

Module Details	
Module Title:	Assessing Development Practices Needs and Outcomes
Module Code:	DEV7039-B
Academic Year:	2019-20
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Social Sciences
Subject Area:	Development
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 7 (Masters)
Pre-requisites:	
Co-requisites:	

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Lectures	16
Seminar	6
Laboratory	6
Directed Study	172

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

Module Aims
Students will develop: - advanced knowledge of debates and experiences of development practice in different locales and contexts; - 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, concepts and thematic issues.

Exploring and examining debates relating to development policy and practices, including those relating to the SDGs and those 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, corruption index; fragility indices; 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 impact assessments, social protection and needs assessments; monitoring, review and evaluation methods and systems; and lesson learning mechanisms; and their application relating to issues such as migration and forced displacement.

Examining international, national and institutional debates over the politics of evidence and 'Effectiveness' and 'Value for Money' in development planning; and the uses of monitoring, review and evaluations systems.

Learning Outcomes

1	Critically evaluate different approaches to development policy and practice, and the use of qualitative and quantitative data in development policy and planning.
2	Critically evaluate policies and practices in international development which aim to reduce poverty and promote development, including 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.

Formative feedback in classes, including tutor feedback on individual and group work plans, followed by a summative group project/presentation and a final individual essay of 3000 words.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting
Summative	Presentation	Group Project and presentation	20 minutes	20%
Formative	Coursework	Feedback on group presentation on problem identification for needs assessment		%
Formative	Coursework	Tutor feedback on individual planned work and analyses, and on class exercises		%
Formative	Coursework	Class exercises on selected development indices, and impact assessments		%
Summative	Coursework	Essay	2900-3100 words	80%

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit <https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html>.

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.