

Global Development Policy Master Programme

training program

For students who start in the fall semester of 2026/2027



Global Development Policy Master Programme

Valid: for students starting in semester 2026/2027/1

General information:

Supervisor: Judit Ricz, Associate Professor

Training location: in Budapest

Working hours: full-time

Training language: english

Whether you are enrolled in dual training: no

Specialisations: No specialisations

Training and output requirements

1. Title of the Master's programme:

- a) in English: global development policy master programme
- b) in Hungarian: globális fejlesztéspolitika mesterképzési szak

2. The level of qualification attainable in the Master's programme, and the title of the certification:

- a) in Hungarian: okleveles közgazdász globális fejlesztéspolitika szakon
- b) in English: economist in global development policy

3. Classification of the master's degree:

3.1 Classification by field of training: economic sciences

3.2 Classification of the level of education:

- Master's degree (magister, master of science abbreviated as MSc)
- ISCED 2011: 7
- according to the European Framework: 7
- according to the Hungarian Qualifications Framework: 7

3.3 International Standard Classification of Education field of education code: 0311

3.4 degree orientation: balanced (40-60 percent)

4. Training duration, in semesters: 2 semesters

5. The number of credits to be completed for the Master's degree: 60 credits

6. Master's degree training objectives and professional competences:

6.1 The aim of the training:

The aim is to train professionals who are able to recognise and identify the broad economic and social problems and challenges that plague the countries of the Global South on a systemic level. The course will introduce students to the theoretical and practical knowledge and methods of global development policy and development studies, including the academic and policy debates around them, in a way that is consistently embedded in the context of the developing world. The course will pay particular attention to the familiarisation with relevant actors and institutions in development policy, the critical evaluation of their policies and the impact assessment of different development policy interventions. Graduates will be able to apply their knowledge of the Global South context to development policy-making and practical development project implementation in a constructive way, adapted to the needs and opportunities of the country or community concerned. Graduates will be prepared to continue their studies at doctoral level.

6.2 The acquired professional competences:

6.2.1 Graduates of the course will have

a) knowledge:

- recognises the regional and national relevance of global development challenges and possible solutions, with special relevance to the Global South;
- understands the micro- and macro-level economic context of countries in the Global South and the causes and policy implications of deviations from traditional economic assumptions;
- has a multidisciplinary perspective on the fundamental knowledge of the disciplines related to sustainable development;
- knows the basic methods for qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, as well as programme evaluation methods applicable to the study of complex development challenges and development policy problems;
- understands the methodological dilemmas and practical difficulties of impact analysis methods in development policy;
- is aware of the scientific ethical dilemmas of different research methods;
- understands the development intentions behind different international policy strategies, and the processes and tools for developing and implementing international policy strategies;
- understands the main steps of strategic planning, the basic tools supporting strategic planning, the complex process of implementing development strategies and policies at national and local level;
- understands the steps involved in evaluating development strategies and projects, knows the basic tools that support evaluation, and takes into account the complexity of the impacts of development strategies and projects.

b) skills:

- identifies and interprets development challenges and problems in a complex way, taking into account the relevant global, regional, national and sub-national contexts;
- identifies the theories relevant to the problem, when interpreting development challenges and development policy issues, while paying particular attention to critical, holistic and historical approaches;
- professionally apply knowledge of development economics and development policy in the analysis of sustainable development challenges and development policy problems and in the development of solutions and proposals;
- selects the appropriate data collection and analysis methods to investigate complex development challenges and development policy issues;
- applies the appropriate methodology (quantitative data analysis and evaluation methods, complex qualitative and comparative case study analysis) to development economics and policy analysis;
- draws conclusions on the effectiveness of development policy interventions and the success of development projects, using the data and information collected, while critically addressing methodological dilemmas and taking into account practical difficulties in both planning, analysis and evaluation;
- formulates constructive proposals for a given development challenge or problem, and develops strategies to solve complex problems (taking into account existing international solutions and good practices for similar problems);
- in designing and implementing development strategies and projects, he/she takes into account the social and cultural aspects of the international economic environment, with particular attention to the specificities of the countries of the Global South;
- evaluates the outcomes of policy decisions, identifies and provides feedback on the practical problems encountered in implementing each decision; identifies the potential intended and unintended impacts of policy decisions.

c) attitude:

- is open and receptive to new theoretical orientations in development economics and broader development studies as a social science, as well as to new practices and results in development policy;
- is interested in the results and solutions of related disciplines and seeks to apply them to the challenges of sustainable development and development policy issues;
- recognises the complex nature and institutional diversity of sustainable development and seeks to apply the practices best suited to the special needs of the country, region, etc. in development policy;
- strives to develop a clear, streamlined analytical framework and research design in development economics and development policy analysis, while ensuring methodological coherence;
- takes an evidence-based approach to development challenges and development policy dilemmas, and seeks to exploit the potential of systematic management of data and evidence;
- is sensitive in research to the contextual specificities of the surrounding society, designs and conducts development research accordingly, and carries out analysis according to the highest ethical standards;
- seeks to understand the mindsets, interests and goals of the stakeholders during development research and work and shapes its own activities accordingly;
- is committed to the core values of sustainable development, taking into account the global, regional, national and local context, with particular focus on the Global South' specificities;
- respects wider social, sectoral, national, regional, European and international values and standards in the development research and work,

d) autonomy and responsibility:

- responsibly considers the economic, community, social and sustainability implications of development policy decisions;
- applies new findings in sustainable development-related disciplines and digital technologies in an informed but critical and responsible way;
- inspires colleagues to think and work beyond a purely business/economic perspective, taking into account wider developmental and sustainability dimensions;
- independently collects, cleans and analyses data;
- independently and responsibly chooses from a range of methods to examine development challenges, development policy problems and policy issues. Monitors and evaluates results under strict peer review;
- draws responsible conclusions based on knowledge of the methodological tools and their shortcomings;
- takes the initiative in identifying and solving problems and developing strategies, performs the complex tasks of the job in a responsible manner, and is able to work in a precise, disciplined and creative manner;
- in professional decisions, he/she responsibly considers the consequences for local, national, regional and global development (economic, social, political and ecological) while especially considering Global South specificities;
- takes the initiative to actively promote responsible development policy choices.

7. The professional characteristics of the master's degree program, the areas of specialization leading to the qualification, and their credit ratio, on which the program is based:

7.1 Development economics and development policy courses: 24-30-credits

7.2 Methodological courses: 18-24 credits

7.3 Number of credits allocated for the preparation of the thesis or diploma work: 9 credits

7.4 Minimum credit value assigned to elective courses: 3 credits

8. Requirements for professional practice and practical training: -

9. Special distinguishing features of the program: -

10. Level of foreign language proficiency to be achieved in the case of studies conducted in a foreign language: -

11. The knowledge on which the credit is based is based on a comparison of the knowledge and competences required by the credit transfer committee of the higher education institution for the completion of the studies, and the knowledge and competences acquired previously in the following areas:

11.1. The following courses accepted as prerequisites for admission to the master's program, without a preliminary credit recognition procedure and with full credit value:

- applied economics,
- philosophy, politics, economy,
- business administration and management,
- communication and media studies,
- international business economics,
- international administration,
- international relations,
- finance and accounting

Bachelor's degree courses.

11.2. Based on a comparison of the knowledge accepted as prerequisites for admission to the master's program and serving as the basis for credit determination, the bachelor's programs not listed in point 11.1. as well as those basic and master's degree programs, or programs under Act LXXX of 1993 on Higher Education, which are accepted by the CTC based on a comparison of the knowledge serving as the basis for credit determination (during the preliminary credit recognition procedure).

11.3. The **minimum number of credits** required for admission to the master's program is **20 credits**, based on a comparison of knowledge acquired through previous studies or equivalent non-formal, informal learning or work experience with the knowledge required for the program in the following areas:

- economic knowledge: **minimum 5 credits**;
- methodological knowledge: **minimum 5 credits**;
- social science knowledge: **minimum 5 credits**;
- subject-specific knowledge (e.g., the functioning of healthcare systems, health economics, health insurance, health policy, healthcare institution management, public health and healthcare financing): **minimum 5 credits**.

Admission to the master's program requires that applicants have earned **15 credits** in the listed subject areas based on their previous studies. From the above, a maximum of 5 missing credits may be made up for during the course of the study.

Missing credits in the master's program must be earned in accordance with the study and examination regulations of the higher education institution.

12. Degree thesis/ Dissertation

The aim of the dissertation is to certify the student's knowledge and expertise in a chosen topic, scientific data collection, systematization, analysis and processing related to the chosen topic, discussion of the chosen phenomenon or problem, hypothesis creation, problem solving, analysis of alternative hypotheses, analysis and in refuting the counter-arguments, in a coherent, consistent, language-oriented written explanation of his thoughts, views, positions, statements.

13. Type of Degree thesis

Research thesis

14. Requirements for the issue of a final certificate

The University will issue a final certificate to the student who has obtained

- to the student who has fulfilled the requirements contained in the study and examination regulations and
- obtained the required credits

15. Conditions for admission to the final examination

Joint conditions for admission to the final exam:

- a) obtaining a final certificate,
 - b) submission of the dissertation by the deadline,
 - c) evaluation of the dissertation with a grade other than „fail”,
 - d) registration for the final exam by the deadline,
 - e) the student has no overdue payment debt to the University for the given training,
 - f) accounted for with assets owned by the University (borrowed books, sports equipment, etc.).
- A student who has not fulfilled any of the provisions of the points a)-f) cannot be admitted to the final examination.

16. Parts of the final exam

The final exam consists of an oral defence of the thesis work.

17. Determining the result of the final exam

The arithmetic mean of the following two grades, rounded to two decimal places:

- a) the grade given to the thesis by the reviewer (s) - determined with a five-point qualification - in case of several reviewers the average of the marks of the reviews is rounded to two decimal places, and
- b) the grade obtained for the defense of the dissertation, for the answers to the questions related to the dissertation - established with a five-level qualification.

18. Components of diploma qualification, method of calculation

The result of the diploma is the arithmetic mean of the following two digits, rounded to two decimal places:

- a) the credit-weighted average of the marks of the compulsory and compulsory elective subjects (if the student has taken more than the compulsory elective subjects, then all the subjects taken) in the amount of credits prescribed in the curriculum, and
- b) the result (grade) of the final examination.

19. Conditions for issuing a diploma

A prerequisite for the award of a diploma certifying the completion of higher education studies is the successful completion of the final examination.

MNGLFE26ABP - GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY master programme in Budapest, in English, full time training Curriculum for 2026/2027. (1.) fall semester for beginning students

Subject Code	Subject Name	Type	Number of hours per week		Credits	Evaluation	Fall or Spring Semester	2026/27 Academic year		Credit	Course leader	Institute	Requirement		Equivalent subject		PSO	
			Lecture	Seminar				1	2				Code	Name	Code	Name		
								Fall semester	Spring semester									
Compulsory courses																		
Development economics and development policy courses																		
GLOB164NAMB	Global Development Theories and Policies	C	2	2	6	ex	Fall	6	12	12	24	Judit Ricz	Institute of Global Studies					yes
GLOB166NAMB	Political Economy of the Global South	C	2	2	6	ex	Fall	6				István Zsolt Benczes	Institute of Global Studies					yes
GLOB167NAMB	Development and Humanitarian Assistance	C	2	2	6	ex	Spring			6		Beáta Paragi	Institute of Global Studies					yes
GLOB090NAMB	Global Development Perspectives in Practice	C	2	2	6	ex	Spring			6		András Tétényi	Institute of Global Studies					yes
Methodology courses																		
GLOB168NAMB	Development in practice: actors, cases and challenges	C	2	2	6	pg	Spring		12	6	18	Judit Ricz	Institute of Global Studies					yes
GLOB165NAMB	Methods for Development Research	C	2	2	6	pg	Fall	6				Denis Ivanov	Institute of Global Studies					yes
TARS166NAMB	Development Program Planning and Evaluation	C	2	2	6	ex	Fall	6				Sándor Csengődi	Institute of Social and Political Sciences					yes
Thesis (Core)																		
GLOB181NAMB	Thesis Seminar	C	0	2	3	pg	Fall	3	3	6	9	Judit Ricz	Institute of Global Studies					yes
GLOB182NAMB	Thesis Writing	C	0	2	6	pg	Spring			6		Judit Ricz	Institute of Global Studies	GLOB181NAMB	Thesis Seminar			yes
Elective courses*																		
	Elective courses	E				pg/ex	Fall, Spring		3	6	9							
	Foreign language	E	0	4	0	s	Fall, Spring					József Erdei	Centre of Foreign Language Education and Research					no
TS00001NMMB	Sports/Physical Education	E	0	2	2	pg	Fall	2				Csaba Vladár	Centre for Physical Educations and Sports					
IOK0001NABB	Hungarian Language SHI I.*	E/C	0	4	3	pg	Fall	3				Judit Magyar	Centre of Foreign Language Education and Research					
IOK0004NABB	Hungarian Language SHI II.*	E/C	0	4	3	ex	Spring			3		Judit Magyar	Centre of Foreign Language Education and Research					
Total credits (semester)																		

Remarks

Type: C=compulsory courses, CE=core elective courses, E=elective (optional) courses, CR=criterion courses

Methods of assessment: ex=exam (exam at the end of the semester, but other forms of assessment are possible during the semester), pg=grade based on the practical assignments given during the course of the semester, s=signature

A subject that can be completed in a preferential study order (PSO) on the basis of Section 92 of the Study and Examination Regulation (SER)

Physical education

Students wishing to take part in sport can take one semester without paying a fee and the following semesters the students can only take physical education with the payment of a specified fee.

Foreign language

During their studies, students can learn a language in the form of paid subjects within the framework of elective subjects.

Curriculum

It is recommended to include the subjects in the schedule according to the sample curriculum. The student may deviate from this, taking into account:

1. the pre-study order,
2. semester of announcing subjects
3. Completion of an average of 30 credits per semester
4. In addition to the compulsory subjects, students may take elective subjects from the offer of elective subjects (see Neptun) as well as foreign languages.
5. A minimum of 2/3 of the required amount of credit must be completed at Corvinus University.

* From master elective subjects, including physical education announced at the Corvinus University of Budapest, 9 credits in total. Hungarian Language is a compulsory subject for the students participating in the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship program in the first two semesters.

The detailed rules related to the admission of the subjects and the completion of the subjects are included in the Study and Examination Regulations!

Please note that curriculum changes are possible!