

MINOR

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORK



CHALLENGING

YOU

TO REFLECT

AND

ACT ANEW

ON

GLOBAL ISSUES



MINOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORK



Social workers and related professionals increasingly have to address social problems that are accelerated by global forces and events. This minor program will give you the opportunity to expand your repertoire and competencies by learning about theories, approaches, methods and actors in international development as well as give you the chance to practice in the field!

With the Sustainable Development Goals as a blueprint for a better and sustainable future you will work individually and in subgroups on practical and theoretical assignments addressing global issues such as poverty, inequality, peace and justice and environmental degradation.

Entry requirements:

- > Bachelor students
- > Minimum in 3rd year/ 6th semester
- > Good oral and written English language skills

Program:

The minor program's courses contain topics such as:

- > The Sustainable Development Goals
- > Theories and history of international development
- > Community development
- > Climate change and sustainability
- > Social business
- > Good practices in international development work

Dutch and international experts in the field of development work will regularly give guestlectures. Excursions to the department of Development and Humanitarian Aid at the European Commission in Brussels and to the Humanity House and International Criminal Court in The Hague are included in the program.

International classroom:

We welcome students of all kinds of studies to our minor. The program can be explicitly recommended to students of Social Work, Health Care, Pedagogy, Education and Teaching, International business and Economics. Both Dutch and international students participate in the minor adding a stimulating, intercultural dimension to the program.



Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop **Desmond Tutu** endorses our students working on a fieldwork project in South Africa (for non-profit organisation Health Promoters):
“...I am happy to see young people from the Netherlands sharing their energy and strength with their peers in South Africa, because I believe that education is the key to unlocking the door that will eradicate poverty and that young people have the power to make it happen.”

(video message, august 2014)

Program option 1	EC	Block	Program option 2 (abroad)	EC	Block
Development Studies 1	5	A	Development Studies 1	5	A
Climate and Ecological Justice	5	A	Climate and Ecological Justice	5	A
Community Development	5	A/B	Community Development	5	A/B
Fieldwork NL	5	A/B	Fieldwork Abroad	15	A/B
Social Business	5	B			
Development Studies 2	5	B			
Study credits (EC)	30		Study credits (EC)	30	

If you opt for **Fieldwork Abroad** you will be working on an extensive fieldproject for a non-profit organisation or a social entrepreneur abroad during the second half of the semester (mid October - January). An exciting and challenging opportunity!

Students who opt for this program will not be able to attend Development Studies 2 & Social Business in block B and cannot join the excursions to Brussels & The Hague.

Due to obligations with our partner universities abroad you can **only choose Fieldwork Abroad if you are a student of a Dutch university (of applied sciences)**.

All other students will also be working on a (smaller) fieldproject for a non-profit organisation based in the Netherlands.

Good to know

- < We welcome both full-time and part-time students.
- < For part-time students, we offer a tailor-made program (1 day of classes and more study-credits to be obtained in practice). Please contact us if you would like to know more about this option.
- < The course Development Studies 1 is obligatory for the part-time variant.
- < Location: Utrecht.
- < Classes will be scheduled for 2 days a week, but please be aware that the studyload is 840 hours!
- < Semester: Fall (block September-January).
- < There are extra costs for excursions to Brussels and The Hague: transportation v.v. & 2 nights in hostel in Brussels.
- < There are extra costs for travel and stay abroad if you choose Fieldwork Abroad.



Some quotes from our former students:

"The minor gives you an interesting overview of different perspectives on international topics and encourages you to think out of the box"

"The program provided me with new insights and guided me into a future direction."

"Now I have realized that you can 'do good' and be in business at the same time."

"Writing the blogs for Fieldwork Abroad really helped me to reflect on what I learned from my experiences abroad."

"I think the minor is eye-opening for any student and is complementary to their own field of study, whatever that may be."

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DEVELOPMENT STUDIES 1 & 2

Why are some countries more developed than others and should anything be done about it or not?

This course offers an introduction into the interdisciplinary field of development studies.

As such it provides a foundation for the other courses of the minor with a focus on the macro - and meso-level.

Given the extensive body of knowledge available, the course will be given during block A and block B of the minor. Concepts, ideas and ideologies concerning the nature of development will be discussed as well as pragmatic attempts to promote development. It also addresses the issue of how development has been conceptualized and measured. Topics like the nature of colonialism and imperialism, decolonisation and post-colonialism will be scrutinized. Concerning theories of development, a whole range of approaches will be surveyed, including approaches



with modernisation as its central concern, historical-empirical approaches, radical-political approaches including dependency-thinking and alternative and bottom-up approaches to development with a focus on participation, self-reliance and sustainability. All approaches have their strengths and weaknesses and none of them has the complete answer. If one thing will become clear during this course, it is that development thinking and practice is a very complex affair and there is no such thing as a 'one-size-fits-all' approach. Only tentative analyses and solutions can be given.



Lecturer **Ahmet Onur Talan** studied Sociology and has specialized in minority rights and ethnic conflict in developing countries. He is involved in a small NGO, committed to help persecuted minorities. He initiated several social and educational projects in Tanzania, Kirghizia and Bangladesh. In his lectures he uses his experience in the field to combine it with theoretical knowledge and to highlight critical issues from multiple perspectives.



FUNDACION COLMENA

CASA MODELO

4C. AL SUR, 1C. AL ESTE



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DEVELOPMENT STUDIES 1 & 2

The objectives of this course can be described as follows:

You have basic knowledge and insight concerning and can critically reflect on:

- > a number of key issues in development studies like: possible meanings of development, understanding colonialism, imperialism, neo-colonialism, post-colonialism and their legacies, theories and strategies of development and the relationships between globalisation, development and under-development.
- > the main components of development in practice: people, resources and the environment and institutions of development.
- > paces and places of development: movements and flows including migration and remittances, urban spaces and rural spaces.
- > the development of international development cooperation after World War II, the development of aid thinking and practice in the Netherlands and abroad and the evaluation of aid.
- > the role of a great number of actors active in the field of international development cooperation.
- > development cooperation and aid : why is development cooperation and aid (not) a good idea, why and under which conditions does it work or doesn't work?
- > the possible roles of a social worker in the field of development cooperation.

The books "**Key Concepts in Development Geography**", Potter et al (2012) and "**The End of Poverty**", J. Sachs (2005) will serve as the main sources of information.

The exams of Development Studies 1 & 2 will consist of:

- > written exam
- > essay



DEVELOPMENT

STUDIES 1 & 2

THERE IS NO

SUCH THING AS A

'ONE SIZE

FITS ALL'

APPROACH

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community development entails the work that is done by paid and voluntary workers, based in and /or concerned with stimulating or developing communities of place, interest or identity (Banks 2013, 1). Therefore, Community Development is a powerful ideal. However, it can be considered as a complex, perhaps even confusing term: what exactly are you expected to do? How do communities develop and how can people be part of social change within a community? How does the volunteer differ from the professional? How do you choose to position yourself within this process?

To work on development within a community, professionals need to value the normative base of the local culture. You cannot just bring your own methods to another culture. You cannot assume that your way of working is the right way. The overall question during community development is: how can you cooperate with a local community and at the same time work on community development as well?



An important aspect of social development work is community development.

If you wish to develop a community, changes are inevitable. You will be able to achieve a positive outcome if a community agrees to change. During the module Community Development we will discuss how you can accomplish social change. Which ingredients are really necessary? What kind of cooperation do you need?

In the seminars you will experience which methods work well and why. We'll stimulate you to think the topics over and discuss them with each other.

Community Development is not particularly about gaining knowledge; it is a way of thinking, of having a vision. Gaining more insight into some visions is an important step before bringing community development into practice!



Dorien Claessen is a lecturer of Social Work and a researcher at the Access to Law department of the Centre for Social Innovation at Utrecht University of Applied Sciences.

She worked as a community development worker in Guatemala, the United States and the Netherlands and conducted anthropological research in the latter and in Kosovo. Her subjects of teaching are community development work, cultural diversity and access to justice.

COMMUNITY

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The objectives of this course can be described as follows:

- > You can connect the main concepts of the module 'Community Development' to International Development Work.
- > You have basic knowledge about the main issues of human rights.
- > You have knowledge of value bases and normative positions of development.
- > You can apply community development skills in relation to given situations.
- > You have knowledge of two different views on community development, i.e. 'human rights from below' and 'development as freedom' and you are capable to connect those views to a good practice.
- > You have worked out a vision on community development and can connect your vision and the theory to a good practice.
- > You are able to formulate attractive statements and give pros and cons based on theories.



The **assessment** consists of :

- > Statements

The **literature** for Community Development consists of:

- > Several articles by writers such as Amartya Sen and Jim Ife
- > Book: *80:20 Development in an unequal world* by Daly, Regan & Regan ed. , 2016)



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CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE

Climate change is affecting all countries in the world, with the poorest and most vulnerable nations often being hit the hardest. The historic Paris Climate Agreement provides an opportunity for countries to coordinate efforts to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius and preferably limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius. In order to address this global challenge and to build a more sustainable future for all, solutions are required that need to be coordinated at both the national and international level.

In this course we will explore what the concept of climate and ecological justice would entail, addressing it at an intra- and interpersonal level as well as a meso and macro level. We will address the history of human-induced climate change and the concept of sustainability, finding out that ecological issues or sustainable development are tightly knit with challenging the fundamental bases of neoliberal capitalist globalisation. Topics like industrial pollution and environmental degradation, renewable energy and



social problems, the relationship between environmental degradation, social conflict and mass migration, social exclusion in relation to natural disasters and world views of indigenous peoples and their struggles will be discussed in this course.

You will be challenged to explore how your own field of study is intertwined to the concept of climate and ecological justice.

Special attention will be paid to the implications of this concept for social work professionals elaborating on green social work theories by professor Lena Dominelli.



Lecturer Marijke Christiansson was educated both as a coach, an international lawyer and as a teacher/trainer in intercultural communication. She has vast international experience, having lived in Belgium, Canada and 3 years in Shanghai, China. In Canada, she studied (a.o.) on the topics of migration, integration and the rights of First Nations. In Kenia she worked as a volunteer on a project with streets kids. Subjects that she is working on right now are how to professionally support others in dealing with grief and loss, sustainability and global citizenship.



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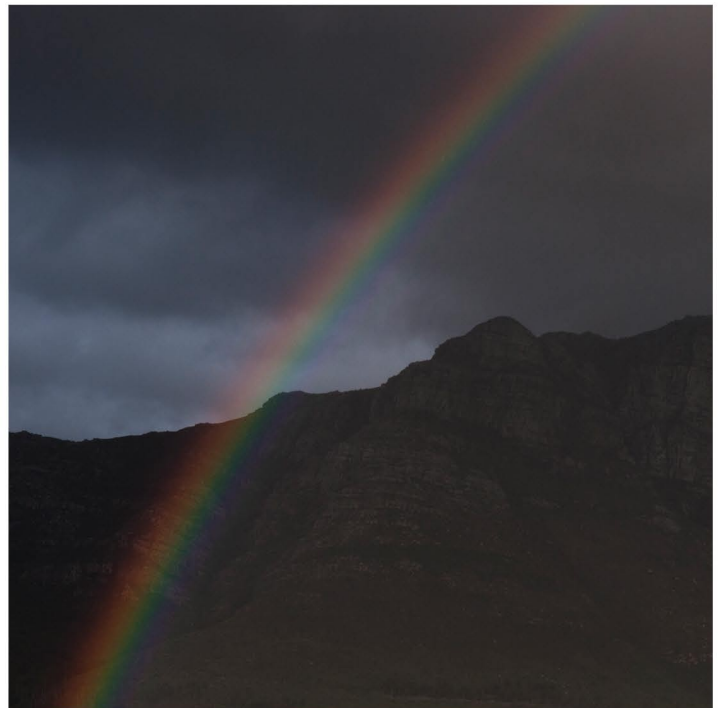
CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE

The objectives of this course can be described as follows:

- > You are able to analyze the model of planetary boundaries and can describe its connection with the sustainable development goals.
- > You have basic knowledge about the history of the concept of sustainability, climate change and green social work
- > You are able to formulate an opinion on the debate on climate change, sustainable solutions and alternative economics , supported by valid arguments.
- > You are able to connect your final assessment to relevant theories of climate change, sustainability and/or green social work.
- > You are able to develop and act on solutions with regard to climate and ecological justice.

Literature:

Database of articles, documentaries and Ted Talks by (a.o.) Lena Dominelli, Kate Raworth, Naomi Klein, Johan Rockström and Thomas Piketty



The **Climate and Ecological Justice** course will be **assessed** by means of:

- > Organising a climate or environmental action or
- > Writing an action-orientated letter to a (political) party or
- > Writing an essay

CLIMATE AND

ECOLOGICAL

JUSTICE

A GLOBAL

CHALLENGE FOR

EVERYONE,

EVERYWHERE

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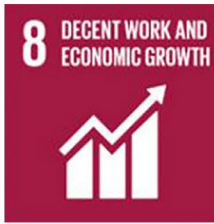
SOCIAL BUSINESS

In the social business course we focus on Nobel Peace Laureate Muhammad Yunus' concept of social business. You will learn about the history of microcredit and social business, study and reflect on case studies of social enterprises and businesses and find out how they can contribute to poverty reduction.

During the course you are stimulated to formulate your own opinion about the use of social business in relation to your own field of study, whether it is social work, education, business, economics or any other background.

The classes are interactive with plenty of room for discussion. Topics that will be discussed are, amongst others, the history of microcredit and its pros and cons, examples of social businesses and enterprises from your home country and the principles of Prof. Yunus' concept of social business.

You will be able to visit a social entrepreneur



and conduct research into the effects of social business on community development using case studies like Grameen Danone and Grameen Shakti.

During the classes we will also address social, political and economic dilemmas such as new views on capitalism and democracy. We will stimulate you to critically address these subjects, form your own opinion and connect them to the concept of social business.

After each class, you will have to read some articles and prepare for a discussion or presentation, including pros and cons into your arguments. Your active participation in class will be regarded as part of your assessment.



Lecturer **Gerian Alofs** studied Social Work and Film and Photographic Studies. She is the coordinator of the minor program International Development Work and has experience as a volunteer for several non-profit organisations. In her voluntary work she often combines her knowledge on international development with her media background, initiating several photographic projects with youth in South-Africa and Nicaragua.



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SOCIAL BUSINESS

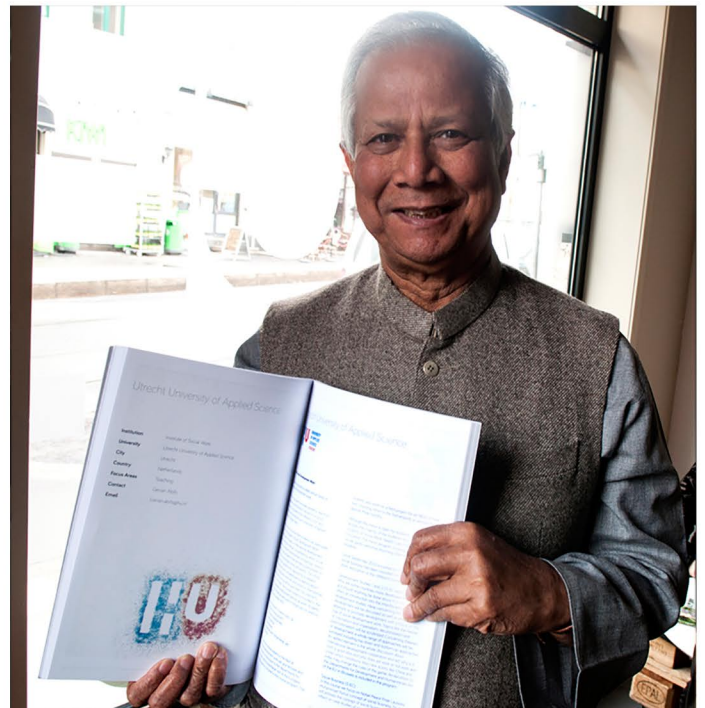
The objectives of this course can be described as follows:

- > You have basic knowledge about the concepts of social entrepreneurship and social business.
- > You are able to formulate an opinion on social business case studies, supported by valid arguments.
- > You are able to connect the main concepts of social business to theories of international development work.
- > You are able to connect the main concepts of social business to the concepts of new economics.
- > You are able to formulate an opinion on the relevance of social business to your own profession, supported by valid arguments.

Professor **Muhammad Yunus** is the founder of Grameen bank and pioneered microcredit.

In 2006 he received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to combat global poverty.

Nowadays he is one of the world's leading visionaries on the concept of social business.



Literature:

Book: *A world of Three Zeros* by Muhammad Yunus (2017).

The **Social Business** course will be **assessed** by means of:

- > your participation in class
- > a research paper

SOCIAL BUSINESS

AN IDEA THAT

RAPIDLY GROWS

AND SPREADS ALL

AROUND THE

WORLD

HU UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES UTRECHT

FIELDWORK (ABROAD)

In the module Fieldwork NL (5 EC) or Fieldwork Abroad (15 EC if you opt for the extensive field project abroad) you will execute a practical project or conduct research that will benefit an organization dealing with (international) development issues (a non-profit organization or social entrepreneur).

While working on the project you will go through a methodical cycle of preparation, implementation and evaluation.

Your client can be either a Dutch or international organization. The assignment is a group assignment, i.e. you work on your Fieldwork assignment in a small group of approx. 4 students. For the students who opt for Fieldwork Aabroad, we also offer the opportunity to work on an individual basis. There will be regular opportunity to consult the lecturers for feedback on the progress of the projects.

All students will exchange experiences during the seminars. The non-profit organization you work for has to provide a contact person as well who you can consult on a regular basis.



During the course you'll take a closer look at both good and bad practices of development work. You will be encouraged to formulate and justify your own opinion on working in the field.

Please note that Fieldwork Abroad is only open for Dutch students due to contract obligations with our international partner universities; all international students will work on a Fieldwork project in the Netherlands (as well as those Dutch students who don't go abroad). **If you are a Social Work student of HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht it is obligatory to attend a short "International Study Trajectory" (IST) before going abroad.**



Lecturer **Dineke de Groot** studied Social Work and Educational Sciences.

She worked in The Netherlands with youth with learning disabilities, and in the forensic domain. Furthermore, she stayed several times for 2-5 months in Latin America, to learn Spanish, travel and volunteer in a children's home. In the Fieldwork classes, she hopes to inspire students to contribute to social development projects in a responsible, respectful and sustainable way. Moreover, she wants to support students in their personal and professional challenges



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FIELDWORK (ABROAD)

The objectives of this course can be described as follows:

- > You will expand your knowledge and understanding about international development work.
- > You will obtain skills for the application of executing a practical or research project in a methodological way in the field of international development work.
- > You are able to reflect critically on values and attitudes concerning international development projects.
- > You are able to formulate a vision on development issues within a context of globalization.

Blog: Our students who go abroad share their experiences on the minor's blog: <http://minoridw.hu.nl>. Check it out for stories, pictures and inspiring organisations!

Prior to the start of the minor (in May/June) we will organise an **informative meeting on Fieldwork abroad**

Literature: all sources from the minor's modules can be used to reflect on your fieldwork experiences.

You can choose your own fieldwork abroad organization, make use of our international contacts or use an intermediate like

- > **Pure volunteer:** <http://purevolunteer.nl/>
- > **On Stage Latin America:**
www.onstagelatinamerica.com
- > **Aviva, South Africa:**
<http://www.aviva-sa.com/>
- > **Ontmoet Afrika:**
<https://www.ontmoetafrika.nl/>
- > **Commundo:** <https://www.commundo.nl/>



The **assessments of Fieldwork (abroad)** consist of:

- > Plan of action
- > Evaluation of your fieldwork project, including feedback from your client, an evaluation report and a workshop where you present the results of your fieldwork project

FIELDWORK

(ABROAD)

PUTTING

DEVELOPMENT

THEORIES INTO

PRACTICE

MINOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORK



Learn about theories, approaches, methods and actors in international development as well as gain experience in the field

More information

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