Doctorate in Sustainable Development and Diplomacy
Overview

The EUCLID + DSDD (Doctorate in Sustainable Development and Diplomacy) is a distance, non-resident study program. Its goal is to prepare graduate-level professionals for high-level positions in public and corporate governance.

Program Objectives

This specialized post-graduate degree program assumes a strong background in business and economics. Students who do not have such a foundation or background will be required to complete a bridge program prior to being formally enrolled.

The DSDD offers an in-depth examination of the vast field of Sustainable Development, including Ecological Economics, Public Policies, Community Development, Cultural Aspects of Development, and National Developmental Strategies. Its capstone is the presentation, defense and publication of a doctoral dissertation.

This program was primarily designed to train government or IGO staff already working in the field, but it is also suitable to prepare general-public professionals and students for careers with governmental bodies, NGOs and international organizations such as IGAD, the European Union, the African Union, OSCE, World Bank, etc.

The EUCLID + DSDD is also a unique program in the sense that it is the only doctoral program in Sustainable Development actually offered by a multilateral institution with a specialized SD institute (the International Organization for Sustainable Development), thus allowing direct interaction with practitioners as well as opening rare internship opportunities.

Admission Requirements

In theory, applicants could enter a doctoral program with a Bachelor’s degree or its international equivalent. In practice however, like most institutions, EUCLID requires a Master’s degree in a relevant field to be considered for this program. Additional professional experience is not strictly required by the guidelines but is highly recommended to secure admission.

Government-sponsored applicants (who are already government staff) may be admitted without a Master’s degree if their level of education and experience is deemed sufficient and equivalent. However, these participants may be required to complete bridge courses prior to enrolling in the DSDD.

Fluency in English (spoken and written) is required and will be tested.

Students are expected to be in position to dedicate 10 to 15 effective hours of study on a weekly basis.

Methodology

This program is offered on an asynchronous and open enrollment basis with occasional sequencing in cohort groups.

The DSDD is personalized for every student and consists in a sequence of courses which are delivered using the following methods / media formats:

- Standard textbooks
- DVD lectures
- MP3 podcasts and webcasts
- Internal EUCLID course packs
- Moderated conference calls

Typically, a course consists of a series of assigned

2
materials that must be studied on an individual basis. Courses assignments include the composition of academic papers based on the textbooks, and the creation of quiz which should demonstrate the student’s grasp of the subject matter scope.

Students are often connected in “pairs” or “trios” which allows them to interact and exchange on their coursework while moving along in the program at their own pace.

Each course is capped by an extensive 45-minute long oral examination which allows the supervising instructor to enter the composite final grade.

Overall, this program emphasizes the ability to understand systemic interactions as well as to express logical, respectful and persuasive arguments by means of publishable academic papers which are preliminaries to the thesis.

The ability to write professional, journal-grade papers is one of the essential objectives of this program. All students must complete the program having acquired and demonstrated world-class expertise in a specific aspect of economic development that will be of lasting interest to academia, government or the private sector.

The curriculum also calls for the ability to present a oral reports or lectures (webcasts), delivered to the course tutor in MP3 or WMV format.

Courses

EUCLID DSDD pre-thesis courses (including optional courses):

- Economics Module (4 UCH / 6 ECTS)
- Diplomacy Module (DIP-401) (4 UCH / 6 ECTS)
- International Law (I) (LAW-INT1) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- Project Management (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- The United Nations System (DIP-801) (3 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- Intergovernmental Organizations (DIP-406) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- Desertification and Reforestation Module (CEDR) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- Introduction to Sustainable Development (SD-200) (2 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- Culture and Global Change (SD-300) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- Ecological Economics & Case Studies (SD-440) (3 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- The World Bank Group and IMF (ECO-640) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- Economic Development Module (ECO-884) (4 UCH / 6 ECTS)
- Africa’s Economic Development (SD-450) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- Professional Journal Reviews (ECO-890) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS) (optional)
World Economic Outlook (ECO-844) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS) (optional)
Field Study / Internship / Monograph (MSD-CAP) (6 UCH / 9 ECTS) (optional)

Each course is fully documented by means of a detailed syllabus (program syllabi are usually attached as an Annex to this document).

The doctoral dissertation is written upon completion of the preliminary coursework and has a value of 25 USCH (37.5 ECTS). The writing process is structured in 5 blocks:

1. Proposal and Bibliography
2. Structure with table of contents
3. Research and writing
4. Writing and editing
5. Final editing, defense and publication.

The thesis is defended by video-conference in the presence of two professors and one thesis advisor. Faculty profiles are posted at www.euclid.int under Academics > Faculty Profiles.

Optional Specializations

In consultation with his or her assigned tutor, the student may pursue directed studies, for a value of 2-6 UCH / 3-9 ECTS, in the following areas of research and concentration:

- Diplomacy and International relations
- Islamic Economics and Finance
- Sustainable Energy Issues
- Studies in Climate Change
- Alternative Economic Models

Credit Values

Credit values are expressed both in terms of USCH (US credit hour) and ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). Typically, 14 hours of class room instruction over the course of 1 semester represents 1 USCH or 1.5 ECTS (plus self-study time), which is converted to the equivalent amount of study in the context of a distance program.

Assuming that 35 US credits are transferred from the student’s Master’s program, 55 credits are required, including 25 credits for the dissertation process. 1 US credit is equivalent to 1.5 ECTS. The total credit value for the completed DSDD, according to international standards, is 90 US credit beyond the Bachelor’s level.

Program Accreditation

EUCLID (Pôle Universitaire EUCLIDE / Euclid University) is one of the 5 regional / international institutions listed as such by the UNESCO-based International Association of Universities, along with the United Nations University, the European University Institute, the World Maritime University, and the IMO International Maritime Law Institute.

EUCLID is a specialized intergovernmental organization and university framework constituted and defined by two multilateral inter-governmental agreements duly filed with the United Nations Treaty Section.

Having the status of intergovernmental non-profit institution under public international law, it offers degree programs which enjoy the explicit accreditation by the ministries of educations of 8 EUCLID Participating States.

EUCLID’s institutional and program accreditation is also confirmed by 3 inter-IGO agreements (ICCI, ECOWAS, CAFRAD).

This program follows EU and US guidelines for a doctoral degree, and it is fully documented to facilitate international evaluations.

A standard EU Diploma Supplement is available upon request.
Language Requirements

All students must be fluent in English and should be conversant in French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese or another major world language in addition to English.

How to apply

All interested students must apply online at www.euclid.int

Government-sponsored students may apply online in the manner as general-public, but they should contact their National Point of Contact to secure formal endorsement.

The EUCLID Admissions Officer will send to all applicants an updated version of the “Admissions Checklist” which explains the required documentation to provide and the steps to be followed.

It must be emphasized that completing a distance study program at EUCLID requires determination and persistence. This same trait is expected in applicants who should not expect to be pursued by the Admissions Team but rather to actively pursue enrollment at EUCLID.

Summary and Outcome

It is fair to say that EUCLID’s programs are better described as ‘distance’ rather than ‘online’ study programs. This means that students do not have to connect at a particular day and time to participate in bulletin board discussions as is often the case with ‘online’ programs.

Rather, our programs emphasize the ability to absorb a vast amount of material on personal basis, which makes them suitable for fast readers who on their own have a record of intense book reading and passionate interest in their field of study.

EUCLID evaluates the applicants’ interpersonal and teamwork skills—which are essential for personal and professional success—on the basis of the prior experience confirmed by means of an extensive personal interview. Because EUCLID was established to serve active diplomats and other government officials, it is expected that these professional skills will have been acquired and demonstrated in the course of the applicant’s career.

In some cases, EUCLID may propose specific courses (which may not even be listed as electives) in order to bring interpersonal skills (including public speaking) to executive level.

Upon completion of the program, every student is expected to have become a subject-matter expert in a sub-topic related to sustainable development, and this expertise will be substantiated by their papers and published dissertation.
For Admissions questions, the only authorized contact is:

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