

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**A multi-disciplinary graduate program
offered through the
Division of Social Sciences**

Orientation Materials

Updated Fall 2007



**WELCOME TO
THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AT DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

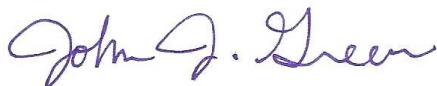
Thank you for your interest in the Master of Science in Community Development (MSCD) program in the Division of Social Sciences at Delta State University. The purpose of this degree is to prepare students to engage with critical social, political and economic development issues by integrating theory and practice in pursuit of increased quality of life for all people. Graduates from the 36-hour curriculum are ready for successful careers as practitioners in a wide variety of private and public sector mission-driven organizations.

In addition to the primary course of study in community development, the MSCD program offers students the opportunity to pursue specialization in Sustainable Development with courses offered in the Division of Social Sciences. Alternately, students may elect to specialize in Economic Development by taking classes in the College of Business.

The MSCD program benefits from its affiliation with the Center for Community and Economic Development. The Center's mission is to build and empower relationships that strengthen communities. The many programs operated through the Center focus attention on community service for enhancing youth education, leadership development, increasing access to services, and business retention and expansion. Many MSCD students work on projects through the Center. The Institute for Community-Based Research and the Delta Rural Poll, both affiliated with the Center, provide avenues for students to engage in applied research. Several faculty members in the Division of Social Sciences have joint appointments as Faculty Associates in the Center.

Community Development faculty and students are excited about your participation in this program. Your achievement reflects upon all of us. To succeed, you must accept the ultimate responsibility for taking advantage of the many opportunities in your reach. The information included in this orientation packet is intended to help you maneuver through the maze of graduate study and make the most of your time in the program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John G. Green". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

John Green, Ph.D.
Graduate Coordinator, Community Development

Note: The information contained in this document is for general reference purposes only. For more specific information, consult the *DSU Graduate Handbook* and speak with the MSCD Graduate Coordinator.

FACULTY TEACHING IN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Alan Barton, Ph.D. (Cornell University) is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Community Development. His research and teaching interests include natural resources management and the environment, property, participatory community development, and education. He directs the Delta Rural Poll in the Center for Community and Economic Development.

John Green, Ph.D. (University of Missouri-Columbia) is Coordinator of the Master of Science in Community Development program and Assistant Professor of Sociology and Community Development. His primary interests are community-based research, agriculture and food, underemployment and poverty, health, and the social dimensions of disaster. He directs the Institute for Community-Based Research.

Paulette Meikle-Yaw, Ph.D. (Mississippi State University) is Assistant Professor of Community Development and Sociology. Her teaching and research interests include civic engagement, sociology of development, racial/cultural minorities, and globalization. She has extensive field experience in Jamaica.

Debarashmi Mitra, Ph.D. (University of Connecticut) is Assistant Professor of Community Development and Sociology. Her teaching and research interests include family, development, and globalization.

Albert Nylander III, Ph.D. (Mississippi State University) is Associate Professor of Sociology and Community Development and serves as Chair for the Division of Social Sciences. His primary interests are sociology of education and research methods. He also conducts research on leadership structures in rural communities and access to health care.

Jerry W. Robinson, Jr., Ph.D. (Mississippi State University) is Distinguished Professor of Rural Sociology at Delta State University and Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His teaching and research interests include the sociology of community, community development in theory and practice, and leadership development.

Myrtis Tabb, Ed.D. (Delta State University) is Assistant Vice President, Special Projects and Partnerships. She also serves as Assistant Professor of Community Development. Her primary interest in leadership development is implemented through several leadership programs and teaching courses in leadership and community development.

Other faculty in the Division of Social Sciences that MSCD students may take classes and work with on research and outreach projects include:

Mark Bonta, Ph.D. (Louisiana State University) is Assistant Professor of Geography.

Leslie Fadiga-Stewart, Ph.D. (Texas Tech University) is Assistant Professor of Political Science. Her teaching and research interests include the politics of developing areas.

Garry Jennings, Ph.D. (University of Maryland) is Professor of Political Science and Director of the Madison Center.

Bobby Moore, Ph.D. (University of Southern Mississippi) is Adjunct Instructor of Criminal Justice.

Pamela Logan, MSCJ (Delta State University) is Instructor of Criminal Justice.

Mark Routman, Ph.D. (Louisiana State University) is Professor of Sociology.

Arlene Story Sanders, M.Ed., MSCD (Delta State University) is Instructor of Political Science.

Amy Owen, Ph.D. (University of Idaho, Moscow) is Assistant Professor of Geography.

Important Contacts:

John Green, Ph.D.

Graduate Coordinator, Community Development
Box 3264 / 217 Kethley Hall
Division of Social Sciences
Delta State University
Cleveland, MS 38733

Phone: (662) 846-4069
Fax: (662) 846-4099
E-mail: jgreen@deltastate.edu

Albert Nylander III, Ph.D.

Division Chair
Box 3264 / 206 Kethley Hall
Division of Social Sciences
Delta State University
Cleveland, MS 38733

Phone: (662) 846-4065
Fax: (662) 846-4099
E-mail: nylandr@deltastate.edu

Tyrone Jackson, Ed.D.

Assistant Dean
Graduate and Continuing Studies
239 Kent Wyatt Hall, Room 245
Delta State University
Cleveland, MS 38733

Phone: (662) 846-4875
Fax: (662) 846-4313
E-mail: tjackson@deltastate.edu

IMPORTANT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

MSCD Required Courses

COD 575	Sociology of Community
COD 600	Community Development
COD 624	Leadership Development
COD 680	Community Development Research Methods
SSC 669	Quantitative Research and Statistics
COD 698	Practicum in Community Development, or
COD 699	Thesis Research

MSCD Elective Courses

COD 521	Sustainable Development
COD 522	Environment and Society
COD 523	Education and Participatory Community Development
COD 526	The Delta in Global Context
SOC 567	Sociology of Development
COD 574	Applied Rural Sociology
COD 580	Social Organization and Change
SOC 585	Population and Environment
COD 630	Financing Community Development Projects
COD 635	Community Development Planning, Implementation and Evaluation
COD 670	Sociology of Rural Poverty
COD 695	Special Topics

Upon approval by the Graduate Coordinator, students may take other graduate-level courses offered in the Division of Social Sciences as electives.

Students may pursue a track of study in either **Sustainable Development** or **Economic Development**. These courses count toward elective requirements.

Sustainable Development Track*

COD 521	Sustainable Development
COD 522	Environment and Society
COD 526	Delta in Global Context
COD 580	Social Organization and Change

* Plus the required MSCD Courses listed above

Economic Development Track*

Required Classes Offered in the College of Business

ECO 560	Economic Development
ECO 612	Management Economics
ECO 623	Public Finance
ECO 652	Business Conditions Analysis

* Plus the required MSCD Courses listed above

Recommended Elective Courses

ECO 560	International Trade and Finance
MGT 600	Management Problems
MGT 605	Human Resource Management
FIN 600	Financial Management

Degree Requirements

A candidate for the Master of Science Degree in Community Development is required to:

1. Fulfill the general requirements for a graduate degree at Delta State University.
2. Complete a minimum of 36 semester hours of graduate work as specified. At least one half of major field courses must be at the 600-level, and 6 of these hours must be completed in either field practicum (COD 698) or thesis research (COD 699).
3. Earn a grade point average of at least 3.0 in the major field and overall.
4. The Graduate Coordinator of the Master of Science in Community Development (MSCD) program will serve as the academic advisor for the student. With the advisor, the student will complete a Plan of Study (POS) wherein they will outline exactly what courses are to be taken and when over the course of their tenure as a graduate student.
5. Students must complete a practicum field project or a thesis project.
6. Students who choose the thesis option will identify a major professor from the graduate faculty teaching in community development within the Division of Social Sciences. The major professor and two additional faculty members will serve as the thesis committee. At least one of the two additional committee members must be from within the graduate faculty of the MSCD program. The student must present a research proposal to this committee. Additionally, the student will write and orally defend the thesis before this committee.
7. Students who choose the non-thesis option must pass a written and/or oral comprehensive examination administered by a committee determined by the Graduate Coordinator of the MSCD program.

Note: All students must take the CAAP Writing Exam or Graduate Record Exam (GRE) before graduating. It is highly recommended that the CAAP Writing Exam be taken during the student's first semester of graduate work. (Some students are required to take this exam in the first semester as part of their provisional admission status.)

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Proposed Plan of Study for the Master of Science in Community Development Program

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

Date _____

CORE COURSES REQUIRED

Course No.	TITLE	Date to be taken	Date completed	Grade	Credit hours
COD 575	SOCIOLOGY OF COMMUNITY				3
COD 600	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				3
COD 624	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT				3
COD 680	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH METHODS				3
SSC 669	QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH AND STATISTICS				3
COD 698 or COD 699	PRACTICUM IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OR THESIS				6

TOTAL _____

APPROVED ELECTIVES

Course No.	TITLE	Date to be taken	Date completed	Grade	Credit hours

TOTAL _____

Have you applied for Admission to Candidacy for degree? ___ Yes ___ No

APPROVED: Student _____

Graduate Coordinator _____ **Total hours in program** _____

Division Chair _____