

Assessing Development Needs and Outcomes

Module Code:	DEV7036-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	Division of Peace Studies and International Development
Subject Area:	Development
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 7 (Masters)

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	17
Seminar	16
Fieldwork	6
Directed Study	161

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 2 (Feb - May)

Module Aims

You will develop:

- advanced knowledge and understanding of the influence and use of methods and practices for assessing needs, monitoring progress, and assessing the outcomes and effectiveness of development policies, programmes and processes;
- advanced critical understanding of the use of indicators and metrics in the context of development policy and planning;
- understanding of the approaches and methods used to construct some of the major indices and rankings employed by international development agencies as well as a capacity to

critique and engage with, contemporary debates on their uses and limitations;
advanced understanding of the uses and limitations of a variety of methods of needs assessment, monitoring, review and evaluation; and lesson-learning;
understanding of the uses and limitations of a variety of methods of monitoring and evaluation of development policies, programmes and projects, and processes.

Outline Syllabus

Introduction to key terminology.

Exploring debates surrounding the use of indicators, metrics and assessment methods in policy and planning.

Exploring major indices and rankings including the UNDP's human development index and gender equality index, the World Bank's Country Policy and Institutional Assessment scores, sustainability appraisal and the use of targets and metrics in the SDGs.

Methods and Skills surrounding needs assessments (including participatory appraisal methods); monitoring, review and evaluation methods and systems; and lesson learning mechanisms.

Examining international, national and institutional debates over the politics of evidence and 'Effectiveness' and 'Value for Money' in development planning.

Skills surrounding monitoring and evaluation including the use of randomized controlled trials as opposed to small-scale pilots.

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

- 1 Critically evaluate the use of qualitative and quantitative data in development policy and planning.
- 2 Critically evaluate the uses and limitations of some of the major international indices for development.
- 3 Use and critically reflect upon the limitations of some common techniques for needs assessment.
- 4 Use and critically reflect upon the limitations of some common techniques for monitoring and evaluating development programmes and policies.
- 5 Identify an appropriate situation for a development intervention and design and implement a needs assessment appropriate to the situation, generating a set of findings that could inform policy design.
- 6 Examine and assess contemporary debates and agendas relating to development and development aid concerning methods for needs assessment, monitoring and review processes, and evaluating outcomes; and their uses in political and policy processes.
- 7 Conduct advanced library research and work independently using advanced academic analysis skills.
- 8 Apply at an advanced level key concepts and theoretical frameworks to the analysis of selected cases, and develop and communicate clearly in writing your analysis and findings.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Teaching will be through a combination of lectures, class and small group discussions; individual and group exercises. You will learn through a combination of directed study, participation in lectures and seminars; class and small group discussions; group and individual exercises; and preparation of coursework and assessed work. The module will emphasise hands-on learning using databases available from the World Bank, UN and other websites. You will, for example, work through a range of exercises examining the methods used to gather data, and will apply the techniques of needs analysis to real world examples. There will also be opportunities to discuss and debate their findings, and the limits to these, with particular attention to debates over the politics of evidence and the results-based management agenda.

The module will be assessed through a portfolio including a range of completed exercises, a group project, a critical review of a selected monitoring and evaluation technique, and written presentation of desk research and analysis on a specific question. The portfolio must include:

Assessed group presentation (supplementary individual slides and notes) 20 minutes

Critical review of a selected monitoring and evaluation technique - 1000 - 1200 words

Written presentation of desk research analysis on a specific question - 2400 - 2600 words

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Coursework	Portfolio of assessments.	3800-4200 words	100%	Yes
Formative	Coursework	Tutor feedback on individual planned work and analyses, and on class exercises		%	No
Formative	Coursework	Feedback on group presentation on problem identification for needs assessment		%	No
Formative	Coursework	Class exercise on participatory rapid appraisal		%	No
Formative	Coursework	Class exercise on CPIA		%	No

Formative	Coursework	Class exercise on Human Development Index	%	No
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Legacy Code (if applicable)

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).