

MINOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

The world is characterized by various development issues, such as spatial inequality, the contrast between rich and poor, environmental issues, sufficient and safe food production for all, violent conflicts and diseases. All of these issues are caused by people and would therefore also need to be resolved by people. As a citizen, consumer and upcoming professional, you are closely involved in these global development issues. To be able to make informed choices, you have to ask the right questions in the field of sustainable development, justice and interculturality. This way you can contribute to the development of sustainable solutions from a shared responsibility.

Objective

The objective of the minor is to allow you to be able to create a safe and powerful environment for yourself and for others with regard to global development issues and interculturality, based on acquired knowledge, insight and skills. The minor is mainly focused on acquiring and practicing knowledge, insight and skills related to global development issues in future professional situations. You can identify and analyse global development issues and

contribute to possible solutions, based on your own professional experience, the four so-called dimensions of existence and an intercultural environment.

Content

The minor consists of four parts. The first three components have a theoretical character using scientific literature and concepts in order to give you a tool to analyse various development issues.

The four parts are:

- Introduction in Global Development (10 ECTS)
- Justice and Inequality (4 ECTS)
- Culture and Intercultural Communication (6 ECTS)
- Internship (10 ECTS) (including preparatory classes)

Start September and February

Education type: HVE bachelor

Command level English: B2

Study duration: 20 weeks (full time)

Number of EC's: 30

Course location: Tilburg



Contact

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Justice

Development issues can also be seen as distribution issues. During the 'Justice' module, the central question is always to which extent the distribution policy is just. The judgement whether a given distribution is fair or not, depends not only on the actual distribution, but also on the concept of justice. You will learn different theories about justice, analyse situations based on these theories and come to your own view about justice and a judgement about distribution issues.



Introduction to the development issue

You will get to know various development issues in the world. For that, you will initially learn how to view issues from a general context. That context consists of a selection of literature on development theories, beliefs about (sustainable) development, systematic thoughts, globalization and forward-thinking. Then you will apply this knowledge to five cases, such as the raw materials conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or the abduction of brides in Kyrgyzstan. Finally, you show that you are able to assess possible solutions to development issues.

Culture and Interculturality

In this part, you learn how cultural identity is constructed and how to analyse culture(s) on the basis of theoretical concepts from cultural anthropology and cultural dimensions. You will learn to recognize the core values of your own culture and their importance for judging and communication and you will learn to apply theories about intercultural communication in concrete situations. You can reflect your own cultural position and that of others, on the basis of views on culture (culture visions) and analyse geopolitical conflicts from a cultural point of view.

Master thesis in practice

The master thesis is the synthesis module of all parts of the minor. During an internship of four weeks, you participate in an existing project in a developing country where – in addition to substantive goals – you will have to show that you are able to communicate interculturally. In the months leading up to the internship, you will be prepared for your stay abroad during the weekly meetings of the master thesis. On the basis of a work plan, you formulate learning objectives, you describe the project and you prepare for local conditions. The preparation includes making the previously mentioned work plan, a culture analysis and several guest lectures by experts.

Examples of internships in a developing country in recent years:

- · Organizing activities for young people in Malawi.
- Making a video report about a sustainable agricultural project in the Moluccas.
- Supporting an exchange project between schools in the Netherlands and Romania
- Interviewing students with a scholarship from a scholarship project in rural India
- Teaching disabled children in Vietnam.

Costs

In addition to the standard costs of a stay abroad, the internship in a developing country brings additional costs and requires necessary preparation concerning, for example, a visa. Are you not able to spend four weeks in a developing country, but you still want to follow the minor? Please contact the coordinator to discuss the options.



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