

MASTER'S IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE (MDP)

May 20, 2021

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Program Description

Guided by an understanding of Indigenous principles, experience, knowledge and rights the **University of Winnipeg's Master's in Development Practice: Indigenous Development (MDP)** provides you with the range of skills, knowledge and understanding required to effectively practice sustainable development. Culture, identity and the right to self-determination infuse the comprehensive curriculum that includes the environmental and social sciences and health, economic and management disciplines. The 24-month program is eminently practical and experiential learning is prevalent throughout. With two field placements- one in Canada and one international- students have the opportunity to put their learning into practice, gain important applied experience and establish important connections with organizations engaged in Indigenous development around the world. MDP graduates are trained integrators, sought after by employers in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

MDP students join a prestigious global network linked together by the MDP Secretariat in New York City. By centring Indigenous knowledge and experiences in its curriculum for sustainable development, UWinnipeg MDP is unique among the more than 30 institutions on 6 continents who offer a MDP.

Students choosing the MDP in Indigenous Development should consider the following points:

1. The 2-Year MDP is designed to serve students with a professional interest in Indigenous development, in Canada and abroad.
2. The program requirements are set in part by the network of MDP programs world-wide with the additional emphasis on Indigenous development unique to the University of Winnipeg program.
3. It is possible to complete the MDP on a part-time basis.
4. Students complete two field placements of 3 months' duration, generally during spring/ summer terms. Students are supported financially during placement with MDP field placement bursaries.
5. Students have 6 credit-hours of electives and the possibility of pursuing independent primary research via the MDP Major Research Paper stream.

FACULTY

The MDP is an inter-disciplinary program situated within the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Faculty include professional development practitioners, traditional knowledge keepers and regular academic faculty from a range of departments across campus including: Anthropology, Business, Economics, Environmental Sciences/ Studies, Conflict Resolution, Human Rights, Indigenous Studies, International Development Studies, Geography, Religion and Culture, Sociology

DEGREE PROGRAM

Program Features

- 54 credit-hours total;
- For-credit, mandatory Program Orientation hosted in a Manitoba First Nation community;
- 42 credit hours of required core courses;
- 6 credit-hours of electives;
- 6 credit-hours total for two Field Placements: one Canadian placement and one international placement;
- Option to pursue a major research project;
- Cohort model.

NOTE: Mandatory program orientation begins in August, prior to the start of classes.

Required Courses

GDP-7700(1.5)	Orientation to Master's in Development Practice
GDP-7707(3)	Indigenous Economic Development
GDP-7709(6)	Indigenous Thought and Worldviews: Sustainable Understandings
GDP-7714(3)	Canadian Field Placement in Development Practice
GDP-7721(3)	Strategic Planning and Project Management
GDP-7722(3)	Indigenous Research Methods
GDP-7750(3)/GEOG-4450	Managing for Environmental Sustainability
GDP-7780/GDP-7785(3)	Seminar in Development Practice (Year 1 & 2)
GDP-7716/GIS-7023(3)	Indigenous Peoples, Globalization and Development
GDP-7704(3)	Health and Sustainable Development
GDP-7715(3)	International Field Placement in Development Practice
GDP-7717/ GIS-7020(3)	Indigenous Self-Determination and Self-Government
GDP-7723(3)	Quantitative Research Methods
GDP-7724/ GPOL-7341(3)	Indigenous Approaches to Program Evaluation: Theory and Practice

ELECTIVES:

Option 1: Course work only. 6 credit-hours of courses chosen from a list of approved MDP electives. Other electives may be approved by the MDP Director.

OR

Option 2: Major Research Project GDP-7793(6) with faculty supervision. Prior permission is required from the Director of MDP and requires a confirmed faculty supervisor.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

GDP-7700(1.5) ORIENTATION TO MASTER'S IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE (S,V) The mandatory course provides an immersion orientation in an indigenous community for first year MDP students prior to first year course work. Students interact with community members who provide mini-lectures and demonstrations of problems, concerns, and issues of relevance to the indigenous community. Guest lectures provide additional material introducing issues in indigenous development practice locally and globally. The course will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission.

GDP-7704(3) HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (S3) This course examines the interactive relationship between health and sustainable development to address issues relevant to indigenous and other disadvantaged populations in Manitoba and throughout the world. The course introduces and reviews basic concepts, knowledge, and skills related to public and population health sciences; and uses problem-based learning in an interactive seminar setting to apply the knowledge and skills to real problems in health and sustainable development in a variety of settings.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission.

GDP-7707(3) INDIGENOUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Le3) This course considers different pathways to economic development for indigenous peoples. In many countries around the world, indigenous groups are excluded from the benefits of modern market-based economies. This course considers how public policy might foster economic development among indigenous groups, either through more complete integration into market economies, as workers and entrepreneurs, or through alternative models that emphasize economic self-determination and self-governance through community economic development. Students will be introduced to microeconomic theory as a means of understanding the strengths and limitations of market economies. A number of case studies will be used to illustrate best practices for development.

PREREQUISITES: Admittance into MDP program OR instructor's permission.

GDP-7709(6) INDIGENOUS THOUGHT AND WORLDVIEWS: SUSTAINABLE UNDERSTANDINGS (S3)

This course brings the student into ceremonies, discussions, research, and conceptualizations exercises which enable them to begin understanding indigenous thought and worldviews, particularly of the Anishinaabe and the Dakota. The course provides tools and opportunities for students to free themselves from ethnocentric thinking while being educated in the nodal thinking of the Anishinaabe people. The course is experiential and follows the teachings of the annual round of seasonal activities. The course helps the student gain insights into the core concepts of sustainable development, global sustainability, earth stewardship, and self-determination through indigenous perspectives.

PREREQUISITES: Admittance into MDP program OR instructor's permission.

GDP-7714(3) CANADIAN FIELD PLACEMENT IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE (P) The field placement allows students to ground their academic learning with experiential learning within the auspices of an organization or community. The field placement involves voluntary work, exposure to new cultural, social and/or economic situations and hands-on experience in the area of indigenous development. Students, in consultation with the MDP Director and Program Coordinator, select a Canadian field placement site and complete the equivalent of eight to ten weeks at the field placement. This is usually completed during the summer months. The students produce a field placement portfolio that includes a journal and a report.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission.

GDP-7715(3) INTERNATIONAL FIELD PLACEMENT IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE The field placement allows students to ground their academic learning within the auspices of an organization or community. The field placement involves voluntary work and provides hands-on experience in the area of Indigenous development. Students, in consultation with the MDP Director, select an International field placement site and complete the equivalent of ten to twelve weeks of work, usually during the summer months. Students produce a field placement portfolio, including a report and public presentation. Required components include the Field Placement Student Preparation Sessions and the De-Brief sessions organized by the MDP.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP.

GDP-7716(3) INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, GLOBALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT (Le3) Indigenous peoples today are enmeshed in the expanding modern economy, subject to the pressures of both market and government. More and more indigenous communities are rejecting the traditional capitalist vision of development as human and environmental exploitation and focusing on new types of local development projects. This course analyzes some of the conflicts associated with traditional development projects in indigenous communities Taking indigenous peoples as actors, not victims, as its starting point, the class will then examine innovations in indigenous economic development that are culturally respectful, environmentally responsible and build a new sense of community.

PREREQUISITES: Admittance into MA or MDP programs OR instructor's permission.

GDP-7717(3) INDIGENOUS SELF-DETERMINATION AND SELF-GOVERNMENT This course brings to the academy a pivotal concept for the present and future of Indigenous peoples. How Indigenous peoples face and deal with colonization, imperialism, and globalization will depend upon the critical understanding and realizations of self-determination. The legal, political, social, and cultural connotations around self-determination for Indigenous peoples are considered. The course is focused not only on theoretical considerations but is designed to bring issues of self-determination into the collective and individuals lives of

those who identify themselves with the concerns of Indigenous peoples.

PREREQUISITES: Admittance into MAIG or MDP programs OR instructor's permission.

GDP-7721(3) STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT This course examines theories and methods of strategic planning and project management in community development, with a particular focus on Indigenous peoples and Indigenous planning methods. The course highlights methods that are participatory, community-based and relevant for and applicable to domestic and international Indigenous communities. The course examines the stages of the project cycle: problem identification, analysis, program design and implementation. Students acquire skills necessary for conceptualizing and implementing international or domestic projects undertaken by nongovernmental organizations: needs assessment, goal and purpose identification, formulation of logframe, workplan and budget, and preparation of a funding proposal.

PREREQUISITES: Admittance into MDP program OR instructor's permission.

GDP-7722(3) INDIGENOUS RESEARCH METHODS (Le3)

This course provides a review of the movement towards the decolonization of the Western model of research and the revitalization of indigenous research frameworks and methodologies. The course also offers analysis of Western research methods and both their histories in colonial practices as well as their potential usefulness in indigenous community-based development research and applications. The unique issues and principles involving ethical research in Indigenous communities are explored. The course also includes an overview of indigenous control of their own research and ethical review processes related to development issues, programs, and implementation.

PREREQUISITES: Admittance into MDP program OR instructor's permission.

GDP- 7723(3) QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS

This course focuses on particular aspects of indigenous development. This course is an advanced study of the techniques and methodology of quantitative research. This course will explore important methodological questions and provide an opportunity for students to gain firsthand experience of quantitative analysis using a variety of sophisticated techniques such as correlation and regression analysis, hypothesis testing, and ANOVA. The course is divided into three sections: descriptive statistics, hypothesis testing/inferential statistics, and data modelling. Students will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of the concepts learned theoretically and apply the statistical techniques to practical problems in the literature.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission

GDP-7724/ GPOL-7341(3) INDIGENOUS APPROACHES TO PROGRAM EVALUATION

In this experiential learning

ELECTIVES

In consultation with the Program Director, MDP students may choose as their course electives from graduate level courses offered in other departments.

MDP-specific electives include:

GDP-7793(6) MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER The Major Research Paper [MRP] is a piece of original writing based on independent research, submitted in fulfillment of the MDP MRP stream. It is of roughly 35-40 pages in length on a topic decided upon by the student in consultation with their

supervisor. The final paper is read by a two readers, including the supervisor.

course, students are introduced to the purpose and practice of Indigenous evaluation, as well as some of the analytical tools used by evaluators, both Indigenous and mainstream. An Indigenous approach to evaluation is a strengths-based exercise. It is committed to respecting the community's values and traditional ways of knowing. Students will be given practical experiences in preparing data collection instruments, gathering data from program participants and other stakeholders, and interpreting the data. The course will also explore how an Indigenous approach to evaluation can be merged with the objectives of mainstream funders and other external stakeholders.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission.

GDP-7794(4.5) INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT IN PRACTICE: CAPSTONE

This course provides a synthesis opportunity for students to consider the nature of the discipline of Indigenous development and its relationship to dominant development discourse and practice. Students reflect back upon their two field placements and the relationship between theory and practice. Using key tools, resources and frameworks gained throughout the program, students are required to address a real development challenge faced by a local organization in a major applied project. **PREREQUISITES:** Admission to MDP.

GEOG/GDP-7750(3) MANAGING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (S3)

This course considers geographic and environmental approaches to sustainable staples-based development, particularly as they apply to water, energy, and mining. Discussion begins by outlining change, complexity, uncertainty and conflicts associated with primary and derived resources, including those contributing to climate change. Important technological innovations and policy developments designed to address these challenges are contemplated. The roles and contributions of indigenous knowledge are discussed within the context of corporate social responsibility policies, public-private initiatives, community-based resource management, adaptive management, and social learning through public participation.

PREREQUISITES: Admittance into MDP program OR instructor's permission.

GDP-7780/7785(3) SEMINAR IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE

This course enables students to interact with key leaders (scholars and practitioners) in the field of development practice. The emphasis is on enabling the entire MDP cohort of students to meet, as the opportunity presents itself, with leaders in development, and in particular, indigenous development. The goal is to expose students, in an integrated learning environment, to conceptual and practical issues and innovative development practices as presented by a variety of speakers who present to and lead discussions with MDP students.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP.

GDP-7702(3) HUMAN SECURITY AND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE (S3)

This course seeks to bring together two frameworks, human security and traditional indigenous knowledge and cultures, to examine the practice of development. Students study the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples; investigate basic concepts of human security; and explore specific case studies and

issues. Examples of topics include: human rights, Indigenous peoples and extractive industries, urban sustainable development, Arctic development, and the legal empowerment of the poor.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission.

GDP-7703(3) INDIGENOUS EDUCATION IN AN ERA OF GLOBALIZATION (S3) This course examines various Indigenous learning systems and their adaptations within a global world. As societies become more integrated through globalization, traditional Indigenous learning systems are being challenged as to their viability. In response, Indigenous peoples are adapting their learning systems to meet the challenges that are occurring to the social fabric of their cultures. More generally, this course brings Indigenous perspectives on education to the analysis of globalization.
PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission.

GDP-7713(3) BUSINESS PLANNING IN INDIGENOUS AND MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES (S3) This course considers entrepreneurship and the distinctive financing, marketing, and management challenges of starting and operating a small business or social enterprise in indigenous and resource-poor settings. Students complete a business plan during the course for a real-world indigenous organization or entrepreneurial setting, and learn what information and research is required for effective business planning. Students are exposed to variations that are necessary for different types of organizations, including charity, non-profit, social enterprise and entrepreneurial ventures. Requirements include marketing, strategic and feasibility planning within the business plan as well as the creation of financial projections.
PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission.

GDP-7706(3) LEADERSHIP AND HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (S3) This course addresses leadership and human resource management alongside key concepts of

financial management, including elaboration of budgets, grant proposals, and corresponding activity plans. Students explore concepts of commodities management, integrating lessons from real-world challenges of production management, procurement, and distribution of required resources (for example, medical supplies); develop leadership skills for human resource management, including the ability to mentor and inspire co-workers and subordinates; and gain knowledge of relevant human resource policies and procedures. Students explore procurement and logistical processes in resource-poor settings around the world and in Indigenous contexts, and the practice of effective leadership in these settings.
PREREQUISITES: Admission to MDP or instructor's permission.

GDP-7791(3) SPECIAL TOPICS IN INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT This course focuses on particular aspects of indigenous development. The selected topic is discussed in seminar format. Potential topics include indigenous development and extractive industries; gender and indigenous development; indigenity as a development approach; relationships between treaty rights and indigenous development; or the relationships between indigenous development and indigenous governance. The course is focused not only on theoretical considerations but is designed to emphasize development practice related to Indigenous and other marginalized populations. The course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies.

GDP-7792(3) DIRECTED READINGS IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE In this course, readings and assignments in the area of indigenous development practice are arranged between an individual student and the instructor. Topics may not duplicate regular course offerings in the MDP or other departments. This course is an opportunity to explore a specialized topic in the interdisciplinary context of the field. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies.

NOTE: MDP electives (GDP course numbers) are not all offered annually. For more details, please contact the Program Coordinator.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission is open to university graduates holding a relevant, recognized 4-Year General or Honours Bachelor degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better in the last 60 credit hours of coursework. Students holding a 3-year undergraduate degree may be admitted to the Master's program upon successful completion of a University of Winnipeg designed pre-Master's program which consists of a set of upper-level undergraduate courses. It is considered an asset to have a second language.

A relevant degree may include but is not restricted to the following: Aboriginal/Indigenous/Native Governance or Studies, Business or Public Administration, Conflict/Dispute Resolution, International/Development Studies, Economics, Gender/Women's Studies, History, Law, Philosophy, Politics, Religious Studies, Sociology, Geography, Medicine, and Agriculture.

In addition to meeting the criteria for entrance to Graduate School, student admission is based upon:

- experience and/or research achievement in the broad field of development practice,
- some familiarity with Indigenous cultures and understanding of issues relating to indigenous development,
- applied research design and project planning and management, and
- some familiarity with policy design and implementation.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete the online application form:

<https://oa2.uwinnipeg.ca/OnlineAdmissions/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fOnlineAdmissions>

2. In addition to the completed application form, the following must also be included with the application:

- a) Transcripts are required from ALL recognized, post-secondary institutions attended, whether or not a degree has been awarded. For initial assessment purposes only, copies of unofficial transcripts (uploaded to your application) are acceptable and preferred. Official transcripts will only be required if you are recommended for admission. All official transcripts are to be sent directly from the post-secondary institutions. If the final transcript does not show that a completed degree has been conferred, an official/notarized copy of your diploma is also required.
- b) Supply two letters of recommendation and reference forms from individuals familiar with your academic work.
- c) Provide English language requirement (where applicable). Official test scores must be forwarded directly to the Graduate Studies Admissions Office from the testing agency. For initial assessment purposes only, copies of test scores (uploaded to your application) are acceptable and preferred.
- d) Supply an academic writing sample 3,000-4500 words in length. This may include a paper written during a previous degree program or a document from your professional work experience. Submissions must be properly academically referenced.
- e) Letter of Intent: In 500 words or less, concisely state the rationale for your interest in this program. Clearly indicate your motivation for learning about Indigenous development in particular.
- f) Other supporting documents include: scanned copies of name change (if applicable), CV/ resumé and proof of permanent residency (if applicable).
- g) Official documents should be sent to the Graduate Studies Admissions Office, The University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB Canada R3B 2E9.

Start date for the program is in September.

Deadline to submit a complete application package, including all supporting documents is February 1.

Contact Us:

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Graduate Studies Admissions Office

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