macroeconomic theoretical and empirical/application approaches with a special focus on the evolution of the Egyptian labor market. The labor market microeconomics theories that are studied are the following: the neoclassical microeconomic model, the human capital theory, the job search theory, the implicit contracts' theory, the efficiency wages' theory, and the labor market segmentation. The Keynesian approach, the correlation between inflation and unemployment and the labor market disequilibrium are also presented.

Mathematical Economics II (compulsory)

This course introduces students to the dynamic methods commonly used in economics. The aim is to provide students with various methods used to solve difference and ordinary differential equations. Particular emphasis is placed on learning about how to use these methods in order to analyze economic issues and problems.

Open macroeconomics (compulsory)

The course begins with a presentation of the balance of payments and gives some stylized facts related to global imbalances: very high external debt for some countries and large holdings of assets for others. The trade and current account deficits are studied: the question of their long-term sustainability, the determinants, the impact of various economic shocks such as income and global interest rate variations. The determination of savings and investment, and their effects on the current account at the aggregate level are particularly taken into account. Theories on the determination of the real exchange rate are presented: assumption of the PPP, Balassa-Samuelson model, model TNT. Debt crises are the subject of a chapter that considers the effects of various possible solutions: debt forgiveness, redemption, debt swap.

Dissertation (compulsory)

Students select a research topic in relation with their professional project and choose a tutor among the Master's professors. Discussions and progress follow up are organized regularly within the Master seminar. Students defend their thesis in front of a committee set by the director of the Master.

M2 Third Semester:

Advanced Development and Growth theory (compulsory)

By the end of this course, it is anticipated that, by the end of this semester, students taking this course will be familiar with the best know theories in each of the thematic areas covered and will have obtained an appreciation of past research and recent evidence. It starts with an overview of development and underdevelopment in historical perspective, the concept and reality of economic development, the measurement of economic development. Then, it presents theories of development (Traditional Theories of Economic Growth and Development, Heterodox and Neoclassical Theories of Economic Development, Modern Theories of Economic Development). Third, it analyzes structural transformation of the urban sector, rural sector and industrialization and development. Finally, it examines how development is financed (foreign and domestic).

Microeconomics of development (compulsory)

The goal of this course is to understand the microeconomics underlying key international development problems and the tools researchers use to study them and to design related policy interventions. It focuses on both theoretical interpretation and empirical estimation of microeconomic models of individual, household, farm, market and non-market institutions that relate to a range of issues attracting both researchers and policy makers.

Econometrics (compulsory)

The course deals with econometric methods and applications designed for the analysis of cross-section and panel data models. It can be viewed as a course in micro-econometrics, since we cover methods that are most often used in empirical microeconomic research. The main topics covered are maximum likelihood & generalized methods of moments, panel data models, semi-parametric and nonparametric methods, limited dependent variable models, and qualitative response models. Single as well as simultaneous equations models will be treated. Important topical applications will be treated.

Methods in empirical development economics (compulsory)

This course applies the empirical methods that are presented in the econometrics course. Hence, it presents some development topics from an applied perspective with a special focus on the following themes: OLS and panel in development economics, instrumental variables, program evaluation, propensity scores matching and regression discontinuity design, selection and Heckman procedure, differences in difference and randomized experiment, gravity and migration, poverty and local development, foreign aid, migration, culture and institutions.

M2 thesis seminar (compulsory)

This course deepens techniques of academic research in economic development. It helps students work on their research framework and develop their own masters' thesis that will be submitted in the second semester.

M2 Fourth Semester

Population, Migration and Development (compulsory)

This course introduces students to the main problems of the discipline, the existing literature and to the state of research on the topic; to introduce them to variations both in state approaches to the problems of migrants and ethnic minorities and their selforganization; to give the students the basic methods for comparative analysis of migration policies.

Human capital and development: Education and health (compulsory)

Education is tightly interlinked with, and plays a key role in enabling progress towards other development dimensions, from infrastructure and health, to reducing poverty and vulnerability to disasters. At the same time, while the education sector is often one of the single largest positions in domestic public expenditure, its share in development aid has been declining. This course introduces key aspects, concepts, challenges and controversies in international educational and health development with a special focus on the history of mass schooling, structural adjustment policies, sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda, international educational development system, its diverse actors and stakeholders, policies and governance, education aid architecture, health issues and health problems in Africa and their effect on human capital.

Macroeconomics and development (compulsory)

This course is intended to present some of the main ideas underlying development and macroeconomics. Thus, it introduces students to the growing body of studies, theoretical models and research on macroeconomics policies and development, public finance, and international economics and finance. Using theoretical models, empirical studies and case histories, it hopes to enhance understanding of development-aware macroeconomic models, analysis of fiscal policy, development and credit markets; and the link between development and trade and investment policies. It is a survey course and will not present deeply each topic during lectures. Yet, participants are expected to explore and deepen a topic on their own in the term paper.

Inequality, Development and Gender (elective)

The course is set up around a series of major policy questions central to the gender equality agenda. Following an introduction lecture about regional and global patterns, each of the following lectures will tackle gender inequality in terms of poverty, economic opportunities, labor market, education and health. Students will be asked to work on a specific policy challenge in a developing context, applying and developing the findings discussed in class and in the readings.

Institutions, Governance and Development

Students should be able to understand the role and significance of governance and institutions in development with a special focus on the role of formal (laws and institutions) and informal institutions (traditions and norms) and their nexus to corruption.

International Economics, Globalization and Development (elective)

On completion of this course, students should be able to understand trade policies, the role and significance of international organizations and international institutions; analyze the difference between different organizations and identify the types and expressions of international



organization. It also focuses on the role of firms in international trade by shedding the light on the determinants of their performance.

Dissertation (compulsory)

Students select a research topic in relation with their professional project and choose a tutor among the Master's professors. Discussions and progress follow up are organized regularly within the Master seminar. Students defend their thesis in front of a committee set by the director of the Master.