Where will the Bachelor of Development Studies take me?

Previous graduates in development studies at the ANU have found employment in a wide range of professions and international bodies such as the United Nations, UNICEF, World Bank and Asian Development Bank; government departments of Foreign Affairs, Immigration, Education, Health, and Australian Agency for International Development; non-government organization such as Oxfam, Care, World Vision, and the Australian Council for International Development; community development at state, municipal and community levels, and private development agencies and consultancies.

The Bachelor of Development Studies offers a solid grounding in the institutional processes of development, a critique of development organisation and discourses, and training in the practices of on-the-ground development implementation.

The Bachelor of Development Studies will appeal to those with an interest in and concern for global issues of inequality, environmental sustainability, human rights and poverty and how these are being addressed in the contemporary world.

For More Information

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ANU CRICOS Provider Number 00120C
Bachelor of Development Studies

The Bachelor of Development Studies is a new degree at the Australian National University (ANU) designed to help students understand and respond to the local and global issues facing developing cultures and developing countries as they interact in an ever changing world.

The Bachelor of Development Studies degree builds on the ANU expertise in this area from over 20 years in research and teaching to provide undergraduate students with a specific program in this emerging and valued profession.

Although this is a new degree, Development Studies has been taught for two decades at the ANU and the program draws from this rich history and the experiences of the many academic staff across the university working in development studies as teachers, researchers, government advisors and practitioners.

The Bachelor of Development Studies is a multidisciplinary program in which students specialise in one of the social sciences, such as political science, sociology, anthropology or geography.

Program Structure

In the Development Studies program students will study core subjects in political science, sociology and anthropology and thematic courses focusing on globalization, poverty, nutrition and disease, business, refugees, migration and human ecology.

Students will also select elective courses concentrating on a single region or country of the developing world. It is possible to take a third stream of studies that build fluency in a language. ANU offers a wide range of languages from Asia, Europe, Pacific or the Middle East.

An Honours (4th) year in Development Studies is also available.

Internships and Exchange Opportunities

Internships will be an optional component of the Bachelor of Development Studies degree. These will offer students the opportunity to spend two to three months working in an organisation located in a developing country under the supervision of the local employer and an ANU academic staff member. Students will undertake projects and research which will be credited towards the development studies component of their program.

The ANU has a number of exchange opportunities at many leading research and teaching universities around the world. Bachelor of Development Studies students can undertake a semester studying overseas to enhance their learning opportunities for recognition in their ANU programs (conditions apply).