



**MASENO UNIVERSITY**  
FOUNTAIN OF EXCELLENCE

**eCampus**



*Education at your fingertips*

# Master of Arts in Social Development and Management eLearning Programme

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



ISO 9001:2008  
CERTIFIED



# 1. Introduction

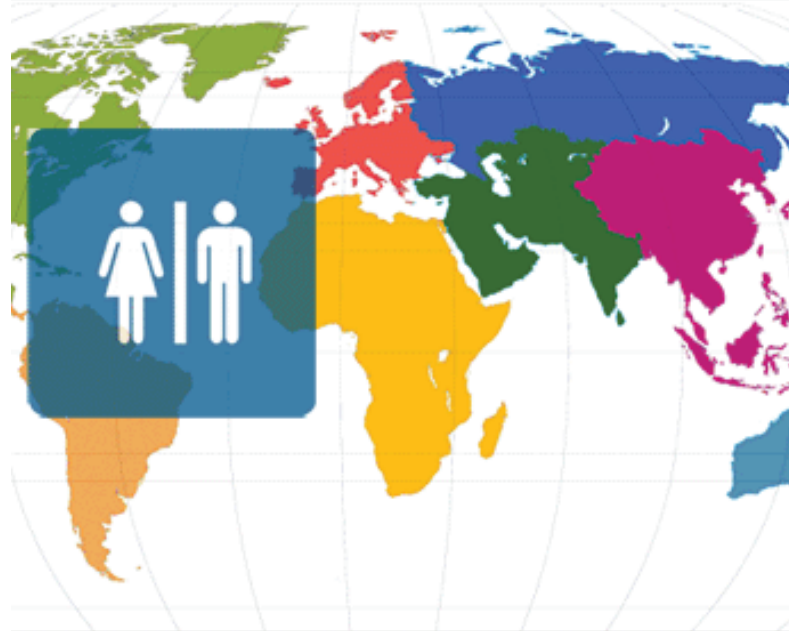
Social development is currently at the center stage of development debate in the Third World. The responsibility for development management is now in the hands of professionals trained in Social Development and Management. The need for a higher degree course that will equip professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge for both the ever expanding sectors in both the private and public service cannot be over-emphasized.

The Master of Arts in Social Development and Management is therefore a multidisciplinary programme. It exposes students to various disciplines that are appropriate to social development, such as Sociology, Social Work, Social Policy, Social Planning and Participatory Development Administration – giving special attention to social change, sectoral planning, development and management of social projects and programmes. Current thematic issues of development such as Gender, Poverty, Inequality and Welfare are dealt with in appropriate courses within the Programme. The Programme is double-tracked in that it will accommodate both future social development “academicians” interested in further research and academics, as well as future social development managers and practitioners in the field.

## 2. Objectives

The programme is designed to:

- (i) Train students in social development and management of community based projects and programmes.
- (ii) Train students to undertake research and teaching at Tertiary and University levels.
- (iii) Train professionals in all aspects of social development and management of development in the Third World.
- (iv) Produce professionals with a firm theoretical and practical background in social policy analysis, social planning, social aspects of monitoring and evaluation of international, regional, national and community based projects.



## 3. Admission Requirements

Applicants should have at least:

- (a) Common Maseno University Rules and Regulations relating to admission for post graduate degrees shall apply
- (b) Second Class (Upper Division) degree or equivalent from a recognized University in the Social Sciences and other related disciplines.
- (c) Second class (Lower Division) with proven research and publication in the social sciences and related disciplines.
- (d) Pass degree with a Post Graduate Diploma in the areas above.

## 4. Duration of the Programme

The duration of the programme shall normally be two academic years of full time attendance OR four years of part-time attendance from the date of registration.

## 5. Programme Structure

The programme shall consist of Coursework, Examination and EITHER Thesis OR Project. The programme shall consist of 52 units of Coursework, Examination and EITHER Thesis OR Project. The units will be distributed over four semesters as follows:

SEMESTER	THESIS OPTION	PROJECT OPTION
1	Course work 15	Course work 15
2	Course work 15	Course work 15
3	Research 10	Course work 15
4	Thesis 12	Project 7
Total Units	52	52

The first year courses shall consist of FOUR foundation courses and ONE Elective chosen according to the specialization requirements of students. Those who are taking coursework and thesis shall be required to submit their research proposal during the first month of their third semester. Those who are taking the project option will go into their third semester of coursework. They will be required to submit their project proposals before the end of their third semester.

The thesis will be no more than 30,000 words. The dissertation will be between 10,000 to 12,000 words. A firm theoretical and critical research grounding will be mandatory for both thesis and project options.

A unit is defined as one lecture hour, or two tutorial hours or three practical hours for a week.

#### Examinations

(a) The Maseno University Examination Regulations shall apply.

(b) Candidates shall be required to pass all courses registered for.

(c) The pass mark in every prescribed unit shall be 50%.

(d) Each course taught during a semester shall be assessed at the end of that semester which shall consist of:

(i) Continuous assessment based on essays, seminar papers and such other tests as may be prescribed by the Department which shall constitute 40% of the total mark and

(ii) A written examination, which shall constitute 60% of the total mark.

(e) A candidate who fails a prescribed course in the first year shall be eligible for a re-sit of the examination when it is next due, provided that the weighted average marks for all courses taken is at least 50%, otherwise he/she will be discontinued.

(f) A candidate who fails a prescribed course in an

academic year shall be eligible for a re-sit when the examination is next due, provided that the marks obtained in the failed course is not less than 40%, otherwise he/she will be discontinued.

(g) A candidate who fails any re-sit examination shall be discontinued.

(h) The grading system for coursework shall be as follows:

Marks (%)	Grade	Remarks
75 – 100	A	Distinction
65 – 74	B	Credit
50 – 64	C	Pass
Below 50	D	Fail

(i) A candidate who, for unacceptable and/or unverifiable reasons, fails to sit for an Examination shall be discontinued.

Both thesis and project shall be assessed by two examiners who shall normally be members of the Faculty. One of the examiners shall be the students' supervisor with respect to the project. The mark to be assigned to the project shall be the arithmetic mean of the two scores from the examiners.

(j) The project shall be graded over 100% and shall not be subject to Continuous Assessment Tests.

(k) The pass mark for the project shall be 50%.

(l) A candidate who fails in the project shall be given two months to resubmit the project, failing which the candidate shall be discontinued.

(m) During the second year, the candidate who is taking the thesis option will undertake a research project which will be written up as thesis. Copies of the bound theses will be submitted to the Board of Examiners according to the University Common Regulations for Masters Degree.

A candidate who for understandable and verifiable reasons such as sickness, fails to sit for an examination shall be allowed to take a re-sit examination. Medical cases must be supported by written documents from the University Chief Medical Officer.

NB Students are free to take extra courses within the University, over and above the required number of units and shall be given a grade, which shall be reflected in their transcript.

## 6. Course Distribution

MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT  
NEW COURSE CODES – CONVERSION TABLE

### FIRST SEMESTER UNITS

ASO 801	Philosophy of Social Sciences	3 C
ASO 807	Social Dimensions of Development and Management	3 C
ASO 803	Social Policy Analysis	3 C
ASO 805	Social Research Methodology	3 C
ASO 815	Community Development	3 C

### SECOND SEMESTER

ASO 802	Social Dimension of Project Planning and Management	3 C
ASO 810	Sectoral Policy Analysis	3 C
ASO 804	Computer/IT Skills for Social Research	3 C
ASO 808	Regional Cooperation and Social Development	3 C
ASO 806	Advanced Research Skills for Social Sciences	3 C

### THIRD SEMESTER

ASO 899	Research Only	7 C
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OR

ASO 809	Social Security Planning and Management	3 C
ASO 811	Social Environmental Planning and Management	3 C
ASO 813	Project Monitoring and Evaluation	3 C
*	one Elective	3 E
*	one Elective	3 E

### FOURTH SEMESTER

ASO 899	Thesis write-up & submission	10C
	Project writing & submission	7C

### ELECTIVES

ASO 809	Refugees and Social Policy	3E
ASO 812	Social Demography	3E
ASO 819	Social Services and Delivery Systems	3E
ASO 813	Project Monitoring and Evaluation	3E
ASO 817	Disaster Management	3E

NO. NEW PROGRAMME CODES	OLD PROGRAMME CODES
1. ASO 801:Philosophy of Social Sciences	ASO 801 : Philosophy of Social Sciences
2. ASO 803: Social Policy Analysis	ASO 803: Social Policy Analysis
3. ASO 805: Social Research Methodology	ASO 804: Social Research Methodology
4. ASO 807: Social Dimensions of Development and Management	ASO 802: Social Dimensions of Development and Management
5. ASO 809: Refugees and Social Policy	ASO 809: Refugees and Social Policy
6. ASO 802: Social Dimension of Project Planning and Management	ASO 805: Social Dimension of Project Planning and Management
7. ASO 804: Computer/IT Skills for Social Research	ASO 807: Computer/IT Skills for Social Research
8. ASO 806 :Advanced Research Skills for Social Sciences	ASO 817: Advanced Research Skills for Social Sciences
9. ASO 808 :Regional Cooperation and Social Development	ASO 811: Regional Cooperation and Social Development
10. ASO 810 :Sectorial Policy Analysis	ASO 806: Sectorial Policy Analysis
11. ASO 812: Social Demography	ASO 810: Social Demography
12. ASO 899:Research / Thesis OR Project Option	ASO899:Research / Thesis OR Project Option
13. ASO809:Social Security Planning and Management	ASO 808: Social Security Planning and Management
14. ASO 811:Social Environmental Planning and Management	ASO 813: Social Environmental Planning and Management
15. ASO 813:Project Monitoring and Evaluation	ASO 814: Project Monitoring and Evaluation
16. ASO 815:Community Development	ASO 816: Community Development
17. ASO 817:Disaster Management	ASO 815: Disaster Management
18. ASO 819: Social Services and Delivery Systems	ASO 812: Social Services and Delivery Systems