

Modules in the Community Development Programme

Level 1

Introduction to Community Development (16)

The first part of this module aims to introduce students to the history and theory of community development; developing an understanding of the nature and dimensions of poverty. The module covers the following areas: history and theory of community development; theories about poverty and community empowerment with a special emphasis on South Africa. The second part, applied community development and theory; understanding participatory learning methods, asset mapping and needs analysis.

This module gives students an opportunity to practice development facilitation skills particularly participatory research skills and community entry approaches.

Areas of learning introduced will be in such areas as participatory Learning methods; Needs analysis; asset mapping; social campus and household livelihood. In addition to classroom instruction students will get opportunities to visit community projects.

Institutions in Community Development (16C)

This module helps students to develop an understanding and appreciation of the nature and role NGOs in development and their relationship to the State and the International Aid system in a global environment.

Level 2

Developmental Theory (16C)

The aim of this module is to introduce students to the history, concepts and contemporary development theories. Students will be exposed to a wide range of theories and perspectives on economic, social, political, cultural and environmental development.

Community Economic Development (16C)

The aim of this module is to introduce students to the study of community economic and local economic development within the developmental local government paradigm in South Africa.

Facilitating Community Development Practice (16C)

This module will explore the question of how learning happens, with particular emphasis on assumptions and theories about how adults learn.

Program Planning, Implementation and Management Control (16C)

This module will introduce students to the theory and practice of project planning, with emphasis on community social development projects.

Level 3

Issues in Community Development (32C)

This module examines critical issues in Development such as gender and development, HIV/AIDS, Globalisation and perspectives and strategies for sustainable community development.

Developmental Local Government and Community Development (32C)

This module will expose students to the emerging field of local government as a district and independent sphere of government. By exposing students to the major issues in the theory and practice of local government, students will gain a working understanding of the opportunities and challenges that municipalities are faced with promoting community development.

Community Profiling (16C)

The aim of this module is to develop an understanding of the art and methods of community profiling and to develop basic skills for working with both qualitative and quantitative data. Some of the skills developed will be community access strategies, techniques of community disaggregation, key stakeholders and key informant representation and analysis.

Population and Community Development (16C)

This module will introduce undergraduate students to basic concepts of demography and population dynamics. Topics to be covered will include determinants and impacts of population change, demographic and epidemiological transitions as well as their application to the design and implementation of policies and development programs.

Community Based Learning (32C)

This module will give students an opportunity to experience community development through involvement with a community project while integrating knowledge and skills learnt over the three years with practice. Students will spend time practically involved with community projects by being placed at organisations.

Examples of Electives:

Level one

Social Work, Sociology, Creative Writing, computer literacy, Anthropology, Political sciences,

Level two

Development Studies, Industrial Labour Studies (IOLS)
Sociology, Anthropology, Development Studies, Political Sciences