

College of International and Continuing Education

Graduate Degrees 2000-2001

Department	Major	Degree
Master's Level		
Economic Development	Economic Development	Master of Science
Geography and Planning	Geography	Master of Science
Doctoral Level		
Economic Development	International Development	Doctor of Philosophy

College of International and Continuing Education

Tim W. Hudson, Dean
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In February 1991, the Center for International Education and the Division of Lifelong Learning were combined to form the College of International and Continuing Education. In September 1998, the academic Department of Geography and Planning was moved from Liberal Arts into the College, and a Department of Economic Development was established to house a MS program in Economic Development and a Ph.D. program in International Development. The College is an administrative entity under the Office of the Provost, and operationally divided into the two academic areas of economic development and geography and planning. The Center for International Education and the Department of Continuing Education and Distance Learning are also located in the college.

The mission of the College of International and Continuing Education is fourfold. First, to prepare individuals for the opportunity of entering the work place in the professional and applied academic fields of economic development, international development, and geography. Second, to serve as liaison between the University's academic programs and the community at large through continuing education. Third, to coordinate international admissions and student services, and administer the University's extensive Study Abroad program. And fourth, to provide intensive English instruction for international students.

Department of Economic Development

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Hudson, Kolzow, Miller, Swager

The Department of Economic Development offers graduate work leading to a Master of Science in Economic Development and Doctor of Philosophy in International Development.

Master's Program

The goal of the Economic Development program is to assist students in acquiring professional competency in the concepts, skills, working tools, and creative approaches essential to those involved in the field of economic development, whether at the community, regional, national, or international level.

Admission Requirements:

1. Have a 3.0 (4.0 scale) grade point average over the last two years of the student's undergraduate studies.
2. Submission of GRE scores. The Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) or MAT may be submitted in place of the GRE. Students whose native language is not English must achieve a TOEFL score of 560 or more.
3. Provide three letters of recommendation from persons qualified to assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study. The letters should be sent to the department.
4. In exceptional cases, students may be admitted conditionally. Such students must earn a 3.0 on the first nine (9) semester hours of course work numbered 500 or above or on all courses work taken while completing this nine (9) hours requirement in order to qualify for regular admission.
5. Students may be required to take some pre-requisite courses in geography and/or business.
6. Statement of purpose and goals; portfolio and resume.

Curriculum Requirements:

1. Successful completion of a minimum of thirty (30) hours in graduate level courses as follows:
 - a. Twenty-four (24) hours with the prefix ED, at least eighteen (18) of which must be 700 level. Required courses include: ED 741, 761 (at least 2 hours), and 764 or 765.
 - b. Demonstrated proficiency (through course work and/or the comprehensive exam) in economic development research, finance, agency management and promotion, equivalent to ED 701, 722, 724, 725, 743, 747, and 748.
 - c. At least four (4) hours of Apprenticeship (ED 791).
2. Successful completion of a comprehensive written and/or oral examination.
3. Completion of one of two curriculum options as follows:
 - a. Thesis option
 - 1) ED 698 (3 hours)
 - 2) Acceptance of valid thesis topic
 - 3) Formation of thesis committee prior to last semester of study
 - b. Non-Thesis option
 - 1) ED 789 (3 hours)
4. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation.

Ph.D. Program in International Development

Mark M. Miller, Director
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The purpose of this program is to prepare graduates for new careers in economic development practice, private-sector business and industry, import-export trade, government service, non-governmental organizations, and higher education. This program is also intended to serve professionals already engaged in such careers, to enhance their credentials, broaden their horizons, and sharpen their perspectives. In both cases, the program is intended to provide an active and productive learning experience that reflects a collegial relationship among a diverse body of students, as well as between faculty members and professional caliber students.

Admission Requirements:

Applications for admission to the program will be accepted at any time, for possible admission at any point in the academic calendar. Students will be selected for admission to the program and financial support based on the following criteria:

1. Written statement of (1) purpose for study and (2) proposed program of research
2. Personal interview (in person, or by telephone as necessary) with program director, Dean of the College of International and Continuing Education, or other associated faculty member
3. Master's degree in the social sciences or business (or by petition on behalf of a master's degree in another field), with a 3.5 GPA.
4. Demonstration, by transcript or by petition, of basic core competencies in the following areas:
 - a. Economics, micro and macro
 - b. Statistics
 - c. Computer applications
 - d. Foreign language (at least beginning level)
 - e. Area study of an international region, in disciplines such as geography, political science, urban and regional planning, anthropology, or history
 - f. Professional or international experience
5. Satisfactory scores on the verbal, quantitative, and analytical sections of the Graduate Record Examinations (current GRE mean scores for USM doctoral programs in the social science are approximately 560 for both verbal and quantitative sections).
6. Three letters of reference, reflecting academic and professional endorsements, from persons qualified to assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study. Letters should be sent to the department.
7. For non-native English speakers, a satisfactory score on the TOEFL examination (currently a score of 550 is typical for USM graduate programs) and a demonstration of verbal communication skills through an examination administered by the USM English Language Institute.

Curriculum Requirements:

1. Successful completion of a minimum of seventy-eight (78) semester hours in graduate level courses with a 3.0 GPA as follows:

	Hours
International Development Theory	6
Research Methods in Development Sciences.....	6
Issues in International Development.....	6
Research Methods in International Development.....	6
Field Research Methods in International Development.....	9
Dissertation Field Research, Data Analysis and Writing.....	24
Colloquium in International Development.....	6
Internship.....	3
Electives	12
	Minimum: 78

2. Successful completion of a qualifying exam.
3. Successful presentation and submission for publication of a professional paper.
4. Successful completion of an oral comprehensive examination and dissertation defense.

Research Tool(s)

A reading knowledge of one approved foreign language, or demonstrated proficiency in statistics or in a microcomputer usage. Proficiency is normally obtained by satisfactorily completing a two-course sequence selected in consultation with the departmental adviser. Typical sequences in a foreign language are SPA 501/502 or FRE 501/502; sequences in statistics typically are introductory statistics and GHY 615; and for microcomputer usage typical sequences are CSS 240 or CSS 330, or CSS 333, and GHY 516 and 516L, or 517 and 517L. Undergraduate or transfer credit will be evaluated by the department on an individual basis.

Department of Geography and Planning

Robert W. Wales, Chair
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Harrison, McKee, Panton, Wales, Williams

The Master of Science program in Geography is designed to prepare students for further graduate study and/or for employment in either the public or private sectors in such areas as GIS technologies, planning, area development, law, or teaching.

Admission Requirements

1. Have a 3.0 (4.0 scale) grade point average over the last two years of the student's undergraduate studies.
2. Submission of GRE scores. Students whose native language is not English must achieve a TOEFL score of 560 or more.
3. Provide two letters of recommendation from persons qualified to assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study. The letters should be sent to the department or school.
4. In exceptional cases, students may be admitted conditionally. Such students must earn a 3.0 on the first nine (9) semester hours of course work numbered 500 or above or on all course work taken while completing this nine (9) hour requirement in order to qualify for regular admission.
5. Students with a non-geography undergraduate degree will be required to take pre-requisite courses in geography.

Curriculum Requirements

1. A minimum of thirty-six (36) semester hours in graduate level geography courses with at least eighteen (18) hours of work in courses at the 600-level. With the approval of the major professor, the student has an option of taking (outside the department) up to twelve (12) semester hours of cognate courses within the minimum hourly requirements. Courses prefixed with GHY, ED, or PLG may be used in any combination to satisfy the minimum required hours.
2. GHY 610 and 680. These courses are required of all students.
3. Demonstrated proficiency in cartography and statistical/quantitative methods. Proficiency is generally established (on an individual basis) by evidence of satisfactory completion of course work in these areas sometime in a student's academic career, at either the graduate or undergraduate level.
4. Students have the option of preparing a thesis or a paper of professional quality. The thesis will confer six (6) semester hours credit to be counted as part of the total minimum hourly requirement for the degree. The paper, which will normally be the end product of work begun in a seminar, will confer no credit hours toward the minimum required for the degree.

5. An oral examination on the student's academic program is required. Students writing a thesis will take an oral defense of the thesis. Students choosing the option of preparing a paper of professional quality will have the paper reviewed by the department faculty and will present it orally before the combined faculty.
6. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation.

Center for International Education

Box 10047
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U.S.A.
(601) 266-4344
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The Center for International Education administers all programs bringing international students to USM and coordinates all programs sending USM students abroad for academic credit. In addition, the Center strives to promote a spirit of internationalism on the USM campuses; to assist academic departments in the internationalization of curriculum; to encourage student, faculty, and library development in the international sphere; and to assist business and government in projects of an international nature. The Center is comprised of three components: the English Language Institute, the Office of International Student Affairs, and the Office of International Programs.

English Language Institute

Audrey D. Blackwell, Director
Box 5065
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-5065
U.S.A.
(601) 266-4337
FAX (601) 266-5723
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website: www-dept.usm.edu/~cice/eli

The English Language Institute (ELI) delivers quality intensive English instruction for international students. The program, which accommodates students from beginning to advanced language proficiency, is administered by a professional, experienced faculty dedicated to providing ESL instruction via proven methodology.

The ELI fosters cross-cultural awareness within the university and the community by offering ELI students opportunities of interaction with native English speakers both on and off campus. Founded in 1947, it is among the oldest language institutes in the United States and is authorized under Federal Law to enroll non-immigrant alien students.

International students accepted to the Graduate School of the University and those planning to apply for admission to the Graduate School often sharpen their language skills at the English Language Institute. For further information, contact the Director of the English Language Institute at the above address.

Office of International Programs

Susan Steen, Director
Box 10047
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The Office of International Programs administers a variety of programs providing USM students both long-term and short-term opportunities to study abroad for academic credit. Summer-term programs offering regular USM academic credit include:

The British Studies Program, a summer term in London in which USM functions as the academic and logistical linchpin for an 11-school consortium comprised of the University of South Alabama, The University of Memphis, Hinds Community College, Midwestern State University, Texas A&M University-Commerce, The University of Louisiana-Monroe, Southeastern Louisiana University, Mississippi College, Henderson State University, Methodist College, and Texas Tech University.

The Austrian Studies Program in Vienna, Austria
 The Australian Studies Program, Australia and New Zealand
 Bangladesh Community Health Program
 The Caribbean Studies Program in Jamaica
 The Contemporary French Culture and History Program
 The French Photography Program
 The Cuban Studies Program in Havana and Varadero, Cuba
 Das Treffen Music and Performing Arts Festival in Germany
 The Irish Studies Program
 The Italian Studies Program
 The Mexican Studies Program
 The Scotland Theatre Experience
 The Spanish Language Program in Cuernavaca, Mexico
 The Spanish Language Program in Madrid and Nerja, Spain
 Spain: Business and Language Program

Other academic study abroad programs coordinated by this office are –

Semester- and year-abroad exchanges:

Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia
 University of Victoria, Canada
 Keele University, Stoke-on-Trent, England
 Ecole Supérieure du Commerce Extérieur, France
 University of Bonn, Germany
 University of the Yucatán, Merida, Mexico
 University of Alcalá de Henares, Madrid, Spain
 University of Wales, Swansea
 A summer internship program in Britain coordinated by the University of Wales, Swansea
 A student practice teaching program in England for education majors.
 The transatlantic Summer Academy program for Politics/International Studies majors in Bonn, Germany.

For further information write to the Office of International Programs at the above address.

Office of International Student Affairs

Barbara Whitt Jackson, Director
 Box 5151
 Hattiesburg, MS 39406-5151
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 website: www.isa.usm.edu
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The Office of International Student Affairs (ISA) coordinates all facets of international admissions and student services. The ISA provides counseling on immigration regulations, personal matters, culture shock and adjustment, as well as some academic counseling in conjunction with the various departments. The Office processes all international applications, evaluates foreign academic credentials and issues the appropriate immigration documents for the non-immigrant foreign student. Multi-cultural programming for the international students and the community is also coordinated by the ISA.

The ISA Office disseminates USM information to foreign schools, U.S. embassies and consulates abroad, and non-profit international organizations such as the Institute for International Education.

This office also provides information to and immigration documents for research scholars invited by various USM departments to participate in limited research opportunities.

For further information, write to the Director of the Office of International Student Affairs at the above address.

The University enrolls graduate students from outside the United States. Assistance in academic and non-academic matters before and during the international student's stay at the University is provided by the Office of International Student Affairs.

English Language Proficiency: Applicants whose native language is other than English must present the results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Exceptions may be made if the applicant has earned a degree at an accredited US college or university. TOEFL requirements vary from program to

program, ranging from 525 to 590 (paper-based) or 197 to 213 (computer-based). See Admission Requirements for international students under the department listings for specific TOEFL requirements.

Admission Requirements: Graduate test scores (GRE or GMAT depending on department) are also required. Official transcripts with degrees posted must be submitted for each school attended. See front section of **Bulletin** for GPA requirements.

At least two letters of recommendation from persons qualified to assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study are required; however, some departments/schools may require more (see specific department). Many departments require other application materials such as statement of purpose, writing sample so check the department for specific requirements.

Financial Resources: In order to meet requirements for entry into the United States for study, applicants must demonstrate sufficient financial resources to meet expected costs of their entire educational program. Applicants must provide documented evidence of their financial resources for university study since USM has no special fund for financial assistance to international students.

Admission Procedure:

1. Write to the Office of International Student Affairs for information and application forms to the University's graduate program.
2. Complete the forms properly and return with a \$25.00 processing fee to the address above. The application and supporting documents must be received no later than two (2) months prior to the registration date desired.
3. Have all official transcripts and diplomas from all former institutions attended sent to the Office of International Student Affairs. Please note unauthorized photo copies are NOT acceptable. Transcripts should be in native language with certified English translation.
4. Have all appropriate official test scores sent to the Office of International Student Affairs.
5. Have all letters of recommendation sent to the Office of International Student Affairs.

A Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status (Form IAP-66 for a J-1 visa) or a Certificate of Eligibility for Student Status (Form I-20 for an F-1 visa) is issued only to those applicants who have been officially admitted to the University.

Continuing Education and Distance Learning

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USM Continuing Education functions to complement The University of Southern Mississippi's overall mission of teaching, research and service. By serving as liaison between the University and the community at large, the Department extends access to the educational programs of the institution through multiple delivery systems, to individuals at various stages of their lives and careers for intellectual, professional, social and cultural advancement.

Continuing Education acts in partnership with the academic colleges to link faculty expertise and resources with the needs of the University's clients and constituencies. In this role, Continuing Education serves as an agent for opportunity, innovation and quality.

The Department of Continuing Education and Distance Learning accomplishes its mission by providing educational opportunities in settings and formats that broaden the University's traditional modes of delivery.

Credit and Distance Learning: The Office of Credit Programming and Distance Education has the responsibility of coordinating and administering all credit intensive, weekend, intersession and extension courses. Included, too, are courses available on the Internet and select courses using compressed interactive video. Courses offered through this office are the result of collaborative relationships with the University's academic departments. In addition, academic courses may be arranged in a format and location to meet the specific needs of governmental, business, industrial and educational groups.

All students taking graduate courses must submit an application to the Graduate School. Application forms are available in the Graduate School, McCain Library, room 205, and on the web: www.usm.edu/~gradsch.

Noncredit: Noncredit programming maintains responsibility for a diversity of programming which serves as liaison between the University and the community. This office coordinates and administers the logistical details for all noncredit conferences, institutes, workshops, clinics, camps, short courses and

special training programs sponsored through the University. The office also provides convention and annual meeting coordination assistance to professional associations, fraternal organizations and other education groups. A **Listener's License Program** is available which enables individuals to utilize University resources by observation within the academic class setting on a non participating basis. The **Continuing Education Unit (CEU)**, also offered through Noncredit Programming, is a nationally recognized unit of measure for non-credit continuing education programs. It is designed to document learning experiences which are valid in their own right, but differ from experiences for which academic credits are traditionally awarded.

Independent Study: Through independent study, a student may earn up to thirty-three hours of undergraduate university credit or one complete unit of high school credit. A complete **high school curriculum** and a wide variety of **university-level course offerings** are available.

Independent study allows the student to earn credit through the advantages of home study. These courses are particularly suited to the needs of the student who is unable to attend the University on a regular schedule.

Institute for Learning in Retirement: The Institute for Learning in Retirement is an association of active women and men, 50 years of age or older, who seek to explore stimulating learning experiences while developing new friendships.

In the world of change and complexity, the Institute brings insight and perspective to interested – and interesting – adults who wish to pursue activities of the mind in an informal and supportive environment.

The Institute's program recognizes that a growing number of adults are adventuresome, active and intellectually curious. The cornerstone is peer-learning and shared responsibility. The strength of the program is that it is self-directed and run for and by the members. It draws on members' talents and experiences as instructors, facilitators and leaders.