MASTER IN CONFLICT AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

60 ECTS CREDITS – LANGUAGE: ENGLISH – DEGREE: MASTER OF SCIENCE

COURSE CONTENT
In our current globalised world, conflict and development are closely intertwined. Disentangling these complexities of processes of conflict and development demands a critical stance and an interdisciplinary approach, with insights from various academic disciplines such as political science, anthropology, development studies and sociology. The Master in Conflict and Development Studies allows you to gain insight into the broader thinking about conflict and development related issues, and how to analyse these in a critical manner.

Grounded in fieldwork, the Master in Conflict and Development Studies wants to provide a timely and in-depth understanding of the interrelations between conflict and development. Fieldwork as a method is used to better understand processes of conflict and development and to formulate potential recommendations. This focus on fieldwork is especially valuable for those with an interest in a potential career in professional development aid, as well in the Global South as in the Global North (asylum centers, intercultural and interreligious questions…).

Located in the heart of Europe, the one-year master programme also allows an international body of students to connect to both research and policy-making in this growing field.

COURSE STRUCTURE
The Master in Conflict and Development Studies is a full-year intensive programme.

A set of introductory courses will be offered to get acquainted with the politics of conflict and development. These courses do not merely offer an introduction to ongoing debates, but start from a critical reading of influential authors in the field. They provide the conceptual and theoretical groundwork necessary to engage in more specific debates in the second semester.

Optional courses are aimed at deepening your understanding on research related or policy-oriented questions, as well as be able to deepen your area-specific knowledge. These courses will take the form of research seminars or more direct policy applications. This will allow you to customise your own programme according to your academic and professional interests. As fieldwork is a central starting point of teaching in the master programme, the course ‘Methodology and Fieldwork Practice’ will allow for a confrontation between theory and practice, whether in the Global South or in Europe. Past fieldwork trips in the South have focused on Uganda, India, Jordan, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Morocco and Kenya, while work in Europe has focused on migration. The final part of the programme is the master dissertation, in which you will develop your own research project in collaboration with a supervisor. These projects are by nature interdisciplinary and aim towards a critical understanding of your given research question. Many of these dissertations will be fieldwork based, but students can also opt for a literature based dissertation.

If you want to combine your master’s degree with a teacher’s degree, then there is the option of following an ‘Educatieve master’ instead of the above described master. The ‘Educatieve master’ however is a Dutch taught programme. More information can be found on www.ugent.be/educatiewemaster.

CAREER PERSPECTIVES
Employability situates itself on various terrains. Primarily in the domain of international development aid, the national or international governmental field, on a European level, in UN-organisations such as UNDP, UNESCO, FAO and the nongovernmental field (national or international development NGO’s, peace institutions, information and research centers, such as 11.11.11., Oxfam, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, International Peace Information Service…).

This education however does not limit itself to the classical terrain of international development aid, and also has a value for professions with a focus on the Global South in Europe (asylum centers, organisations that focus on intercultural/interreligious matters, refugee organisations…). Your individual employment options depend on your (master) degree, your possible terrain- or research experience and your language skills.

Want to know more about your career opportunities after this Master’s degree? Take a look at our job guide: www.ugent.be/ps/conflict-ontwikkeling/nl/onderwijs/jobwijzer.
Admission Requirements for International Degree Students

You are eligible for this program if you hold a relevant Bachelor degree. This includes bachelors in political science or a solid background in social sciences, including social science methodology. Students who hold a Bachelor in Social Science (or equivalent) from a non-Belgian University, are admitted based on an evaluation of the content of their previous studies. The Study Programme Committee will make the final decision whether to accept the application or not. The Study Programme Committee can decide that students need to follow a preparatory course, for instance for students who hold another diploma of bachelor or master than mentioned. For students with an academic degree there are options to follow this preparatory course in English, despite some courses being taught in Dutch.

Language

More information regarding the required knowledge of English:
www.ugent.be/languagerequirements

Practical Information

Study programme
www.ugent.be/coursecatalogue
> by Faculty > Programme types > select your programme

Application deadline
– for students who need a visa: 1st of March
– for students who do not need a visa: 1st of June
www.ugent.be/deadline

Enrolling Institution
Ghent University

Tuition fee
More information is to be found on:
www.ugent.be/tuitionfee

Trajectbegeleiding
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Meer info
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