

PhD in International Development Studies

I. Structure of the Program

The PhD in International Development Studies is an interdisciplinary and structured program. It is offered at the Institute of Development Research and Development Policy in collaboration with the Faculties for Geography, Law, Social Science and Economics. Beyond working on their own research projects, participants are required to take part in different courses, seminars and trainings as outlined below.

Module	Course hours	Credit points
1st Semester		
<i>Compulsory</i>		
Lecture Cycle "International Development Studies"	1	2
Research Methodology and Management	2	4
Qualitative Methods I	2	4
Academic Paper Writing I (credits are granted after the 2nd sem.)	2	
Colloquium for PhD Candidates	1	3
Research Cluster Meetings (<i>with presentation</i>)	2	6
RUB Research School: Training in Generic Skills	1	2
<i>Possible Electives</i>		
State, Democracy, and Governance	2	4
African Economic Development	2	4
	15	29
2nd Semester		
<i>Compulsory</i>		
Empirical Methods and Statistical Analysis I	2	4
Colloquium for PhD Candidates	1	3
Research Cluster Meetings (<i>without presentation</i>)	2	3
Academic Paper Writing II (if paper draft is handed in)	2	4(8)
RUB Research School: Training in Generic Skills	1	2
<i>Possible Electives</i>		
Political Institutions, Conflict and Democracy	2	4
Public Choice	2	4
Adaptation to Climate Change in the Global South	2	4
Growth, Poverty Reduction and Development	2	4
	16	32(36)
3rd Semester		
<i>Compulsory</i>		
Colloquium for PhD Candidates	1	3
Research Cluster Meetings (<i>with presentation</i>)	2	6
RUB Research School: Training in Generic Skills	1	2
<i>Possible Electives</i>		
Qualitative Methods II: Computer-Aided Qualitative Data-Analysis	2	4
Impact Evaluation Methods	2	4
Empirical Methods and Statistical Analysis II	2	4
	10	23
4th Semester		
Field Research (Credit points are part of PhD dissertation)		
Colloquium for PhD Candidates	1	3
	1	3
5th Semester		
<i>Compulsory</i>		
Colloquium for PhD Candidates	1	3
Research Cluster Meetings (<i>without presentation</i>)	2	3
	3	6
6th Semester		
<i>Compulsory</i>		
Colloquium for PhD Candidates	1	2
Research Cluster Meetings (<i>with presentation</i>)	2	4
<i>Possible Electives</i>		
Career Development Colloquium	2	4
	5	13
Coursework Total (a minimum of 90CP is required)	50	106(110)
PhD Dissertation		60
Viva		30
Research Total		90

Besides the compulsory modules, PhD students are required to complete elective modules to reach a total of 90 credit points from course work. Additional elective courses could be offered on demand. Students are able to collect additional credits also from own teaching activities (to a maximum of 6CP), supervision of Master students (to a maximum of 8CP) and/or, in exceptional cases and upon prior consultation, from attending courses offered at other faculties or universities.

Please notice, that either Qualitative Methods I or Empirical Methods and Statistical Analysis I are compulsory, not both of them.

II. Module Descriptions

Module No.	001
Lecturer	Supervisors PhD IDS
Module title	Lecture Cycle "International Development Studies"
Type of module	Lecture
Hours	1 hr / week (1 st Semester)
Credit points	2 credits
Objectives	Researchers from different faculties of the Ruhr University Bochum give an introduction to their most recent research topics related to the current development debate, so that development will be discussed from the perspective of different disciplines.
Structure	
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	None, certificate of participation

Module No.	002
Lecturer	Christof Hartmann
Module title	State, Democracy, and Governance
Type of module	Seminar
Hours	2 hrs / week (1 st or 2 nd Semester)
Credit points	4 credits
Objectives	
Structure	<p>Since 1989, Western liberal democracy, historically based on a special relation between state and society became a template for the rest of the world, and its main facets have been universally promoted under the label 'good governance'. Throughout the last decade, this liberal model has come under attack both by populist movements within core Western regimes, and through the emergence of 'counter-hegemonic' models of state, regime and governance in the Global South, leading to what some perceive as the emergence of a Post-Western order.</p> <p>A <i>first</i> goal of the seminar is thus to understand the essentials of this liberal model and why Europe succeeded in establishing it as a standard to the rest of the world. We will thus start with different approaches towards analyzing the evolution and transformation of modern statehood and then deepen our understanding of the specific dimensions of the model (nation-state, accountability, democracy, equality and citizenship, rule of law, secularism). A <i>second</i> goal consists in understanding limits and contemporary challenges to the efforts of emulating these models across different non-Western contexts. This will include a discussion of the prospects for alternative modes of governance. Students will have opportunity to relate these debates to empirical (country) case studies.</p> <p>The course focus is on domestic aspects and drivers of politics. International actors and structures obviously matter as well, whether in the West or the Global South, and we will reserve a final course bloc for understanding a variety of international-national linkages in shaping statehood, democratization and governance.</p> <p>The seminar is open to students of MA <i>Internationale Beziehungen und Entwicklungspolitik</i> as well as MA <i>Development and Governance</i>. Students</p>

	are required to attend regularly, to read assigned texts, to participate actively and regularly, and to prepare one oral presentation. Each section is based both on group discussions of the compulsory texts and short student presentations.
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	Students are required to hand in a seminar paper (15-20 pages excluding bibliography). Students also have to prepare an individual or group power point presentation and a handout on one of the topics discussed in class.

Module No.	003
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Löwenstein
Module title	Growth, Poverty Reduction and Development & Impact Evaluation Methods
Type of module	Lecture & Seminar
Hours	2 + 2 hrs / week 2 nd & 3 rd Semester)
Credit points	8 credits (4 & 4)
Objectives	Will be updated soon
Structure	Will be updated soon
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	Will be updated soon

Module No.	004
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Matthias Busse
Module title	African Economic Development
Type of module	Lecture & Tutorial
Hours	2 hrs / week (1 st Semester)

Credit points	4 credits
Objectives	This course aims to increase the capacity of students to use their knowledge of economic theory and development economics in rigorous analysis of a subset of the critical issues facing policymakers in sub-Saharan Africa. The focus is on both microeconomic and macroeconomic issues in Africa. African Economic Development, consisting of a lecture and a tutorial, intends to explain the reasons for the continued widespread poverty throughout the continent. The heterogeneity of African economies is stressed, and we emphasise the importance of a detailed grasp of economic history to critically assess generalised debates on the determinants of recent economic performance.
Structure	Big picture: becoming familiar with African economic development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic growth • Geography, health and development • Human capital • Trade and foreign direct investment • Historical legacies of slavery and colonialism • Ethnic and linguistic divisions • Violence and conflicts • Institutions and Good Governance • Culture • Foreign aid
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	The final exam (90 minutes) makes up 100% of the grade. You may obtain bonus points for the exam in the tutorial.

Module No.	005a
Lecturer	D. Adler
Module title	Qualitative Methods I
Type of module	Lecture & Seminar
Hours	2 hrs / week (1 st Semester)
Credit points	4 credits
Objectives	Participants will be able to critically assess the advantages and disadvantages of qualitative methods for their research project and gain basic insights into methods of data collection and interpretation.
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction in qualitative methods • Selected techniques • Interpretative approach • Writing up
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	Compulsory reading, oral presentation and active participation
Module No.	005b
Lecturer	N.N.
Module title	Qualitative Methods II: Computer-aided Qualitative Data Analysis
Type of module	Lecture & Seminar
Hours	2 hrs / week (1 st or 2 nd Semester)
Credit points	4 credits

Objectives	Enabling participants to work with software for qualitative data analysis and embedding methods for data analysis in the methodological context of a theory of data analysis, such as grounded theory, discourse analysis or content analysis
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to design qualitative research? • Introduction into the functions and use of atlas.ti or other software for qualitative data analysis
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	Active participation

Module No.	006
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Christof Hartmann
Module title	Political Institutions, Conflict and Democracy
Type of module	Seminar
Hours	2 hrs / week (2 nd Semester)
Credit points	4 credits
Objectives	<p>The course examines, empirically and normatively, the main ways in which states have responded and continue to respond in their institutional strategies to problems of political stability, with a particular emphasis on ethnic and particularistic diversity.</p> <p>Strategies are discussed both at the level of the organization of the state (federalism, decentralization, secession, autonomy, citizenship) and at the level of the regime type (system of government, elections, party system). Using both theoretical literature and empirical case studies and cross-country comparison we will investigate to what extent and in which circumstances these strategies can make a difference.</p> <p>The aim of this course is to expose students to an in-depth and advanced examination of how states respond to diversity. We will thus not deal with international conflicts. It is a course primarily about the 'structure' of the state and about its 'institutions'.</p>
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction, Preparatory Meeting • Key Concepts • Typology of Strategies • Difference Elimination: Expulsion, Partition and Secession • Difference Management: Hegemonic Control Regimes, Citizenship • Recognition of Difference I: Consociationalism, Power-Sharing, • Recognition of Difference II: Centripetalism, Group Rights • Recognition of Difference III: Federalism and Territorial Autonomy
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	Compulsory reading, oral presentation & paper

Module No.	007
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Kati Krähnert
Module title	Adapatation to Climate Change in the Global South
Type of module	Lecture & Seminar
Hours	2 hrs / week (2 nd Semester)
Credit points	4 credits
Objectives	The seminar deals with adaptation to climate change in the Global South.
Structure	The focus will be on recent innovations, such as parametric climate insurance for farm households and forecast-based humanitarian aid delivered in the context of extreme weather events. Taking an applied micro-economic perspective, we will discuss how economic research can evaluate the effectiveness of climate adaptation instruments with quantitative methods. Various study designs will be introduced, including randomized controlled trials and quasi-experimental methods, and their strengths and limitations will be compared. Students will read and discuss selected peer-reviewed journal articles on climate adaptation.
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	The examination consists of an oral presentation and a written term paper.

Module No.	008
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. T. Baskaran
Module title	Public Choice
Type of module	Seminar
Hours	2 hrs / week (2 nd Semester)
Credit points	4 credits
Objectives	The Seminar is aimed at applying the Public Choice theory for discussing typical issues in developing countries related to the political and public system.
Structure	<p>The following topics will be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size of the legislature and public spending • Public Spending and regional development • Incumbency advantage • Political Selection • Direct democracy • Electoral systems • Elites and partisan behavior • Political Dynasties • Ideology • Regional Favoritism
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	The examination consists of an essay and an oral presentation.

Module No.	009
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Lecturer	N.N.
Module title	Empirical Methods and Statistical Analysis I & II
Type of module	Workshop
Hours	2 + 2 hrs / week (2 nd & 3 rd Semester)
Credit points	8 credits
Objectives	Participants will get familiar with major methods of empirical research and advanced methods of statistical analyses. They will work with the statistical package SPSS to analyse concrete data sets.
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods of data generation • Quality of Data (scale level) • Data editing and encoding • Tabular and graphical presentation of data • Data analysis with SPSS (measured values, regression, correlation) • Multivariate data analysis (multiple regression, partial correlation, factor analysis, cluster analysis)
Preconditions for participation	Basic knowledge of statistical methods
Assessment	Final written exam or statistical analysis of own data set

Module No.	OIO
Lecturer	Supervisors PhD in International Development Studies
Module title	Colloquium for PhD Candidates
Type of module	Colloquium
Hours	1 hr / week (each semester)
Credit points	(max. 6x) 3 credits
Objectives	The colloquium for PhD Candidates is aimed at formalizing the discussion and supervision related to individual PhD projects of participants. Supervisors offer consultation on an individual base and, if appropriate in groups.
Structure	Structure and specific content is depending on specific topics of participants
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	None, certificate of participation

Module No.	OII
Lecturer	Supervisors PhD IDS, IEE research fellows, external guests
Module title	Research Cluster Meetings
Type of module	Colloquium
Hours	1 hr / week (1 st – 3 rd & 5 th – 6 th Semester)
Credit points	(3x) 6 credits + (2x) 3 credits
Objectives	The research cluster meetings offer a platform for the presentation of individual PhD projects at different stages. Participants will regularly report

	<p>about working progress and discuss their projects with all PhD candidates, their supervisors and IEE scientific staff members.</p> <p>In general, the Clusters aim at fostering formal exchanges between PhD students, supervisors and other IEE staff members with similar fields of interest and/or expertise besides improving intra-departmental communication and cooperation as well as promoting research output in terms of, most importantly, publications and attendance of conferences.</p>
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of research exposé • Presentation of theoretical framework / hypotheses • Presentation of methodological approach and design of empirical research (operationalization of hypotheses and field research plan) • Presentation of empirical results and link to theoretical framework
Preconditions for participation	Written progress report about PhD project which has been approved by supervisor.
Assessment	Presentation and report

Module No.	012
Lecturer	Britta Niklas
Module title	Research Methodology and Management
Type of module	Lecture & Seminar
Hours	2 hrs / week (1 st Semester)
Credit points	4 credits
Objectives	The course aims at enhancing the understanding of the research process, its philosophical foundations and the different steps involved in empirical research design. In addition, techniques shall be discussed how to organize research and how to overcome potential stumbling blocks in writing-up the thesis.
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction: Knowledge and Science: Why and How Do (Development) Research? • The Research Process: Structure; Idea; Theory; Operationalisation; Empirical Research Design; • Cross-cutting Issues: Inductivism vs. Deductivism; Qualitative-Quantitative Distinction and 'Mixed' Methods • Research Management
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	Compulsory reading, active participation and oral presentation

Module No.	013
Lecturer	PhD IDS in cooperation with RUB Research School

Module title	Academic Writing I & II
Type of module	Lecture & Workshop together with RUB Research School
Hours	2 x 2 hrs / week (1 st - 2 nd Semester)
Credit points	8 credits (4 credits in case no paper is submitted)
Objectives	The course aims at making the participants familiar with the specific requirements of writing academic texts and submission of a journal article. Accompanying the lectures, participants are asked to work on their own papers with the assistance of the lecturer and their fellow students inside a multi-stage mutual review process. Final papers assessed as “publishable” shall be published in the IEE Working Paper Series.
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning a Paper • Writing an Abstract • Drafting a Paper • Selecting a Journal • Revising the Paper <p>Up-to date information about workshops offered are posted regularly at the Website of the RUB Research School. https://www.research-school.rub.de/doctoral-researchers/research-related-competencies-workshops-events/personal-competencies</p>
Preconditions for participation	Admission to PhD in International Development Studies
Assessment	Reading, active participation and writing-up of own paper

Module No.	014
Lecturer	PhD IDS in cooperation with RUB Research School
Module title	Training in Generic Skills
Type of module	Workshop
Hours	6 x 1 hr / week (1 st – 6 th Semester)
Credit points	2 credits per course
Objectives	Science is not possible without communication. Writing a complex thesis, research reports, preparing manuscripts to be submitted to peer-reviewed journals, designing posters and oral contributions with or without visual support for presentation in front of international experts are key generic skills of any successful scientist. Another important topic is the writing of (successful) funding applications. The courses offered inside this module aim at training respective skills.
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up-to date information about workshops offered are posted regularly at the Website of the RUB Research School. https://www.research-school.rub.de/doctoral-researchers/research-related-competencies-workshops-events/personal-competencies
Preconditions for participation	Admission to the PhD IDS and RUB Research School
Assessment	None, certificate of participation
Module No.	015

Lecturer	External
Module title	Career Development Colloquium
Type of module	Colloquium
Hours	2 hrs / week (6 th Semester)
Credit points	4 credits
Objectives	<p>The colloquium is aimed at giving participants an overview about labour market perspectives for postdocs in the field International Development Studies.</p> <p>At the same time representatives of relevant organisations will be able to get in contact with PhD candidates and potential employees.</p>
Structure	<p>The colloquium will be organised as a small fair. Representatives of relevant organisations will be invited.</p> <p>As a preparation, a brochure with individual professional profiles of PhD candidates will be produced and distributed.</p> <p>During the fair organisations will present themselves in plenum sessions. In addition to that individual discussions between representatives of organisations and PhD candidates can be arranged.</p>
Preconditions for participation	Submission of professional profile
Assessment	None, certificate of participation