



MASTERS IN DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

UNIVERSITY OF PARIS 1 PANTHÉON-SORBONNE

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE, CAIRO UNIVERSITY

THE FRENCH SECTION OF THE FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE, CAIRO UNIVERSITY
AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS 1 PANTHÉON-SORBONNE



Objective:

The aim of the Masters in Development Economics is to train students into highly qualified analysts of economic development issues. Its purpose is to reflect the growing demand for experts capable of addressing the challenges of economic development, evaluating the economic policies of developing countries and analyzing the economic relations between unequally developed countries.

The Masters' program offers rigorous training in analytical and quantitative economic methods. Its goal is indeed to equip talented students with a solid foundation for applied research. The program is however geared to both future academics and future practitioners in the field of development economics and international economics.

Structure:

The Masters' lasts for two academic years. Each academic year is divided into two fourteen-week semesters. The Masters' comprises 24 courses (14 in the first year and 10 in the second year). There is also a thesis seminar where each student presents the work related to his or her thesis.

In the summer after the second year, students may be offered a summer internship either as a research assistant in a faculty member's project or at a private or public institution or international organizations, based on their academic performance.

The Masters' thesis is an original research piece in the field chosen by the student. Each student is assigned an adviser who helps him or her in identifying a suitable research topic and oversees the whole process. The Masters' thesis defense takes place at the end of semester four.

Entry requirements:

- The program is intended for students with a “Licence d’Economie de l’Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne” or a bachelor in economics from other universities.
- Applicants must demonstrate competence in economics and quantitative analysis and the potential for learning the analytical and quantitative tools.
- Computer literacy is essential.
- Excellent command of the English Language.

General rules:

- Students who are not enrolled at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science (Cairo University) have to get at least 50% in each course of Paris 1 University to pass from the first year of the masters to the second one.
- In case a student fails to obtain this grade, they can have a make-up exam in the corresponding course.
- Attendance is compulsory. If a student has a repetitive absence (more than two times), he cannot take the final exam.
- No make-up exams in M2.

Degrees:

- At the end of the first year, students obtain a certificate of M1 (first year of Masters’).
- At the end of the second year, students obtain a Masters’ degree in development economics from University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.

Duration:

Four semesters (two semesters M1 and two semesters M2).

Teaching Language:

Courses are delivered by professors from Cairo University and University of Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne in English.

Tuition fees:

For the Master 1:

- 1200 euros paid online to the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
- LE 6000 paid in cash to the FEPS.

For the Master 2:

- 1400 euros paid online to the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
- LE 7000 paid in cash to the FEPS.

List of courses*

First year: M1

Semester One

- Advanced International Trade (36 hours) - 5 ECTS
- Econometrics II (36 hours) - 6 ECTS
- Development Economics (36 hours) - 5 ECTS
- M1 thesis seminar (18 hours)
- Feasibility Studies (36 hours) – 4 ECTS
- Environmental Economics (36 hours) – 4 ECTS
- Transportation Economics (36 hours) – 2 ECTS
- One course among the following minor courses: - 2 ECTS
 - o Nonparametric statistics (36 hours)
 - o Regression analysis (36 hours)
 - o Operation research (36 hours)
 - o Public opinion analysis (36 hours)

Semester Two:

- Development policies (36 hours) - 5 ECTS
- Mathematical economics II (36 hours) - 5 ECTS
- Open macroeconomics (12 hours) - 3 ECTS
- Labor economics (24 hours) - 4 ECTS
- M1 thesis (18 hours) – 4 ECTS
- Game Theory (36 hours) - 5 ECTS
- One course among the following electives: - 4 ECTS
 - o National Accounting (French – 36 hours) *
 - o International Finance (36 hours)
 - o Political economy (36 hours)
 - o Digital Economics (36 hours)
- One course among the following minor courses: - 2 ECTS
 - o Nonparametric statistics (36 hours)
 - o Times series analysis (pre-requisite: Regression analysis) (36 hours)
 - o Decision-making theory (pre-requisite: Operation research) (36 hours)
 - o Biostatistics (pre-requisite: Regression analysis) (36 hours)
 - o Sampling (36 hours)

* Compulsory for FEPS students.

Timetable for M1:

Lecture times depend on the faculty timetable. Some sessions may be held on Saturdays and weekdays from 6 pm to 9 pm, while others may be scheduled in the mornings.

Second year: M2

Semester Three

- Development Theory (36 hours) – 6 ECTS
- Microeconomics, development and Gender (36 hours) – 6 ECTS
- Methods in empirical development economics (36 hours) – 6 ECTS
- Econometrics (36 hours + 18 hours tutorials) - 6 ECTS + 3 ECTS
- M2 thesis seminar (18 hours)

Semester Four

- Population, Migration and Development (12 hours) - 3 ECTS
- Human capital and development: Education and health (12 hours) - 3 ECTS
- Institutions, governance, and development (12 hours) - 3 ECTS
- Macroeconomics, gender and development (36 hours) - 6 ECTS
- Inequality, Development, and Gender (36 hours) - 3 ECTS
- International Economics, Globalization and Development (36 hours) - 3 ECTS
- M2 thesis (18 hours) – 12 ECTS

Timetable for M2:

- Lectures take place on Saturdays and weekdays from 6pm to 9pm.

***Between brackets the number of teaching hours per course.**

**** The ECTS is the grading system utilized in Paris 1.**

Courses Outlines:

M1 – First Semester:

Economic Development

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

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

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.

Feasibility studies

The Feasibility Studies course is designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to evaluate investment projects and make informed comparisons to select the best options. Through comprehensive market, technical, and financial studies, students will learn to assess the viability and profitability of various projects, choosing the best option. The first half of this course focuses on the market and the technical analysis. The rest of the course focuses on the financial analysis of the proposed project and the mechanism of future evaluation and decision making.

Research Seminar

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.

International finance

The course presents the principle of international finance, with special focus on macroeconomic issues of international economics such as the balance of payments, capital flows, exchange rate determination, foreign exchange market and the relationship between interest rates and exchange rates. This is in addition to studying the foreign exchange market and various foreign exchange derivatives. The course is divided into two main parts; the first one covers the concepts related to open economy macroeconomics, and the second covers the international macroeconomic policy. Moreover, part of the course is devoted to covering developing countries' crises.

Environmental economics

This course is designed to help students understand the essence of environmental economics; ecosystems, the trade-off between environmental quality and economic activities and the economic principles behind different environmental policies such as green taxation. The Environmental Economics course aims to provide students with a deep understanding of the fundamental concept of externalities, which are crucial in analyzing environmental issues. Students will learn to determine the optimal level of environmental quality and explore various instruments for pollution control. The course also covers different approaches for valuing the benefits of the environment, equipping students with the necessary knowledge to assess and manage environmental resources effectively.

Nonparametric statistics

The non-parametric Statistics course aims to introduce students to the importance and usefulness of non-parametric tests, highlighting their advantages over parametric methods. This is achieved by familiarizing students with a range of non-parametric tests and other statistical data analysis methods, explaining their purposes, areas of application, assumptions, and limitations. Students will also learn to interpret the results and comment on them properly. Additionally, the course provides students with the necessary skills and tools to apply these tests and methods to solve real-world problems. Students will also gain proficiency in performing non-parametric methods using appropriate statistical packages, such as the R package.

Regression analysis

This course aims to provide students with an overview of the basic concepts of regression analysis and the skills required to properly implement the regression analysis using real life data. It also focuses on developing students' skills to implement diagnostic techniques to detect violations of assumptions and remedying them in real life problems. The course allows the students to identify and apply the best problem-solving approach in analyzing real life data using regression analysis. They will also learn how to report and present the results of the regression analysis in a comprehensive form.

Operation research

The course aims to provide the student with the information and skills on how to use the optimization models to formulate and solve the real-world problems in different areas. The importance of offering the operations research to students lies in emphasizing the inter-relationship between statistics and operations research. The course focuses on the methods used to solve different linear programming and probabilistic linear programming models in addition to network analysis. In this course, students will be familiarized with operations research computer packaging.

Public opinion analysis

This course aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of public opinion analysis, focusing on the various methods used for measuring public opinion. The course presents the foundations of designing and conducting public opinion research, the analytical methods and the effective presentation of the results. The course also covers the writing of analytical reports in the field of public opinion analysis. Additionally, students will explore the legal and moral issues related to such studies and understand the limitations of these measurements.

M1 Second Semester:

Development Policies

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

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

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

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.

Game theory

The course aims at explaining the basic concepts of game theory. The main objective of this course is to train students to understand and apply game theory notions in different applications and to be able to find the equilibrium state or the outcome of the game. The course illustrates the main game theory terminologies and the mathematical tools used to find the equilibrium of the game.

Digital economy

This Digital Economics course provides a comprehensive examination of the development and global scope of the digital economy. It explores contemporary and potential challenges arising from global digital transformation, and studies future opportunities and implications related to digital economy expansion. Through this course, students will gain a deep understanding of the fundamental concepts, new business models, and cutting-edge technologies driving the digital economy. By analyzing the various challenges and opportunities presented by the globalization of the digital economy, students will develop the skills to evaluate its impact on economic growth. They will also explore the implications of digital economy development at both global and national levels, preparing them to propose effective policies and frameworks for technological advancement.

Political economy

This course will introduce students to the contemporary study of political economy, or how politics and economics interact at the national, regional and global levels. Upon completion of this course, the student will be familiar with basic theories of Political Economy: capitalism, liberalism, socialism, and Marxism. The course will also focus on the political economy analysis of the role of the government, international trade, fiscal governance and monetary policy. Additionally, the student will acquire a good knowledge about the real reasons of variation between normative economic policies and those adopted and implemented in real life.

Transportation economics

This course is designed to help students understand the different aspects of transportation economics. The transport sector has to confront various issues such as congestion on the roads and in cities, environmental pollution and a shortage of infrastructure. Transport Economics relates to the optimal allocation of scarce resources within the transport sector and between the transport sector and other sectors in the economy. In this course, the principles of domestic and international transport are studied in order to gain the biggest advantage from transport provision while minimizing resource consumption. The course will focus on three main themes: main concepts and theory of transportation economics, transportation and economic development, and evolving of the transport sector in Egypt.

Times series analysis

This course is designed to equip students with comprehensive knowledge of time series techniques and their applications. The primary objective is to familiarize students with the techniques of time series analysis, encouraging them to apply these techniques to real-life data sets. The course promotes the use of computer packages for analysis and prepares students to write detailed reports on their findings. By the end of the course, students will be able to define key time series concepts, decompose time series data into its components using the classical approach, forecast future values, and measure prediction error. Additionally, students will be able to select the best time series model among various candidates, estimate the autocorrelation function (ACF) and partial autocorrelation function (PACF), check the

stationarity of time series data, and identify the order of the Box & Jenkins model using ACF and PACF.

Decision making theory

The course aims to provide the student with information and advanced skills in theoretical and applied issues of decision-making theory. Theoretically, it provides the student with different definitions of decision making and different models to obtain best decision or strategy. In application, the course introduces different economic, political and statistical applications of decision-making theory. For example, it applies decision making tools in marginal analysis to obtain the optimal level of production as an economic application. Also, this course includes using game theory in political applications. The course also provides the student with technical skills in using computer packages to solve different applications and analyze results.

Biostatistics

This course introduces students to the main epidemiological concepts and methodologies such as types of studies, measures of disease frequency, and measures of effects. The course also covers several issues in the design and analysis of clinical trials. The course then focuses on a broad set of analytical methods that are of special interest to medical research, namely survival analysis. Students are introduced to the main issues in survival data and to some parametric, non-parametric, and semi-parametric methods for survival analysis. R and STATA computer packages are used in the application. At the end of the course, students should be able to deal appropriately with several design and analytical issues relevant to health and biomedical research. This includes building their ability to detect and control sources of bias in research, to handle and analyze data, to interpret research results, and to combine results from several studies.

Sampling

This course aims to provide students with both theoretical and practical bases of using sampling in surveys and other statistical studies. The course covers issues related to sample design and selection. The main sampling methods are also presented in this course focusing on the advantages/ disadvantages of each method and the estimation of the main population characteristics in each of them. The course balances between students' understanding of the theoretical bases and their ability to properly handle practical issues in sampling applications.

Dissertation

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

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, development and Gender

The goal of this course is to understand the microeconomics underlying key international development problems, with a particular emphasis on gender dynamics, 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, including gender inequality, attracting both researchers and policy makers.

Econometrics III

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

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

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 4

Population, Migration and Development

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 self-organization; to give the students the basic methods for comparative analysis of migration policies.

Human capital and development: Education and health

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

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

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

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

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.

The Application Process:

Submit the following documents:

- a. Completed Post-Graduate application form
- b. Cover letter with regard to why you wish to join this Masters' program (approximately 500 words in English)
- c. Two passport size photos
- d. Copy of National Identity card or Passport for foreigners
- e. Curriculum vitae
- f. Copy of Bachelor's degree or its equivalent for candidates who studied abroad
- g. Copy of academic transcripts
- h. A proof of English proficiency (only for those who don't have a degree from a University program entirely taught in English)
- i. Recommendation letters from two referees who hold senior academic or managerial positions

All these documents must be sent by email to filierefrancophone@feps.edu.eg in one pdf file as written in the application requirements named with "Yourfirstname_yourlastname" with email subject "MDE Admission 2024/2025". A hard copy must be submitted in the office of the French section (at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Third floor). Each candidate will be assigned a slot for an interview in July 2024.

Application Deadline: July 15th, 2024

For additional information please contact:

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For information regarding course registrations and selection, please contact:

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