



Master of International Development Policy

Duke University ■ Sanford School of Public Policy

Join our Close Community

The Master of International Development Policy (MIDP) focuses on providing a rigorous, interdisciplinary course of study to mid-career development practitioners and government officials from around the world. Offered through the Duke Center for International Development (DCID) at Duke's Sanford School of Public Policy, the MIDP brings together professionals who learn from both the faculty and each other to broaden their perspectives and hone their skills.



Our small class size and close-knit community allow our staff to provide personalized services, including assistance on arrival and while settling in, guidance on writing and communication, academic mentoring, and social and cultural events.



"MIDP taught me to see the big picture. It taught me to break things down. It taught me to communicate about policy in a very direct way. The best thing about MIDP is meeting amazing people from all over the world who are at a high level in their ministries, who bring incredible knowledge and experience."

—David Thompson MIDP'00, Deputy Director of USAID Mission in Tanzania

MIDP at a Glance (2015-16)

- Total number of students: 71
- Average age: 35
- Average years of experience: 13

Region of Origin

- South and Central Asia: 23%
- East and Southeast Asia: 19%
- South America: 19%
- Europe: 17%
- Africa: 10%
- North America: 10%
- Middle East: 2%





Duke University is one of the world's leading research universities, currently ranked 29th in the QS World University Rankings. The Sanford School of Public Policy, home of the Duke Center for International Development (DCID), is ranked fourth in the nation in public policy analysis by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Duke is committed to interdisciplinarity and putting knowledge in the service of society. Its notable alumni include two former heads of state, four Nobel Prize winners, and founders and CEOs of a number of prominent companies and organizations.

The Duke Difference

Enhance Your Knowledge

The MIDP program balances theory and practice to equip development practitioners and public servants with the necessary tools to make meaningful differences in the world. The program offers both one-year and two-year degree options. The required core courses, all designed and led by faculty with experience in both the classroom and the field, provide a strong foundation in economic, empirical and policy analysis for development.

Fellows have the opportunity to design their course of study to target their specific interests and areas of expertise, choosing from a wide array of courses within the Sanford School, at schools and departments throughout Duke, and from neighboring universities.



Master's Project

All fellows complete a master's project related to policy issues they hope to address upon completion of their degree. Recent master's projects include:

- Promoting Financial Inclusion for Women in Rwanda
- Rethinking the Prevention of Violence and Crime Policy in Mexico
- The Prospects of the Eurasian Economic Union
- Sustainable Rural Electrification in Assam, India
- The Impact of Technology on the Development of the Dairy Sector in Kazakhstan
- Linking Humanitarian Assistance with Development Cooperation in Fragile States
- Increasing Household Borrowing in Turkey
- The Challenge of Education for Migrant Children in Thailand

Optional Concentrations

- Applied Economics
- Development Management and Governance
- Environmental Management and Policy
- Law and Development
- Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Social Policy

Concurrent Certificates

- Latin American and Caribbean Studies
- East Asian Studies
- Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies
- International Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Middle East Studies
- Russian Legal Studies
- Sustainable Systems Analysis

Optional Specializations*

- International Taxation Program
- Public Financial Management Program

**Applicants must apply for these programs during the MIDP application process.*



Lead and Innovate

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Duke University's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Initiative seeks to generate innovations from the ideas that grow at the university and translate those innovations to positively impact individuals, communities, institutions and societies.

Competitions

Every year MIDP fellows participate in a number of social entrepreneurship competitions, including the Hult Prize. This annual competition challenges budding social entrepreneurs to address the world's most challenging issues. Fellows have also participated in Duke's mHealth Shark Tank competition and Duke's Startup Challenge, which allow students to share and get support for their most innovative ideas.

Special Events and Projects

MIDP fellows have organized and led special events, student groups, conferences and projects including symposia related to public policy in Peru and Chile, workshops on urban violence, and research on global value chains in agriculture and energy.



"I am a dreamer, but I am also pragmatic. Innovation combines both of these aspects. Duke provides a stimulating environment that enables mid-career professionals like me to go beyond and seek innovative solutions to global challenges."

– Preeti Prabhu MIDP'16, Finalist, Hult Prize Competition

Student Groups

MIDP fellows can become involved in more than 800 student groups on campus, including:

- Bridging Communities
- Latin American & Caribbean Group
- Sanford Journal of Public Policy
- Sanford Women in Policy
- Sanford Energy and Environment Club
- Social Innovation and Policy Initiative
- Duke African Graduate and Professional Students Association

Bass Connections

This unique Duke-wide initiative was created to respond to complex challenges via problem-focused project teams and educational pathways. It enables fellows to:



- Engage in sustained mentorship in teams made up of faculty, graduate students and undergraduates
- Conduct inquiry across multiple disciplines
- Work in active partnership with fellow thinkers from various programs across Duke



Experienced Faculty

The international faculty in the MIDP program include full-time scholars trained in a wide range of academic disciplines, visiting development practitioners, and “professors of the practice” who bring decades of practical, development-related work experience to the classroom.



“MIDP combines quality professors with quality fellows coming from different parts of the world. It creates an atmosphere of shared experiences and practical knowledge, which has helped me in understanding and formulating solutions for different problems my country is facing.”

–Del-Francis Wreh MIDP'15, Executive Director, Liberia Macroeconomic Policy Analysis Center, Liberian Ministry of Finance and Development Planning

dcid.sanford.duke.edu



Policy Advising

Faculty at the Duke Center for International Development (DCID) travel around the world building capacity for sustainable development. They have reformed tax systems in Indonesia and Egypt, improved public financial management systems in Ghana and Tanzania, and assisted with health sector reform in Panama.

Executive Education

DCID faculty also offer short-term intensive programs for senior- and mid-level officials in government, NGOs and international agencies. Since 2002, more than 5,000 professionals have honed their skills in budgeting, tax analysis, project appraisal, fiscal decentralization and other specialized topics.

Research & Publications

Faculty conduct research and are published regularly in issues related to sustainable development, peace and conflict resolution, economics and public finance.

Recent publications include a multi-regional study of the relationship between development and conflict, as well as a comprehensive handbook on public financial management.

Build Your Network

With more than 700 alumni in 91 countries around the world, MIDP provides a rich network of development practitioners and government officials who have been working in the field for years. The program also provides opportunities for fellows to network, hone their leadership skills, and hear from distinguished speakers.

Sanford School and DCID Sponsored Events

A variety of high-profile speakers are brought to Duke each year with the goal of connecting students and faculty to thought leaders. Below are just a few of the series sponsored by Sanford and DCID annually.

Terry Sanford Distinguished Lecture

This prestigious Sanford School lecture facilitates addresses from men and women of the highest personal and professional stature, such as prime ministers, CEOs and esteemed scholars.

Speakers have included Rajiv Shah, administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Juan Zarate, senior advisor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Rethinking Development Policy

DCID invites international development experts to campus to present lectures on their work. These

talks aim to challenge conventional thinking on development issues. Recent speakers include the founder of the Institute for Economics and Peace, the CEO of FHI360, and the former chief economist for USAID.

Duke-RTI Professors and Practitioners in Conversation

This series, offered in partnership with research institute RTI International, brings together experts in academia and practice to discuss the most pressing issues in international development. Past panels have covered topics such as nutrition, energy, gender-based violence and big data.

Professional Development Services

- Career advising
- Management/leadership training
- Skills-based workshops
- Special events
- Alumni/Practitioner in Residence series
- Interview and networking strategies



Annual trip to Washington, D.C.

Every year, fellows participate in a three-day trip to the U.S. capital, where they meet with government officials, researchers and staff of NGOs and international agencies in the development sector. Fellows also take advantage of this trip to arrange their own informational meetings with specific organizations that are relevant to their professional interests and goals. As a result of the most recent trip alone, four MIDP fellows were selected for summer internships with the World Bank Group.



“As part of the first class of Rotary Fellows at Duke, I witnessed the birth and first steps of this great program that changed my life. The wide range of academic and technical knowledge and world experience of the faculty, coupled with that of my classmates, kick-started a professional network that has only grown stronger today.”

—Bautista Logioco MIDP’04, Program Officer, UN Peacebuilding Support Office, Rotary Fellow



DURHAM BULLS



HIKING TRAILS

A Welcoming Environment

Duke is located in Durham, North Carolina, which is consistently ranked one of the best places in the U.S. to live, work and do business. The area offers an affordable cost of living, a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere, and a variety of cultural activities and resources for families. The beautiful beaches are a few hours to the east, while the mountains to the west are popular for hiking, fishing and skiing.

Durham is one of three municipalities—along with Raleigh, the state capital, and Chapel Hill, home of the University of North Carolina—that form the Research Triangle, known worldwide for its outstanding research universities, innovative technologies and entrepreneurial spirit.

More than half of the U.S. population lives within a day's drive or an hour's flight of Duke University. RDU International Airport is only 20 minutes away, giving you easy access to some of the country's largest metropolitan areas.



5-TIME NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



'AMERICA'S FOODIEST SMALL TOWN'



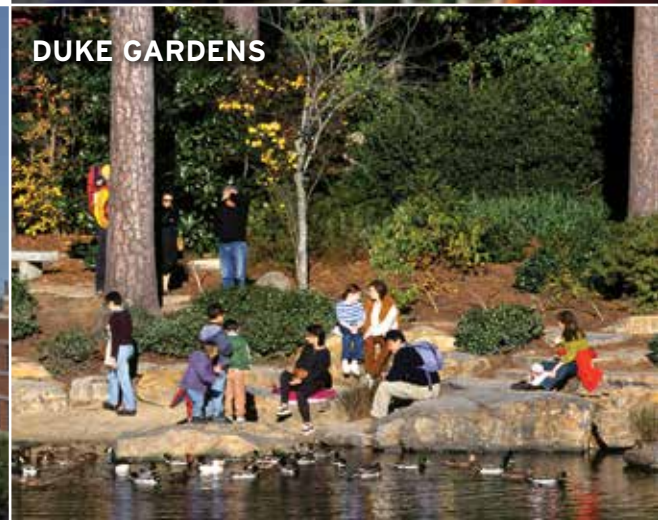
ANNUAL FESTIVALS



PERFORMING ARTS



DOWNTOWN



DUKE GARDENS

Put Knowledge into Practice

The MIDP prepares established professionals to take the next step in their careers, usually in the public or nonprofit sectors. Of the 2015 graduates who returned to their public sector jobs, approximately 70 percent received a promotion.



“The two years I spent at Duke were truly transformational for me in terms of professional and personal development. This year I am celebrating my 20th anniversary at the World Bank, where I have worked in poverty analysis, gender mainstreaming, macro-economic management, fiscal decentralization and development finance. All these assignments are a great testimony to the quality and versatility of the MIDP education.”

–Gulnara Febres MIDP’96, Senior Operations Officer, World Bank, Muskie Fellow



MIDP fellows are required to spend at least 10 weeks in a program-relevant professional summer internship experience. Internships may include overseas field experience, headquarter experience, short-term consultancies, or research projects. In past years, our fellows have been accepted for summer positions at:

- The World Bank
- The United Nations
- The International Monetary Fund
- Save the Children
- The Inter-American Development Bank
- UNICEF
- The International Labor Organization

Jobs by Sector, 2015 Graduates

- Government agencies: 56%
- Private sector/Consulting: 20%
- NGOs: 12%
- International organizations: 5%
- Academia: 5%
- Not reported: 2%

Internships or Consultancies by Sector, 2015

- NGOs: 26%
- International organizations: 26%
- Independent research: 19%
- Academia: 16%
- Government agencies: 6%
- Private sector/Consulting: 6%



Fund your Studies

The MIDP partners with various organizations and programs that may be a source of funding for qualified applicants, such as:

- Paul D. Coverdell Peace Corps Fellows Program
- Joint Japan/World Bank Scholarship
- Yellow Ribbon U.S. Military Veterans Program
- Rotary Peace Fellowship
- Organization of American States
- Bolashak Scholarship Program for Kazakh citizens

In addition, the MIDP program offers the scholarships listed below, along with a limited number of partial tuition scholarships. A separate application is not required for consideration.

- Oliver Oldman Scholarships in International Taxation and Public Financial Management
- Magdalena Yesil Fellowship for Armenian citizens
- International Volunteer Fellowship for those who have volunteered at least one year outside their home country

See our website for a complete list of funding and scholarship sources.



“One of the best parts of the program is that I’m only one of two Americans in my class. You have so many different perspectives from countries all around the world.”

– Teale Yalch MIDP’15, Agriculture and Nutrition Associate, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, Paul D. Coverdell Fellow



The Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center, with funding from Rotary International, selects Rotary Peace Fellows and provides full scholarships to the MIDP program based on their ability to have a significant impact on world peace.



The Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program, in partnership with the United States Peace Corps, offers financial assistance to Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who show potential to make a substantive impact on international sustainable development. While at Duke, Peace Corps Fellows work with local, underserved communities.



How to Apply

Who is Eligible?

Admission to the MIDP is competitive, based on the applicant's academic and professional credentials, essays, English proficiency and letters of recommendation. Applicants must have:

- Relevant professional work experience of at least five years which shows an increase in responsibilities over time. Development-related experience is preferred.
- A strong academic background which demonstrates the ability to successfully undertake graduate studies. Duke University requires the completion of a four-year undergraduate degree to be eligible to apply.
- Essays which demonstrate a commitment to working in development and a deep awareness of development issues.
- Letters of recommendation from professional and/or academic references, which speak in detail about the applicant's potential and skills.
- Excellent written and oral English skills

In addition, to be eligible for the one-year degree, applicants must have completed at least one year of graduate-level coursework in a relevant field, and must have an academic background in market-based economics with high grades.

Application Process

A complete application includes:

Electronic Application
dcid.sanford.duke.edu/apply

Transcript(s)

You must upload unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended with degree posted. Transcripts must contain all of the following information:

- Your full name
- Dates you attended the institution
- Date the degree was issued
- Titles of courses or subjects in which you were enrolled
- Number of hours of instruction involved in each course or subject

- Grade, mark or other form of evaluation you received for each course or subject
- Degree or diploma awarded for completion of your studies

Official transcripts are required for full admission to the university. To be considered official, the document(s) must contain the institution's stamp or other form of certification that clearly indicates authenticity. Non-English transcripts must be translated by an official translator.

Test Scores

All applicants whose first language is not English, who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents, must submit TOEFL, IELTS or PTE scores (not older than two years).

Minimum score requirements are as follows:

- 7.0 overall band score on IELTS
- 90 on TOEFL IBT (Internet-based)
- 64 on PTE

The GRE is NOT required, however scores can be submitted to institutional code 5156.

Three (3) letters of recommendation

We require the online electronic letter of recommendation and evaluation form.

Statement of Purpose

Not to exceed one page

Policy Essay

Not to exceed one page

Resume

Not to exceed two pages

Application Fee

Applicants pay the fee by credit card at the time of submission of the electronic application.

The priority application deadline is January 5.

Applications are accepted after that date on a space-available basis.

Contact us: +1 919-613-9281 or visit dcid.sanford.duke.edu.

Applicant Requirements

At least **5 years** of professional work experience

Completion of **four-year** undergraduate degree

Statement of **purpose**

Essay that discusses specific **policy problem** you have faced

3 letters of recommendation

Excellent **English skills**



“The world is full of what seem like intractable problems. Often we let that paralyze us. Instead, let it spur you to action.”

Melinda French Gates
Duke '86, MBA '87. Cofounder,
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

*Photos by Duke University
Photography, Durham Convention
and Visitors Bureau, Susan Carroll,
Abdul Kaakar and Julia Vail*



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