

Master of Science major in Development Sociology

RATIONALE

As the zonal university in the Visayas, the Visayas State University (VSU) based in the City of Baybay, Leyte, Philippines continuously strives to be in the cutting edge of rural development by genuinely addressing the call for a wholesome balance in the development of the critical mass of scientists that are not only competent on the technical aspects of agriculture but also on the social ramifications of agricultural research and development. Specifically, its Institute for Strategic Research & Development Studies (ISRDS) is mandated to produce highly trained personnel in rural sociology with the current shifts in the national RDE thrusts in agriculture and fishery under R.A. 8435 or the Agricultural Modernization Act of 2000. The emerging initiatives toward agricultural and ecological sustainability in almost all government and non-government agencies engaged in rural development require high caliber people with good grounding in program planning and the tools in rural sociological analyses.

For over three decades, ISRDS has been carving its niche in social research and extension and its offering of the Master of Science major in Development Sociology deepens its contribution to rural development by influencing the young minds towards positive transformation in agriculture through quality higher education. The pooled expertise of the ISRDS in the fields of rural sociology, development studies, agroecology, development anthropology, community development, extension, social development is also a compelling reason for instituting this curricular program. In the whole country it is only the University of the Philippines at Los Baños (UPLB), which is solely catering to the human resource requirement for development sociology. In the Visayas region, no similar program is being offered. Therefore, VSU's strategic location is a plus in terms of attracting would-be development sociology students who might be employed in the Visayas, Mindanao and even southern areas of Luzon.

Development Sociology is an applied area of study with critical emphases on the dynamics of development especially in rural settings. Consequently, it draws students from practically all undergraduate fields and disciplines especially those from the social and agriculture-related sciences.

PROGRAM VISION

The MS Development Sociology program seeks to produce highly competent teachers, researchers, planners, policy makers, and development workers committed to transforming communities locally and internationally.

PROGRAM MISSION

We offer a holistic, transformative, and interdisciplinary program of instruction, research and extension.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop high quality human resource needed for agriculture and fishery development;
- Harness the theoretical and analytical skills of students to become highly trained professionals in development sociology; and,
- Develop and cultivate socio-economic, environmental, cultural, and political awareness among students to make them bearers of positive change in their respective communities.

TARGET CLIENTELE

The program provides quality advanced education to graduates of various agricultural fields as well as those with bachelor's degrees in such fields as psychology, anthropology, political science, philosophy, sociology, and other related fields.

Employment Opportunities

- ◆ Universities/Colleges of Agriculture
 - Instructors
 - Researchers
- ◆ Extension agents/field workers of government agencies
- ◆ Agencies engaged in rural/agricultural/social development
 - Program Managers
 - Researchers
 - Program Evaluators.
- ◆ Community organizers of non-government organizations

Course Requirements

Following the standard VSU Graduate School guidelines, the MS in Development Sociology student must be required to fulfill a total of 37 units (minimum) in order to graduate. This includes 12 units of required courses; 9 units from major elective courses; 6 units of thesis, 1 unit graduate seminar and 9 units from the minor field.

SUMMARY OF MS DEVELOPMENT SOCIOLOGY COURSES

Required Courses (12 units)

- DSOC 205 Sociological Theory [1st Sem]
- DSOC 206 Contemporary Sociological Thought [2nd Sem]
- STAT 221 Social Science Statistics [1st Sem]
- DSOC 208 Qualitative Research Methods in the Social Sciences [2nd Sem]

Elective Courses (9 units minimum)

- DSOC 221 Sociology of Agriculture [1st Sem]
- DSOC 224 Demography [2nd Sem]
- DSOC 227 Political Economy [1st Sem]
- DSOC 232 GIS for Social Sciences [2nd Sem]
- DSOC 235 Collective Behavior and Grassroots Organizing [1st Sem]
- DSOC 238 Technology and Society [2nd Sem]
- DSOC 241 Gender, Work and Food in the Societies [1st Sem]
- DSOC 244 Poverty, Peace and the Peasantry [2nd Sem]
- DSOC 247 Social Program Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation [1st Sem]
- DSOC 252 Resources Management, Access and Benefit Sharing [2nd Sem]

Seminar Course (1 unit)

- DSOC 299 Graduate Seminar

Thesis (6 units)

- DSOC 300 Master's Thesis

Minor Courses (9 units)

In consultation with the student's Graduate Advisory Committee, he/she selects a minor field from an array of MS courses (e.g., Economics, Land Administration and Management, etc) offered by the other Colleges in VSU.



SCHOOL FEES

A. Application for Admission fee	P100
B. Tuition fee (per unit) & Lab. Fee:	
a. Regular Offering	
M.S./ M.Ag.Dev.	P200/unit
Ph.D.	P250/unit
b. Weekend class w/ min. of 8 students	
M.S.	P350/unit
Ph.D.	P400/unit
Laboratory Fee	P400/lab.
C. Miscellaneous	
Deposit*	P150
Library fee	P120/sem
Publication	P100/sem
VSU ID*	P100
Medical/Dental Fee	P100/sem
Registration/Matriculation Fee	P100/sem
Education Development Fee	P150
Facilities/Improvement Fee	P100
Cultural Fee	P50
Entrance Fee*	P100
D. Other Fees	
Residence Fee	P350
Thesis/Dissertation/Special Program Completion**	P350
Examination Fee (Compre./Final Exam)	
Ph.D.	P12,000
M.S. (w/ thesis)	P8,000
M.Ag.Dev. (w/ out thesis)	P6,000
Non-Registration Related Fees	
Diploma Fee	P300
Graduation Fee	P350
Alumni Legacy Fund	P350
Fee for change of program or degree	P 25
* for new students only	
** after having registered 6 units of thesis work for MS students or 12 units of dissertation work for Ph.D.	

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Research and Teaching Assistantships are offered by the departments with graduate degree programs. Graduate Assistantships carry an honorarium of P4,000 per month for master's students as well as free tuition and thesis support of P10,000.

Other scholarships enjoyed by graduate students at VSU come from funding agencies like the Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI), VSU-Commission on Higher Education (VSU-CHED), DA-ATI Scholarship Program for the Revitalization of Extension for Agricultural Development (SPREAD), Local Scholarship Program (LSP), CHED-FAPE Scholarship Program, PCARRD, DOST, and the DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants seeking admission for graduate study must be holders of baccalaureate degrees with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.0 or equivalent for applicants in the master's degree programs. However, applicants with a GPA lower than the prescribed rating may be admitted on a probationary status. Applicants are also required to submit the following requirements:

- ◆ Accomplished application forms
- ◆ Letters of recommendation from at least two former professors or supervisors
- ◆ A non-refundable admission fee in Postal Money order remitted to the Visayas State University
- ◆ Certificate of English Proficiency or an acceptable score in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (for foreign applicants)
- ◆ Seven (7) copies of Personal History Statement (PHS) and notarized affidavit of support authenticated by the Philippine Mission Abroad (PMA). PHS forms can be secured from the VSU Registrar's Office or the PMA (for foreign applicants)

For further information, please write to:
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FACULTY

Myrna M. Avila, Ph.D.
Community Development
(Iowa State University/ UP Los Baños)

Fe J. Dagoy, Ph.D.
Extension Education
(University of San Carlos/UKM)

Buenaventura B. Dargantes, Dr.Sci.
Agroecology, Socioecology
(Hohenheim University)

Lilian B. Nuñez, PhD. (Cand.)
Social Development, Anthropology
(Ateneo de Manila University/University of San Carlos)

Maria Aurora Teresita W. Tabada, M.S.
Sociology
(University of San Carlos)

Efren B. Saz, Ph.D. (Cand.)
Community Development
Rural Sociology and Southeast Asian Studies
(UPLB/Cornell University)

Belita A. Vega, Ph.D.
Main Field of Expertise: Rural Sociology
Areas of Specialization: Sociology of Economic Change,
Social Stratification, Anthropology, Gender Studies
(UPLB/ University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Affiliate Staff

Antonio P. Abamo Ph.D.
Production Economics , Policy & Development
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Development Anthropology
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**INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**



MASTER OF SCIENCE major in
DEVELOPMENT SOCIOLOGY

**COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT
AND ECONOMICS**

Visayas State University
6521-A City of Baybay, Leyte

