



SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY & DEVELOPMENT

Master's in Development Practice

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2019-2020

University of Arizona

School of Geography and Development

Master's in Development Practice Student Handbook

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This Handbook serves as a policy reference guide for students, faculty and administrators affiliated with the Master's in Development Practice (MDP) program at the University of Arizona, School of Geography and Development (SGD). It covers topics such as curriculum and degree requirements, standards of academic performance and conduct, registration, guidelines for graduation, tuition and fees, funding and financial aid, grievance procedures, professional development resource, and various related University of Arizona policies and regulations. In addition to the policies outlined in the MDP Student Handbook, students, faculty and administrators are subject to all applicable university-wide policies. Please consult these three essential UA Graduate College websites for the most current policy information: 1) Graduate College, <http://grad.arizona.edu>; 2) Policies and Procedures, <http://grad.arizona.edu/degrecert>; and 3) New and Current Students, <http://grad.arizona.edu/current-students>.

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I. Academic Affairs

The curriculum of the Master's in Development Practice (MDP) Program equips students with the insights, knowledge, skills, and experiences needed to successfully pursue a career in the field of sustainable development.

Insights are drawn from an interdisciplinary selection of courses in the natural sciences, public health, social sciences, and management. Knowledge focuses on both global and domestic challenges relating to poverty reduction, societal inclusion, environmental justice, and community capacity building. Skills encompass the analytical, statistical, programmatic, and managerial, while experiences derive from an intensive summer field practicum on a topic and in a global location of students' choosing.

Students in the MDP Program earn a practice-oriented professional degree and have learned the limits of top-down methods, the importance of context-specific solutions, the value of participatory and community-based approaches, and the imperative to prioritize the needs of under-resourced and socially-excluded populations. The MDP curriculum can be tailored for those early in their careers as well as those with prior professional experience in development.

Degree Requirements

Over the course of 22 months students complete 48 credits of development-focused coursework, including a combination of core, elective, and integrative work.

Students begin by taking required core courses and other introductory activities with their cohort the first year.

During the summer between their two years of study, MDP students complete an intensive hands-on field practicum in their field of concentration and at a destination chosen in consultation with MDP faculty.

Students apply knowledge and skills gained during the first year of study to their practicum. Then they return with new insights for the second year to distill the findings from their summer projects, to complete more specialized coursework, and to apply their experiences to the pursuit of new careers in development practice.

During the two academic years, many students also gain valuable experience as teaching assistants or research assistants, working directly with UA professors. Some students also carry out internships with local organizations in the Tucson area that work on development-related issues.

Although variation is sometimes possible in some factors such as sequencing of courses, number of semesters, and timing of the practicum, students should plan to undertake the standard full 22-month program beginning in a fall semester. Changes to the standard program must be approved in advance by the MDP Director.

Overview of Courses

Adopting an interdisciplinary approach to development practice, students must take a combination of required core courses.

Unless a waiver is granted because a directly equivalent course has already been completed for graduate credit at another institution, these courses include the following.

Note that not all courses are offered in all semesters, so the sequencing of the courses may vary somewhat from year to year and student to student.

Social Sciences

- DVP 601: Principles of Social Science for Development (3 credits)
- DVP 602: The Role of Culture in Sustainable Development (3 credits)
- Other electives of your choice (which for many students will be in economics)

Natural Sciences

- DVP 620: Introduction to Natural Systems (3 credits)
- DVP 621: Natural Systems Management: Applications (3 credits)
- Other electives of your choice

Health Sciences

- At least one elective (3 credits) (*A recommended course is HPS 533: Global Health*)

Development Management

- DVP 630: Essential Management Principles for Development (3 credits)
- Other electives of your choice (*A recommended course is PA 582: Managing to Collaborate on Environmental and Natural Resource Conflicts*)

Additionally, students are required to take **integrative coursework**, which includes the following:

DVP 600: Foundations of Development/ Boot Camp (1 credit)

DVP 640: Methods in Development Practice (3 credits)

DVP 642A: Cross-cohort professional development seminar (1 credit)

DVP 694A: Summer Field Practicum (2-6 credits, variable)

DVP 909: MDP Culmination Project (3 credits)

Along with integrative course work and courses in the Core curriculum, students may take further elective courses in their chosen areas of specialization. Students may consult the list of courses in the Appendix below and/or discuss other course options with the MDP Director. Note that not all courses will be offered every semester, and that some courses may have pre-requisites.

Please also visit our page with examples of [prior summer field practicums](#).

The MDP program is located within the School of Geography and Development, which offers a range of courses in the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). As appropriate for MDP students' particular interests and goals, we encourage enrollment in [GIS courses](#).

Some students may also be interested in specific certificates that are available within the UA system, for example the Global Health Certificate at the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. Those interested in such a specialization should speak with the MDP Director before the start of the first semester.

It is also highly recommended that all MDP students have completed at least some coursework in statistics before starting their first semester, and also take an additional statistical analysis course related to their particular area of focus.

Advising & Mentoring

Success in the MDP program relies on effective relationships between the student and their advisors. Upon arrival in the program, new students meet with the MDP Director and Assistant Director to discuss their goals and interests. The Director and Assistant Director will be the student's primary contact throughout their time in the MDP program and are available to advise students on course selection, practicum planning, professional development, the final report, and other matters.

However, students are also highly encouraged to seek out, develop, and maintain informal mentoring relationship with different faculty members and practitioners affiliated with the MDP program. The Director and Assistant Director will guide students toward potential mentors who have professional experience related to the student's field of interest. Students should also seek out advice from faculty whose courses they take as well as with professional practitioners or alumni who are occasionally invited to MDP events such as brown-bag lunches.

Plan of Study

In consultation with and approval from the MDP, each student is required to develop a Plan of Study outlining a list of proposed courses the student intends to take and when.

The Plan of Study should be completed as early as possible during the first few months of the program and must be submitted to the Graduate College no later than the second semester. The plan can be amended later as needed. The form can be submitted through [GradPath](#) on UAccess. There is a one-time submission fee of \$35 associated with this form.

On GradPath, students may be prompted to submit names for their committee. As the MDP program does not require a Master's thesis, students do not need to form an advisory committee. In GradPath, students should tick the box indicating "no committee" and instead write in the MDP Director's name as their advisor.

Registration

Students can use UAccess to register for all regular graduate courses (i.e., courses with numbers 500 or above). Students must first get approval from the MDP Director before registering for Independent Study, practicum, or MDP project credits. Following approval, students should contact the Program Coordinator (Liz Cordova) who can manually register them.

Students will receive an e-mail alert from the Graduate College notifying them about their registration window. Students can also register for classes during open enrollment following the priority registration period. International students cannot register for classes until after they have attended the University of Arizona orientation for international students. In order to avoid late fees or other inconveniences, students should consult these [dates and deadlines](#) outlined by the Office of the Registrar, and [these](#) from the Bursar's Office.

Course Load

Students typically enroll in 9-12 credits each semester depending on their plan of study. Students can take a maximum of 16 credits each semester. More can be taken with approval from the Director, but this is not advised. International Students must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credits to maintain their student visa status. Likewise, students receiving a Graduate Assistantship (TA or RA position) must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credits.

Course Waivers and Substitutions

Requests for a course waiver or substitutions for a single required course may be approved at the discretion of the MDP Director. If a student wishes to waive or substitute two or more courses, this requires approval from the Graduate College.

Desk space, Computing, and Printing

MDP Students requiring office space in SGD may request a desk from Amanda Percy, the Administration Manager. Desk space for MDP students is located in the graduate student pod areas on the 4th and 5th floors of ENR2.

Students who only require occasional access to a computer rather than permanent desk space can use the computers located in the Majors Lab on the 5th floor of ENR2. Students with laptops can also work in the Research Room on the 4th floor. All students can obtain permission to print on the 5th floor printers by submitting a service request via [SBS Ticket Dog](#).

Academic Standards and Satisfactory Progress

At the start of every Spring semester, each MDP student is required to meet with the MDP Director and/or Assistant Director to discuss their progress toward completion of the MDP degree. Students will have the opportunity to discuss the courses they have completed and their plans for future coursework, the field practicum, the final report, and graduation. If a student is failing to make satisfactory progress, the Director will recommend a corrective course of action.

Leaves of Absence

Students may request a leave of absence for one semester or one year to be approved by the MDP Director. Leaves of absence are approved on a case-by-case basis depending on the situation. If a student requires additional leave after completion of the initial leave of absence, another one-semester or one-year period of leave may be requested. Students who do not return at the end of the approved leave or who do not enroll for a semester without being granted official leave of absence will be considered to be making unsatisfactory academic progress.

Time Limits

Although it is not expected that students would need this much time, there is a seven year limit on all graduate coursework at the University of Arizona (excluding leaves of absence.)

Grievance Procedure

The MDP Program at Arizona prides itself on fostering a community of practice between and among students, faculty, staff and partners. As such, we encourage frequent and open communication between students and their professors or other advisers. We feel this kind of honest and ongoing communication is the best way to maintain good working relations and to find mutually satisfactory resolutions to conflicts before they start. Should a problem arise, it is important that students first try to seek resolution directly with the party involved. This can be done in writing or in person. The student may also seek the guidance or assistance of the MDP Director or the SGD Director in resolving the problem. If informal attempts at conflict resolution are unsuccessful, the student may file a formal grievance following [Graduate College guidelines](#). The decision to file a formal grievance will not subject the student or any other party involved to reprisal by the MDP program, faculty advisors, SGD or the University. Nor will a student's grades, evaluations, recommendations or other performance measure be affected by this procedure.

II. Financial Considerations

Costs of attendance

Costs of attendance vary from semester to semester and also depend upon factors including: the number of credits being taken; Arizona resident v. non-resident status; outside vs. university-provided health insurance; costs of books and other course-related expenses; and personal choices regarding housing, transportation, and food. There is also an MDP program fee and other mandatory fees that cover factors such as library access.

For current information about the cost of attending graduate school at the University of Arizona, visit the website of [The Graduate College](#). Costs for each semester include, at a minimum, tuition, program fees, other mandatory fees, and books.

For further information about scholarship and financial aid, visit the website of the [Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid](#) and also see below for other details.

Students should plan for financing 4 full semesters in residence in Tucson AND all of the expenses (such as tuition and fees) for the summer practicum.

Please note the following:

- Tuition is subject to change at any time;
- Some courses may have additional course fees or course related expenses. Refer to the [Schedule of Classes](#) for details;
- The University of Arizona reserves the right to change the fees, policies, procedures, rules, regulations, requirements for graduation, course offerings and any other contents of this web site at any time;
- Overall cost of attendance extends beyond tuition to include other factors include a number of different fees and expenses;
- Travel to Arizona from places outside the state or the country is an additional expense;
- Expenses related to processing visas or other necessary activities may be an additional expense;

Exact costs vary and may be more for international and out-of-state students.

Practicum-related costs:

During the summer between the two years, all students are required to register for the field practicum (DVP 694a). Depending upon its scope the practicum is taken for 1-6 credits (to be determined in consultation with the MDP Director).

Note that even if the practicum is taking place off campus, the University charges tuition and fees for the completion of practicum credits. The practicum must be carried out in the summer; likewise and tuition and fees for DVP 694a must be paid for before the practicum begins (i.e., in late May).

Fortunately, UA summer courses are charged for all students at the Arizona resident rate (regardless of a student's residency status). The exact cost will vary depending upon how many credits are taken. For example: tuition and fees for summer 2019 were the following: 2 credits, \$1,566.53; 3 credits, \$2,084.23; 4 credits, \$2,601.93; 5 credits, \$3,119.63; 6 credits, \$3,637.33.

Since financing (e.g., federal loans) for summer courses may be subject to different rules and restrictions than that during the semester, students should factor their summer expenses in their planning for the summer. For instance, some students make use of their academic-year federal loan availability to cover some summer costs, especially if they will be taking fewer than 5 credits (which may affect eligibility). *Students are strongly encouraged to plan their finances for the full academic year (fall semester, spring semester, and summer) at the outset of each academic year.* The MDP Program will not have always detailed information about each student's financial aid circumstances, so students should be in direct contact with the Office of Financial Aid.

Students generally cannot continue their work as a teaching assistant (TA) or research assistant (RA), particularly if they are carrying out their practicum in any location other than Tucson. Likewise, the Coverdell Program, which provides an Outreach Assistantship to selected returned Peace Core volunteers, does not offer support over the summer.

Additional costs typically associated with the summer practicum include air travel, ground travel, lodging, food, and international travel insurance. (See next section for more about the practicum, as well as the MDP Guide for International Travel, which will be provided to all students during the first semester of study).

The MDP Program will work with students to try to secure funding from sources within the University, from outside sources, and from organizations that host the practicum (especially in countries abroad). There may also be some possibilities for finding tuition support from within the University. Most MDP students are successful in obtaining funding for many of their practicum expenses, but this requires a proactive effort on the part of each individual student. I student.

Finding Funding and Fellowships

Although the MDP program cannot directly offer scholarships to students, MDP students can avail themselves of university resources that can help identify external funding opportunities. These include external funding sources, internal funding sources, and opportunities for paid Graduate Assistantships of different types.

U.S. residents, make sure that you file a [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#). Apply as early as possible for financial aid and make sure your funding is spread across the entire program (i.e., fall, summer, and spring semesters). For a list of competitive graduate funding opportunities, please consult databases including [Pivot](#), [Scholarship Universe](#), [GRAPES](#).

International students, there are a number of awards available to fund, on a competitive basis, graduate education in the U.S. [One useful listing](#) is provided by Swarthmore College. To learn more about funding for international students, please contact us at MDPAdmissions@email.arizona.edu.

Graduate Assistantships

A TA-ship refers to a “teaching assistantship” and a RA-ship refers to a “research assistantship”. Both positions qualify as “graduate assistantships” (GA-ships) and come with significant financial benefits with regard to tuition, health coverage, and payment of a stipend depending on the level of employment. (Some students, notably Coverdell Fellows, complete a GA-ship known as an Outreach Assistantship.) GA-ships can also offer valuable professional experience.

Students enrolled in the MDP may be considered for graduate assistantships as early as their second semester. GA-ships are generally not available to incoming students during their first semester.

Prior to the start of each semester a call for Teaching Assistants is circulated among all graduate students in SGD. Students are asked to provide their top 3 teaching preferences and outline their

teaching experience, including whether they have taken or taught those particular courses before. Taking into consideration scheduling and other personnel issues, the SGD Program Coordinator will allocate teaching assistantship assignments. There are always more applications for TA-ships than there are available positions. However MDP students have received them in the past.

Regarding Research Assistantships, these are allocated on an ad hoc basis depending on the availability of specific research funding and the needs of individual faculty for their funded research projects. Students should identify particular faculty with whom they are interested in working and inquire directly about the possibility of research assistantship opportunities.

Graduate Assistants in the MDP program are usually placed within the School of Geography and Development, but may also on their own initiative pursue positions in other departments or programs within the University. The program will from time to time share information about such opportunities, but students should also be proactive in terms of reaching out to individual professors, as well as departments or programs whose work relates to their interests. Consult with MDP staff for further information and guidance during this process.

In order to be considered for a Graduate Assistant position, a graduate student must:

- 1 **Be admitted to a graduate degree-seeking program.** Certificate-only programs do not satisfy this requirement. Furthermore, Law, Medicine and Pharmacy students are not normally eligible for a GA position unless concurrently enrolled in a regular degree-seeking program.
- 2 **Have a minimum GPA of 3.0.** If a student is newly admitted, the admission GPA is considered for this requirement. A student must also maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 during their appointment. Appointing departments may also require a higher GPA.
- 3 **Be enrolled in at least 6-graduate level units.** Undergraduate, Outreach, or audited courses do not satisfy this requirement. Appointing departments may also require a higher enrollment.

Appointing departments may also have additional criteria that a graduate student must meet in order to be appointed into a Graduate Assistant/Associate position. Note that TA and RA positions are ordinarily not available to students until their second semester of study.

For more information on eligibility, please consult the [GA Manual](#). For more information on the benefits provided to GAs, please visit [Benefits of Employment](#). For any questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact gahelp@grad.arizona.edu

On Campus Job Opportunities

There may be additional job opportunities on campus that carry benefits similar to those of TA/RA positions. On-campus jobs include student worker positions, Federal Work-Study (FWS) jobs, and hourly/part-time university employment. To be eligible for FWS, you must be eligible for financial aid and have completed the FAFSA (as with any scholarship opportunity.) Student worker positions can be

found through [Handshake](#), the student employment fair held at the start of each Fall semester, departmental listservs, and direct inquiry to different departments on campus. Part-time and hourly employment can also be found on the [UA Careers](#) website. For more information, please consult [career services](#).

Qualified Tuition Reduction/Educational Assistance Program

The Arizona Board of Regents provides a Qualified Tuition Reduction (QTR) and Educational Assistance Program (EAP) that enables eligible active and officially retired employees, their spouses, and dependent children to enroll in courses of study at reduced tuition rates. You can read more about QTR on the [UA Educational Benefits page](#).

Peace Corps Fellow Program at the University of Arizona

The Coverdell Peace Corps Fellows Program allows Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) to attend the University of Arizona with reduced expenses while serving in an internship that benefits an underserved domestic community. For more information about this program and to apply, please visit the [UA Coverdell Program](#). You can also read more about the [current Coverdell Fellows in the MDP Program](#).

For further general advice, see this [article on how students can finance studies in international development](#)

III. Practicum

A key feature of the MDP program is a summer practicum that creates a structured opportunity for field-based learning within an existing development project or program. Students can undertake this field practicum with international partners abroad; at the headquarters of national or international organizations and agencies located in Washington, D.C. or elsewhere; or with local projects situated in the Southwest/borderlands region.

Although students may choose the site and type of organization based on their interests, the partner organization and the nature of the work must be related to the practice of sustainable development, either locally or overseas, and related issues (including global public health, natural resource management, gender empowerment, education, youth development, livelihoods, agricultural and rural development, etc.) Although the position may involve some administrative tasks, the summer field practicum or internship should primarily be substantive and professional in nature.

Finally, although students may work with smaller, grass-roots community organizations, such organizations must be registered with the proper local authorities and may not be an individual or family owned organization or for-profit business. Summer practicums normally last between 8 and 12 weeks of full-time work (30-40 hr/week minimum), although highly structured 6 weeks programs may be acceptable. The work commitment can be intense, especially if the practicum involves a lot of travel to and from a remote field site. Students should be prepared to work independently with little supervision.

The purpose of the summer practicum is to:

- Gain first-hand experience with project management techniques including assessment and analysis, project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and report.
- Integrate development practice with knowledge of cross-cutting development issues including gender, education, environment, agriculture, health, infrastructure, water, livelihoods, and community development.
- Develop a capacity for fostering community participation in development projects.
- Identify effective strategies and policies to advance sustainable development at the local, national and global levels.
- Demonstrate critical self-reflection and analysis of preconceived attitudes, beliefs and biases and how they impact development practice on both an individual and organizational level.
- Strengthen inter-personal and cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills.
- Communicate project achievements and challenges to multiple audiences using a variety of media, including project reports, policy briefs, web writing, presentations, videos, social media, etc.

For examples of prior practicum topics and locations, students may visit the [practicum page](#) of the MDP website.

Finding and Choosing and Practicum Partner

Students should begin to think about possible directions for their practicum experience early on – definitely in the first semester, and perhaps prior to the start of the program. Be sure to communicate on an ongoing basis with the MDP Director and Assistant Director about your goals and ideas regarding the practicum.

While deciding on a seemingly endless array of possible organizations to work with may seem like a daunting task, this task can be managed by first defining one's own professional goals and interests. For example, do you primarily want to work on hands-on development project implementation, or development research and policy making? Do you prefer to work more with local, grassroots community organizations, national agencies, or international non-governmental organizations?

What themes are you most interested in or passionate about (e.g. education, gender empowerment, food security, health, etc.)? What skills do you have or would you like to develop (e.g., monitoring and evaluation, data management, program design, project management, communications, etc.)? Do you see yourself based in the field or in an office headquarters?

Finally, in what region do you want to work? Bear in mind, it is not uncommon for development professionals to start in one region and move to another, or to gain experience working in the field before moving to the office headquarters. What is most important for you at this stage is to start zeroing in on your topic and skill specializations (e.g. monitoring and evaluation of health projects.) Focus on skills that could be transferable to any location.

Once you are ready to start researching field internship opportunities, you can begin by pursuing online jobs sites like Idealist, Devex, and ReliefWeb. Organizations like Care International, Mercy Corps, or World Vision, as well as agencies like USAID and the World Bank, also list internships opportunities on the websites. Students should bear in mind that these larger organizations receive hundreds of applications and are often take much longer to respond (if they respond at all.) This is another reason why you want to start applying as soon as possible.

In addition, consider contacting local field or national offices of larger international organizations. Inquiring directly with a program manager will often get you a faster response than applying to a website. Finally, make use of personal networks and existing partnerships (below), as these are often the best ways to get your foot in the door. Please remember, though, when using the personal contacts and connections of your advisers you are putting their reputation and the reputation of the Arizona MDP program on the line. Try to avoid burning bridges both for yourself and for the students who will come after you.

Practicum Partners

The Arizona MDP is proud to partner with [TANGO International](#), an internationally renowned, Tucson-based development practice firm. We have ongoing linkages with other international partners including the CGIAR research institutes working to reduce hunger and poverty. Arizona students are encouraged to make use of these existing linkages in their search for a practicum partner. The CGIAR centers provide opportunities in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture, with focus areas of gender, nutrition, and rural livelihoods. Finally, TANGO International offers technical assistance to food security, livelihood and resilience projects all over the world.

Students may also choose to undertake their field practicum experience here in Tucson or elsewhere in the Southwest border region. Development is not just something that happens “over there,” but here in our own communities as well. We have many contacts with local city and county government as well as local non-profit organizations working on a variety of issues related to sustainable development. Our students have worked (as a summer practicum, and also during the academic year) with UA professors and with local agencies including Habitat for Humanity Tucson, the Arizona offices of the International Rescue Committee (IRC), the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona, and other partners.

Expectations and Code of Conduct

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of professional and ethical practice while undertaking their summer field practicum, and to remember that they are representing the Arizona MDP program. This includes:

- Maintaining courteous and timely communication with the partner agency prior to departure and upon arrival.
- Complete all project assignments and duties in a timely and professional manner to the best of your ability.
- Respecting the guidelines of professional and culturally-appropriate dress and appearance as directed by the partner agency.
- Adhering to the partner agency's policies regarding working hours and holidays.
- Maintain strict rules of confidentiality as set by the partner agency.

Summer Practicum Costs and Support

Although actual expenses will vary greatly, students should bear in mind the costs associated with their summer field practicum and budget accordingly. Students need to consider the cost of flights to and from the field site, housing in the field, per diem (food, transportation, etc.), health expenses/insurance, summer tuition, and the cost of rent or storage in Tucson while away. Again, these will vary considerably depending on how far the student is travelling for the field practicum as well as the cost of living in the field site.

Some practicum partners will cover part of the student's expenses while in the field, including room and board and transportation. You will need to negotiate this up front with the organization and be clear about what they can provide.

Students should seek out external funding sources to cover travel costs such as the [Graduate and Professional Student Council](#) travel grant, travel or internship grants from various centers on campus (such as the [Center for Middle Eastern Studies](#) and the [Institute of the Environment](#)), or fellowships like the [Pruitt Minority Fellowship](#), open to minority women in geography (which past students have received and used to help cover practicum expenses.)

For further information about practicum funding, see the prior section above about "Financial Considerations."

IV. Professional Development

As a professional Master's program, preparation for the job market begins on day one. With each phase of your degree program you should ask yourself what knowledge, skill or experience can you gain that will translate into value for a future employer, and thus your own employability. This requires regular self-assessment. Don't wait to the spring semester of your final year to prepare your professional résumé and start looking and searching for jobs. Start building your résumé now and start looking for

what opportunities may be available to you when you finish and what skills or capacities are in highest demand. This kind of self-assessment and job market analysis will likely have an impact on your choice of courses, your areas of concentration and where you decide to do your practicum. Likewise, your coursework, graduate school performance, your practicum experience, and the professional networks you create and maintain over the course of your degree will all be important factors in securing a position the future.

Students should consult with the MDP Director early in the program for advice on how to structure their degree to maximum effect on the job market. The MDP Director and other faculty advisers and mentors will work with students to seek employment and to provide courses that focus on career development skills. In addition, the MDP program seeks to provide students with a variety of professional development opportunities, including guest speakers, conferences, professional contacts, and mentoring to help students achieve their career goals.

As part of this, all current students and recent alumni are given full access to the Arizona MDP professional Devex membership, including job boards and webinars. There are also career and professional development resources on campus that students can avail themselves of, and to which students will be guided towards where relevant. Ultimately, it is the student's responsibility to take charge of their own job search and to seek out opportunities for profession networking and development.

Also, check to see if the [Professional Development Workshop](#) in the School of Geography and Development is being offered.

Below are a links to some useful career-oriented websites in the field of Development Practice:

[Devex: The Media Platform for the Global Development Community](#)

[ReliefWeb: Informing Humanitarians Worldwide](#)

[DevNetJobs: International Consulting Jobs and Consulting Opportunities](#)

[UN Jobs: Vacancies with the UN and other International Organizations](#)

[Global Women's Institute | The George Washington University](#)

[UN Young Professionals Program](#)

[US Department of State Foreign Service Officers](#)

[Idealist: Find the Perfect Opportunity to Change the World](#)

[CRS International Development Fellows Program](#)

[Food Security and Nutrition Network](#)

[Development Classifieds: The Market Place for International Development](#)

[Change Philanthropy](#)

[Bridgespan](#)

[Work for Good](#)

[Environmental Career Opportunities](#)

[AidBoard](#)

Other useful websites for discussions and information about international development issues:

[Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK.](#)

[International Institute for Environment and Development](#)

[Overseas Development Institute](#)

[Duncan Green's "Poverty to Power" blog](#)

[Jason Hickel's blog](#)

[The Rules](#)

[Blogs highlighted in The Guardian](#)

[The Secret Aid Worker](#)

Appendix: UA courses relevant to the MDP

Following is a non-exhaustive list of courses taught at UA that have been identified as relevant to the MDP.

Note that course names and numbers may occasionally be changed, and that the specific instructors of courses often change. Syllabi from prior semesters may be illustrative of the nature of the course, but may have been changed in any given semester. Note also that some courses may include pre-requisites, or have a required or recommended course sequence. Not all courses will be taught in any given semester or academic year.

Electives taken for credit towards the MDP must be 500-level. Courses below the 500-level (e.g., introductory language courses) may be taken but cannot be towards degree completion.

Many of the core Development Practices (DVP) courses fulfil program requirements. However, other courses taken to complete one of the MDP core requirements in natural sciences, public health, social sciences, or management require prior approval by the MDP Director.

ABE 552 - Globalization, Sustainability and Innovation

ACBS 505 Principles of Livestock Health Management

ANTH 507 - Intellectual Foundations of Applied Anthropology

ANTH 631 Anthropology and Development

ANTH 693 Internship

ENVS 554 Water Harvesting

GEOG 544 - Entrepreneurial Innovation for Sustainable International Development

GEOG 597F/ ENVS 597 Community and School Garden Workshop

GEOG 596M Making the Connection between Science and Decision Making

GEOG 579 - Spatial Statistics and Spatial Econometrics

GEOG 596M - Making the Connection between Science and Decision Making

Law 525 Native Economic Development

PA 552 Statistical Decision Making

PA 553 – Quantitative Policy Analysis

PA 597W Grantwriting

POL 530A Dynamics of Civil Wars

RNR 546 Principles of Research

RNR 540 Climate Change Adaptation: Perspectives at the Nexus of Science, Society, & Resource Management

SOC 570A - Social Statistics I

STAT 574E – Environmental Statistics

STAT 574S – Survey Sampling

SWES 415/515 – Translating Environmental Science

ABE 555 (also CE 555) - Soil and Water Resources Engineering

ANTH 603J - Sustainability and Environmental Policy

ARL 512 - Economic Policy in Developing Countries

ARL 565 Physical Aspects of Arid Lands

ARL 641 - Natural and Human Impacts on Arid Lands

AREC 575 (also ARL 575, ECON 575, GEOG 575, HWR 575, RNR 575) - Economic Evaluation of Water and Environmental Policy

ENVS 541A Natural Resource Management in Native Communities

ENVS 597: Community and School Garden Workshop

GEOG 503 - Applications of Geographic Information Systems

GEOG 516F - GIS for the Social Sciences

GEOG 517 - Geographic Information Systems for Natural and Social Sciences

GEOG 531A - Traditional Ecological Knowledge

GEOG 532 - Climate and Water

GEOG 538 - Biogeography

GEOG 568 - Water and Sustainability

GEOG 578 - Global Change

GEOG 580 - Power, Politics and Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon

GEOG/RNR 590 - Remote Sensing for the Study of Planet Earth

GEOG 596I – Comparative and International Water Policy

GEOG 596J – Water Management & Policy

GEOG 696A - Economic Geography

Geog 696I – Political Ecology

GEOG 696L - Conservation and Community

GEOG 696O – Resilience and Adaptation

PA 581 (also POL 581, HWR 581, RNR 581) - Environmental Policy

RNR 540 - Climate Change Adaptation: Perspectives at the Nexus of Science, Society, & Resource Management

RNR 548 - Conservation Planning & Wildland Recreation

RNR 572 - Environmental Land Use Planning

RAM 541A – Natural Resource Development in Native Communities

RNR 527 Earth's Changing Carbon Cycle

RNR 548: Conservation Planning and Wildland Recreation

RNR 696E Restoration Ecology

ANTH 536B – Ethnomedicine

ANTH 675A (and 675B) - Anthropology and Global Health

BIOS 503 Introduction to Statistical Analysis Using STATA

BIOS 576A Biostatistics in Public Health

CPH 508 Disabilities and Public Health

CPH 528: Fundamentals of Global Health & Development

CPH 530: Nutrition in Global Health & Development

CPH 628-Public Health Research and Evaluation

CPH 566-Participatory Action Research and Policy Change

CPH 534 - Infectious Diseases, Global Health and Development

Cph 540: Microfinance/Social Business, Global Health & Development

EHS 518 Introduction to Human Health Risk Assessment

GEOG 546 - Health and the Global Economy

HPS 566 Participatory Action Research and Policy Change

HPS 577 Sociocultural and Behavioral Aspects of Public Health

HPS 628 Public Health Research and Evaluation

PHPM 574 Public Health Policy and Management.

AED 621 – Program Planning and Evaluation

AED 617 – Research, Methods and Project Design

ANTH 537 – Data Management and Analysis

CPH 529: Project Design and Implementation in Global Health and Development

CPH 544 – Fundamentals of Evaluation

CPH 652- Grantsmanship for a Winning Proposal

CPH 644 Applied Program Planning and Evaluation

GEOG 516D - PPGIS: Participatory Approaches in Geographic Information Science

GEOG 696Q – Participatory Systems Design and Delivery

MGMT 563 - Doing Business In /With Africa: A Cultural Perspective

MGMT 516 - Nonprofit Consulting

MGMT 535 - International Management

MGMT 564E – Negotiations

PA 508 - Public and Nonprofit Financial Management

PA 510 Civil Society and Public Policy Implementation

PA 555 Statistics for Public Policy II

PA 582 Managing to Collaborate on Environmental and Natural Resources Conflicts

PA 584 Environmental Management

PA 620A Collaborative Governance in Theory, Practice and Research

PA 622A Institutional Design and Learning for Collaborative Governance

PA 624A Collaborative Governance Tools

SOC 596F - Theory and Research on the Nonprofit Sector