



Human Development and Food Security

“Learning tools for fighting hunger and poverty”

Goals

The Master in Human Development and Food Security (HDFS) of the University of Roma Tre, Faculty of Economics, was launched in 2003 with the sponsorship of the World Food Programme of the United Nations (WFP). The Master in HDFS aims to address a two-fold need:

- 1) To meet the needs and requests of qualified specialists working for non-governmental organizations, international organizations and bilateral cooperation;
- 2) To meet the growing request for specific academic training in development cooperation of young graduates and adults who wish to consolidate acquired knowledge and improve their qualifications.

The Master is mainly built around the **acquisition of tools** for enabling graduates to contribute to **fighting hunger and poverty**. Its main objective is to: (i) teach methods for analysing and understanding problems associated with poverty and food security and (ii) provide students with a real “tool box” that can be used in different professional situations and socio-economical, political and environmental contexts.

Structure

The Master’s Degree programme is **12 months** long, beginning in November and accounting for a total of **1500 hours and 60 ECTS**. The programme consists of a theoretical part lasting 9 months and comprising approximately 400 hours of lectures and coursework held in Rome. This section focuses on deepening students’ knowledge-base through background courses in economics, mathematics, statistics and the lectures contained in the five main Modules. The five main Modules are taught in sequential order and include: Development Economics, Quantitative Techniques, Human Development, Food Security and Rural Development. Examinations are held at the end of each of the five modules. The exam format is either a written test, a coursework essay, an oral presentation or a set of practical exercises.

After the 9 month lecture/coursework in Rome, over the next three-month period all students must undertake either an internship or write a dissertation. The internship can take the form of fieldwork or working at the headquarters of NGOs, International Organizations and Governmental Institutions all which would give students the important opportunity of obtaining hands-on experience through working side by side professionals of the development field. Alternatively, students may choose to undertake research and write a **dissertation** specifically related to the topics presented during the Rome lectures. Upon presentation and discussion of the dissertation or the internship reports, students who have successfully completed all the requirements of the Master’s programme are awarded the Master’s degree in Human Development and Food Security.

Programme

The course will consist of the following activities:

Lectures from academics and professional experts in the field

The lecturing staff is selected from the University of Roma Tre, other Italian and International Universities, FAO, IFAD, WFP, ILC and other international organizations, NGOs, research centres and national organizations. Overall, more than 20 organizations participate in the academic lectures, with 70% of the Master’s lecturers consisting of professionals in the development field and 30% of academics. Forty percent of lecturers are foreign nationals, thus reflecting the international nature of the Master.

The course material leans heavily on the use of case studies and other practical methods, including the use of computer software for data analysis (quantitative and qualitative) and simulations.

Workshops, seminars and conferences

Several conferences and seminars will take place during the academic year on themes complementary to the lecture cycle, where leading experts from international organisations, universities and NGOs will be involved.

Core lectures cover:

- Food Security
- Development economics
- Poverty and inequality
- Sustainable Livelihoods
- Project Planning
- Participatory Methods
- Human Development
- Rural development
- Access to Land
- International Trade
- Statistics and Econometrics
- Vulnerability & Risk Management

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<http://host.uniroma3.it/master/humandevdevelopment/>

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Location

Lectures will be held at the Roma Tre University, Faculty of Economics, Via Silvio D'Amico 77 – 00145 Rome.

Admission

The Master is open to a maximum of forty Italian and foreign graduates holding at least a Bachelors degree of three years. **Excellent knowledge of English is required since all the lectures and coursework are in English.** The Master is also open to employees of national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), public administration, local authorities, companies involved in activities in countries with low human development, international organizations (United Nations Agencies, the European Union, OECD, etc.). The Master's degree in HDFS offers its participants a professional profile with a wide range of opportunities and skills The Call with all information about fees, calendar and application deadlines is published each year around January on the Master's web site. In general, deadlines for enrolment are in September and the academic year begins in November.

Partners

Facilitated by its location in Rome and convinced that partnerships with international organizations and NGOs are crucial to contributing to poverty reduction, the Master's in HDFS has developed a number of strategic links. The strong partnership between the University of Roma Tre and the agencies of the United Nations and NGOs has been an absolute innovation in the Italian and International array in the field of human development and food security. This joint venture is an essential feature of the Master and one of the keys to its success. By bringing together academics and professionals, the Master's gives its students a complete and complex vision of the issues studied. Several partner organizations actively collaborate with the Master's Programme, contributing through lectures, papers, seminars, research projects and internships.

Some of the Master's partners are:

- WFP - United Nations World Food Programme
- ILC - International Land Coalition
- RUNIC - United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe
- ERP - Education for Rural People – Food and Agriculture Organization – FAO
- IDLO - Microfinance Project
- Save the Children Italia
- Rubanda Solidarity Association - Uganda
- Fondazione Pangea Onlus
- AssoBotteghe
- Commercio Alternativo
- Chiama l'Africa
- La Gabianella Onlus



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