Innovation in Global Development, PhD

Current and aspiring development professionals can gain the expertise to make an impact on issues facing humanity. This program provides an expansive view of the successes and failures of past models of development while reimagining future development policies and practices to bring about transformative change in society.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Innovation in Global Development

The PhD program in innovation in global development emphasizes critical and diverse perspectives on global development and innovative policies and practices that challenge the status quo. This research based program is both rigorous and flexible, designed to meet the needs of a diverse set of students committed to a vision of development that values context, inclusivity and equity and is socially, culturally and ecologically sensitive.

Students emerge from this program equipped with the comprehensive research capabilities, critical thinking skills, leadership skills and global perspectives required to navigate complex development challenges in a way that reduces inequalities and builds a more sustainable and inclusive future.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** School for the Future of Innovation in Society
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

**Required Core (17 credit hours)**
GTD 505 Research Design in Technology and Development (3)
IGD 601 Re-Thinking Global Development (4)
IGD 602 Innovation for Inclusive Development (4)  
IGD 603 Methods for Research in Global Development (4)  
IGD 604 Colloquium in Innovation in Global Development (2)

Electives or Research (55 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)  
IGD 799 Dissertation (12)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students are required to take IGD 604 once for two credits as a core course requirement. They may take it one additional time for two more credits that can be used towards electives.

Elective courses are chosen based on the students' area of interest and approval from their committee. Other electives may be used with approval of the academic unit.

When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program may allow up to 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this program. If students do not have a previously awarded master's degree, the remaining coursework is made up of electives and research.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the School for the Future of Innovation in Society.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in anthropology, natural resource management, agriculture development, political science, development studies, economics, development management, rural development, technology and development, sociology, science and technology or a related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

Applicants are required to submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee  
2. official transcripts  
3. letter of intent or written statement  
4. professional resume  
5. three letters of recommendation
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

Application Deadlines

Fall
Spring

Contact Information

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