

Master Programs

Master in Population, Gender and Development (MPGD)-Morning Session



The Master in Population, Gender and Development (MPGD) is a graduate program at the School of Development and Social Engineering (SDSE), Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Pokhara University. It was initiated in 2004 with a Postgraduate Diploma leading to a Master's degree. This program was launched under a tripartite agreement between Pokhara University, UNFPA, and the Government of Nepal to strengthen the university's capacities in teaching, research and training in the field of development incorporating the crosscutting issues of population and gender. It is an interdisciplinary course which aims to deal with the emerging thrust of the 21st century with an aim to develop leadership for the future by producing career oriented professionals, academicians, and social entrepreneurs in the domain of population, gender and development.

Objectives

The objective of the MPGD program is to produce highly qualified development professionals, keen academics, and entrepreneurs professing theoretical and practical knowledge in Population, Gender and Development. Fundamentally, students would impart theoretical insights and technical knowledge on development issues and practical skills on related research. The program constitutes the social engineering of population and gender with reference to development dimensions.

Career Opportunities

The MPGD graduates are most competent for professional jobs in the government and research, officer level and above posts in various NGOs/INGOs and CBOs in Nepal as well as in international arena. They are in high demand at UN Organizations, including UN Volunteers in development and humanitarian fields. They can also work as development freelancers, consultants and researchers or run their own projects on social enterprises.



Bidur Bastola
Ex-Student, MPGD
1st Batch
MEAL Manager, DCTA Nepal
(Danish Organization)

I was one of the promising students of MPGD first batch. After completion of the university degree, I got an opportunity to work in different International Non-Government Organizations (INGOs). The theoretical insights and practical knowledge, learned during my academic study highly supported me to get opportunities in INGOs. At present, I am working in Denmark based NGOs in a portfolio of Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Manager having responsibility for Nepal and Bangladesh country program. I am very much thankful to SDSE and its entire faculty members for making me proficient to compete with overseas university products.

Course Structure and Curriculum

The MPGD course comprises a total of 60 credit hours spreading over four semesters. The courses are overhauled in 2015 and constitute distinct components: core area, interdisciplinary area, research area, analytical tools, and thematic area (specialized courses)



Madhu K. Thapa
Ex-Student, MPGD
1st Batch

Program Support Team Leader
United Mission To Nepal (UMN)

I always feel that my decision to join Masters in Population Gender and Development (MPGD) course was one of the best decisions I have ever made. The course not only offered me fresh insight over issues of poverty, inequality, injustice and underdevelopment but also ignite passion to work for community development. With the new knowledge and skills gained from MPGD, I am able to pursue my career in NGO sector. As a graduate of MPGD, I started working with an NGO. Currently, I have been working in one of the reputed International Development Organizations that has been supporting people to live meaningful life.

Semester-wise Curriculum

First Year					
First Semester			Second Semester		
Course code	Description	Credit hours	Course code	Description	Credit hours
DSE 501	Advanced Development Studies	3	PGD 506	Contemporary Issues of Children, Youth and Elderly in Development	3
DSE 502	Social Engineering and Development	3	PGD 507	Economic Development and Planning	3
PGD 503	Principles of Population Studies	3	DSE 508	Globalization and Development	3
PGD 504	Fundamentals of Gender Studies	3	DSE 509	Research Methods for Development Studies	3
DSE 505	Statistics for Social Sciences	3	DSE 510	Information Technology for Social Research	3
Total		15	Total		15

Second Year					
Third Semester			Fourth Semester		
Course code	Description	Credit hours	Course code	Description	Credit hours
DSE 601	Development Program Management	3	DSE 631	Development Program Monitoring and Evaluation	3
PGD 602	Gender Mainstreaming in Development	3	PGD xxx	Specialized Course III	3
PGD xxx	Specialized Course I	3	PGD xxx	Specialized Course IV	3
PGD xxx	Specialized Course II	3	DSE 699	Dissertation	6
DSE 691	Planning Workshop (Field based)	3			
Total		15	Total		15

Specialized Courses by Theme

			Theme B: Gender and Development		
Course code	Description	Credit hours	Course code	Description	Credit hours
PGD 611	Demographic Tools and Techniques	3	PGD 621	Gender, Poverty and Development	3
PGD 612	Population Policy and Development	3	PGD 622	Gender, Human Resources and Development	3
PGD 613	Migration and Development	3	PGD 623	Gender, Environment and Development	3
PGD 614	Urbanization and Development	3	PGD 624	Gender, Human Rights and Development	3
Theme C: Development Studies					
Course code	Description	Credit hours			
PGD 631	Development Policies and Programs	3			
PGD 632	Decentralization and Local Governance	3			
PGD 633	International Relations, Foreign Aid and Development	3			
PGD 634	Resources and Sustainable Development	3			

Note: Students are to choose a single theme (four papers) for their specialization among three themes

SDSE is like a shrine of knowledge to the aspiring students. MPGD program has helped me to build leadership capacity in a friendly environment. The courses are well designed to meet the challenges of this 21st century. Different modern methodologies, technologies and facilities are employed in class room practices to enhance better learning skills. The opportunities to participate in the workshops, conferences, seminars and field visits are praiseworthy.



Manisha Adhikari
(MPGD, 2nd semester topper)