



---

Programme Specific Curriculum for the  
**MSc in Global Development**  
2024 (revised May 2025)

## Table of Content

<b>CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1 Title.....	4
1.2 Number of ECTS credits.....	4
1.3 Affiliation.....	4
1.4 Language.....	4
1.5 Academic Profile .....	5
<b>CHAPTER 2. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1 Admission to the master's programme.....	7
2.2 Supplementary activities .....	7
2.3 Language requirements.....	7
2.4 Prioritization of applicants .....	7
<b>CHAPTER 3. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE .....</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1 Programme composition and study progression.....	8
3.2 Compulsory subject elements.....	9
3.3 Restricted elective subject elements.....	10
<b>CHAPTER 4. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS.....</b>	<b>11</b>
4.1 Co-curricular Written Assignment (0,5 – 7,5 ECTS).....	11
4.2 Academic Internship (15, 22,5 or 30 ECTS).....	14
4.3 Master's Thesis (30 ECTS) .....	17
<b>CHAPTER 5. GENERAL RULES .....</b>	<b>22</b>
5.1 Academic progression and completion time .....	22

<b>5.2 Teaching .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>5.3 Examinations .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>5.4 Assessment and censorship.....</b>	<b>25</b>

## **Chapter 1. Introduction**

The programme curriculum for the MSc in Global Development consists of two parts: the Curricula's Common Part and a Programme-specific Curriculum. The Curricula's Common Part stipulates the common rules that apply to all degree programmes at the faculty. The Programme Curriculum describes the academic elements of the master's Programme in Global Development.

The curriculum has been approved by the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Copenhagen. This latest revision was approved in May 2025, and it becomes effective on 15 August 2025 for all students in the programme.

### **1.1 Title**

Graduates are entitled to use the title Master of Science (MSc) in Global Development. The corresponding title in Danish is candidatus/candidata societatis (cand.soc.) i Global Udvikling.

### **1.2 Number of ECTS credits**

Subject elements and exams of the MSc in Global Development are quantified in ECTS credits (the European Credit Transfer System), according to which 60 ECTS credits correspond to one year of full-time study. The MSc in Global Development equates to 120 ECTS credits.

### **1.3 Affiliation**

The MSc in Global Development is an interdisciplinary master's programme involving four departments and two faculties across the University of Copenhagen. The administrative affiliation is with the Faculty of Social Science.

The programme is affiliated with the Board of Studies for Global Development.

The Board of External Examiners for the Anthropology Programme provides external examiners for the programme.

### **1.4 Language**

The language of instruction of the programme is English.

## **1.5 Academic Profile**

### **1.5.1 Objective**

The master's programme in Global Development is an independent, complete and coherent research-based, social science Study Programme. The Danish University Programme Order stipulates that:

- The purpose of the master's programmes in the social science area is to qualify the student to identify and analyse complex social phenomena and to apply theoretical and methodological knowledge and skills within a wide range of professions in the public and private sectors, including upper secondary schools.
- The master's programmes include one or more social science subjects or other subjects relevant to the work of a social science graduate.

Furthermore, the MSc in Global Development programme has the following specific purposes:

1. Providing students with the opportunity to improve their skills and specialise in the social science aspects of global development as well as working with other social science disciplines.
2. Providing students with further academic knowledge, theoretical qualifications and methodological competences to enable them to independently identify, formulate and solve advanced complex issues within the social science aspects of global development.
3. Providing students with the basis for undertaking relevant job functions and qualifying them for enrolment in a PhD programme in global development.

### **1.5.2 Competence profile**

During the programme, students will acquire the knowledge, skills and competences listed below enabling them both to work and conduct research in the field of global development. Students will also acquire additional individual qualifications through elective courses, field and project work, and through writing a Master's Thesis.

#### **After completing the programme, an MSc in Global Development will:**

##### *Knowledge*

- Have knowledge on core anthropological, economic and political science theories and concepts with relevance for globalisation and development.
- Have knowledge on anthropological, economic and political science theories suitable for understanding global flows; e.g. of goods and services, people, technologies and ideas.

- Have knowledge on economic, anthropological and political science theories suitable for understanding economic growth and inequality.
- Be able to identify complex problems related to global development and possess knowledge, based on the best international research, of theories and methodologies used to address such problems, in addition to being able to critically reflect upon this knowledge on a scientific basis.
- Be able to discuss the importance of cultures and social norms in the contextualisation of theories.

### *Skills*

- Be able to identify and critically analyse key factors and forces shaping the livelihood and well-being of individuals, populations, and societies at global, regional, national, and local levels, taking into account both global and local perspectives.
- Be able to plan, collect, analyse and assess qualitative and quantitative data and possess advanced skills to select, combine and prioritise the vast socio-economic data volumes available through information technologies, such as global and local databases, web-based tools, remotely sensed and geo-information systems.
- Independently analyse and evaluate policies and strategies for development and economic growth in low and middle-income societies.
- With regard to validity, reliability and applicability, be able to critically evaluate, discuss and prioritise among scientific literature and key methodologies in the field of global development.
- Communicate and discuss research-based knowledge, advice and decisions across cultures and on different levels to/with researchers, policymakers, media, organisations and laypersons.

### *Competences*

- Evaluate, validate and disseminate existing data and design, carry out and coordinate scientifically valid and focused research, to advance knowledge in a particular problem area or issue within global development.
- Work effectively with cross-disciplinary problems on an individual basis as well as in teams and be able to provide evidence-based solutions to situations which are complex and require new approaches.
- Independently assess and organise their learning process and assume responsibility for continuous professional development with a view to life-long learning.

## **Chapter 2. Admission requirements**

### **2.1 Admission to the master's programme**

In order to be admitted into the master's programme in Global Development, applicants must fulfil the following requirements:

- A bachelor degree in anthropology, economics, geography, geoinformatics, natural resources, political science, public health, sociology or urban, energy and environmental planning from a Danish university, or
- A bachelor degree from a recognised university equivalent to the above BSc degrees
- The bachelor degree must contain a minimum of 15 ECTS of qualitative and/or quantitative methods

### **2.2 Supplementary activities**

Only the applicant's bachelor's degree is considered when the applicant's academic qualifications are assessed. This means that it is not possible to complete supplementary courses in order to meet the specific admission requirements.

However, subject elements that have been passed prior to the completion of your bachelor programme may be included in your basis for admission. This applies to both subject elements taken as single subjects as well as subject elements taken as part of another study programme. However, no more than 30 ECTS credits from such courses can be considered in the assessment.

### **2.3 Language requirements**

In order to be admitted into the master's programme, applicants must document proficiency in English corresponding to at least 'English level B.' of the Danish upper secondary school; cf. Section 11 of the Danish Ministerial Order on Admission at Universities. For further details please refer to [www.studies.ku.dk/masters/global-development/](http://www.studies.ku.dk/masters/global-development/).

### **2.4 Prioritization of applicants**

The MSc in Global Development has a restricted intake. If the number of applicants that meet the admission requirements exceeds the number of students for which the maximum intake allows, a selection will be made based on a comprehensive evaluation.

The selection criteria as well as the maximum number of students for which the intake allows is published at: [Application procedure – University of Copenhagen \(ku.dk\)](#)

## Chapter 3. Programme structure

### 3.1 Programme composition and study progression

Subject elements and exams are quantified in ECTS credits (the European Credit Transfer System), according to which 60 ECTS credits correspond to one year of full-time study.

The MSc in Global Development equates to 120 ECTS credits and consists of the following constituent subject elements:

- Compulsory subject elements corresponding to 90 ECTS credits (of which the Master's Thesis accounts for 30 ECTS credits).
- Restricted elective subject elements corresponding to 30 ECTS credits.

The table below illustrates the recommended academic progression of the subject elements on the master's degree programme. Students may plan an alternative progression, provided that they comply with the following:

- Students must sit and pass the Study-start test, cf. paragraph 5.1.2
- Students must finish their master's degree within the maximum completion time; cf. paragraph 3.2 of the Curricula's Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- 60 ECTS-credits must have been passed before the thesis writing period begins.

ECTS	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Part of the semester	1 <sup>st</sup> part of the semester		2 <sup>nd</sup> part of the semester	
1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Applied Research Methods (7.5 ECTS)	Global Politics (7.5 ECTS)	Global Development: Theories, Facts and Current Issues (7.5 ECTS)	Transnational Actors, People and Placemaking (7.5 ECTS)
2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Interdisciplinary Field Research (15 ECTS)		Social Science Perspectives on Climate Change and Development (7.5 ECTS)	Global Business and Economics (7.5 ECTS)
3 <sup>rd</sup> semester	Study abroad, Co-curricular Written Assignment, Academic Internship and/or elective courses within social science (30 ECTS)			

4 <sup>th</sup> semester	Master's Thesis (30 ECTS)
-----------------------------	---------------------------

A 30 ECTS mobility window may be placed on the third or fourth semester.

The Master's Thesis (30 ECTS) can be placed either in the third or fourth semester, provided that the student has passed at least 60 ECTS before the thesis writing period begins.

### 3.2 Compulsory subject elements

Course title	ECTS	Exam registration requirement*	Form of examination**	Form of assessment	Type of examiner
<b>First semester</b>					
<a href="#">Applied Research Methods</a>	7,5 ECTS	Yes	Home assignment	Pass/fail	Internal examiner
<a href="#">Global Politics</a>	7,5 ECTS	No	Oral examination	7-point grading scale	Internal examiner
<a href="#">Global Development: Theories, Facts and Current Issues</a>	7,5 ECTS	Yes	Home assignment	7-point grading scale	External examiner
<a href="#">Transnational Actors, People and Placemaking</a>	7,5 ECTS	Yes	Oral examination	7-point grading scale	Internal examiner
<b>Second semester</b>					
<a href="#">Interdisciplinary Field Research</a>	15 ECTS	Yes	Home assignment	7-point grading scale	Internal examiner
<a href="#">Global Business and Economics</a>	7,5 ECTS	No	On-site written exam	7-point grading scale	External examiner

<b>Course title</b>	<b>ECTS</b>	<b>Exam registration requirement*</b>	<b>Form of examination**</b>	<b>Form of assessment</b>	<b>Type of examiner</b>
<a href="#">Social Science Perspectives on Climate Change and Development</a>	7,5 ECTS	Yes	Home assignment	7-point grading scale	Internal examiner
<b>Final examination</b>					
<a href="#">Master's Thesis</a>	30 ECTS	No	Home assignment + oral examination	7-point grading scale	External examiner

\* Students must meet the exam registration requirements to be able to sit the examination in the course, e.g., compulsory assignments, attendance, presentation and/or submission of a paper or a contract. The specific exam registration requirements can be found in the course description in the electronic course catalogue at <http://kurser.ku.dk/>.

\*\* The form of examination in the re-examination period is the same as in the ordinary examination period, if nothing else is stated in the course description at <http://kurser.ku.dk/>.

### **3.3 Restricted elective subject elements**

At the third semester of the programme students must register for elective subject elements within the social sciences corresponding to 30 ECTS. Students can register for elective subject elements offered by:

- the MSc in Global Development
  - o Co-curricular Written Assignment (0,5 – 7,5 ECTS)
  - o Academic Internship (15, 22,5 or 30 ECTS)
- the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Copenhagen
- another Faculty of the University of Copenhagen
- another Danish or foreign University

Students may choose to write one co-curricular written assignment corresponding to no more than 7,5 ECTS.

You'll find a detailed course description for the Co-curricular Written Assignment (0,5-7,5 ECTS), the Academic Internship (15, 22,5 and 30 ECTS) and the Master's Thesis (30 ECTS) in the paragraph below.

## **Chapter 4. Course descriptions**

### **4.1 Co-curricular Written Assignment (0,5 – 7,5 ECTS)**

A co-curricular assignment substitutes ECTS credits in the group of elective courses in Global Development.

#### **Purpose and Description of Objectives**

Co-curricular written assignment is a solution for you if you have an irregular ECTS gap that you cannot fill in with a regular course of 7.5 ECTS. The course is also available for students who want to enhance their knowledge and competencies in a particular course. Students are allowed to write a maximum of one assignment of this kind during their master's programme.

The rules for deadlines are posted on the study pages at KUnet.

#### **Learning Outcome**

The students should demonstrate their proficiency in the following:

##### *Knowledge*

- Reflect critically and independently upon, and discuss, the Global Development related theories and method within the chosen area of study.

##### *Skills*

- Apply relevant theories and methods to a selected area of study.
- Be able to independently summarize and analyze a topic in a well-structured written report.

##### *Competences*

- Independently identify and select relevant theories to examine a chosen area of study.

- Independently select, analyze, and apply academic literature relevant to a specific problem statement.

### **Registration, Submission and Supervision**

Students register by submitting a registration form to the study administration (available in the study pages at KUnet).

Students should enter into supervision agreements with one of the full-time lecturers at the Study Programme for Global Development or an affiliated part-time lecturer, a PhD-student, or a post doc. No actual supervision is provided for co-curricular written assignments, but the supervisor is expected to assist with literature suggestions and the structuring of content and time use.

Assignments prescribed to up to 5 ECTS credits must be submitted no later than two months after the registration date, while assignments prescribed to 5.5 ECTS or more must be submitted no later than four months after the registration date.

The assignment must be submitted in Digital Exam.

### **Formal requirements**

The length of co-curricular written assignments depends on the prescribed number of ECTS credits. The requirements for the number of pages for co-curricular written assignments are as follows:

- 0 - 0.5 ECTS = 1–1.5 standard pages
- 1 ECTS = 2–3 standard pages
- 2.5 ECTS = 5–7.5 standard pages
- 5 ECTS = 10–15 standard pages
- 7.5 ECTS = 20–25 standard pages

If the assignment is prescribed to another number of ECTS than those listed above, the amount of pages is calculated based on the number of pages for a 1 ECTS credit assignment.

A standard page is defined as 2,400 keystrokes including spaces. See section 6.8 of the Curricula's Common Part for an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

The assignment may be written by up to two students. If two students co-write the assignment, they must do so in a way that allows for their individual contributions to be assessed individually. The foreword/introduction and table of contents must all clearly

identify with which paragraphs each author contributed. The introduction and conclusion, as well as any sub-conclusions and/or summaries, may be written collectively. However, no more than 20 % of the assignment may be co-written.

For assignments written by two students, the number of pages is multiplied by 1.5.

**Form of assessment:** The supervisor assesses assignments prescribed to under 5 ECTS with a Pass/Fail grade. Assignments prescribed to 5 ECTS or more are assessed externally and graded according to the 7-point grading scale.

**Form of re-examination:**

The circumstances for the re-exam are the same as for ordinary examination.

**Exam aids:** All aids allowed.

### **Use of Generative AI in Written Examinations at Global Development**

At the MSc in Global Development, the use of generative AI software and Large Language Models (AI/LLMs), such as ChatGPT, is permitted in all written examinations categorized as 'All Aids Allowed'. The use of generative AI/LLMs must, however, comply with the conditions outlined below:

1. Generative AI/LLMs must never be used to generate new and original content, as written examinations are expected to reflect the student's own knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.
2. However, students are allowed to use generative AI/LLMs as an exam aid to enhance the presentation of their own original work, for example, for text editing, argument validation, or improving statistical code.

Regardless of how AI/LLMs are used, students must clearly disclose their use in an appendix, which will not count towards the overall length of the examination submission. This appendix must specify how the AI/LLMs were used and for what purpose(s).

Please note the specific requirements for [quotations marks and source referencing](#) when using GAI as an exam aid. Failure to provide proper attribution will be considered plagiarism.

## 4.2 Academic Internship (15, 22,5 or 30 ECTS)

### Course content

An academic internship can be part of the academic activities at the third semester. The academic internship can consist of 15, 22.5 or 30 ECTS corresponding to a total workload of 412½, 619 or 825 hours.

The purpose of the internship is to give the student competences, skills, and knowledge relevant for the job market. The internship may also serve as preparation for the Master's Thesis (this is however not a prerequisite).

An academic internship involves a contractual arrangement between a student, a company/organization at which the internship is to take place and the Head of Studies at Global Development. The Head of Studies must pre-approve the relevance of the internship, and it is a prerequisite that the company/organization where the internship is to take place provides a supervisor for the intern.

### Supervision – Teaching and learning methods:

The student will be appointed an academic supervisor at the MSc in Global Development (the student is responsible for contacting potential supervisors). Students are offered 5x45 min. of supervision (for 30 ECTS), 4x45 min. (for 22.5 ECTS) or 3x45 min. of supervision (for 15 ECTS). In addition to this, the student is entitled to a post exam feedback session (max 30 minutes). A suggestion for how the internship (30 ECTS) supervision could be planned:

- The student and the internship advisor have a short meeting prior to the start of the internship, where expectations and requirements are described and discussed. Provisional ideas about the subject for the internship report could be discussed (**Meeting 1 – 15 minutes**).
- Within the first month of the internship the student introduces the main advisor at the internship place to the academic supervisor at the University and facilitate a meeting where the internship plan is discussed (**Meeting 2 – 30 minutes**).
- One additional meeting per 7.5 ECTS is held between the student and academic supervisor during the internship period. (Example for 30 ECTS - **Meeting 3, Meeting 4, Meeting 5, and Meeting 6 – of 45 minutes each**). Meetings are expected to take place online but can be done in person if agreed between the student and the academic supervisor.
- Half-way through the internship the student hand-in a draft outline of the internship report. The topic and academic content of the draft outline for the

internship report must be discussed and approved by the academic supervisor.

**(Draft outline of internship report - 1-2 pages – could be discussed during Meeting 3 or 4).**

- A month prior to the internship exam, the student must hand-in and get approved the topic and outline of the internship report, where the academic content of the report is clearly described (**Final elaborated outline of internship report - 2-3 pages - could be discussed during Meeting 5 or 6**).
- Additional feedback on the internship report is only provided after internship project hand-in (exam). A (up to) 30 minutes feedback session between the student and academic advisor is offered after the exam (**30 minutes post-exam feedback**).

The allocation of hours for the internship is as follows:

<b>Number of ECTS</b>	15	22½	30
<b>Total hours</b>	412½	619	825
<b>Teaching, reading, GD meetings</b>	50	75	100
<b>Internship work</b>	287½	437½	605
<b>Project report</b>	75	97½	120

### Content

A relevant internship is one which allows the student to do meaningful and mostly academic work in an organization/company. Furthermore, the content of this work should be within the scope of the Global Development programme. This means that internships based primarily within a field that is not covered by the Global Development programme will not be accepted. An example could be if the internship is primarily based around communication or fundraising.

At the end of the internship the student must submit a project report. Because the student receives ECTS for the internship it is important that the report reflects relevant

academic work. The student will work out the content of the report with supervision from the academic supervisor.

### **Learning Outcomes**

#### *Knowledge:*

- Demonstrate knowledge of and analytic insight into the structure, purpose and operation of the selected corporation, company or institution at which the internship is conducted.

#### *Skills:*

- Critically reflect on the use and relevance of Global Development curriculum in relation to the selected corporation, company or institution at which the internship is conducted.

#### *Competences:*

- Communicate information and interpretations in a succinct and effective manner targeted at specific audiences.

**Type of examination:** Course examination.

**Details of the exam form:** Home assignment. Individual internship report. The requirements for the internship report are described at [KUnet](#), and the report must be submitted in Digital Eksamen. Assignments submitted after the deadline will not be assessed. The student will be registered for having used one exam attempt and must register for the re-examination. The report should be maximum 20 pages (for 30 ECTS), 15 pages (for 22.5 ECTS) or 10 pages (for 15 ECTS), excluding front page, table of content, references, and appendices. The formal requirements for written assignments and exams are described in Curricula's Common Part.

**Exam aids:** All aids allowed.

### **Use of Generative AI in Written Examinations at Global Development**

At the MSc in Global Development, the use of generative AI software and Large Language Models (AI/LLMs), such as ChatGPT, is permitted in all written examinations categorized as 'All Aids Allowed'. The use of generative AI/LLMs must, however, comply with the conditions outlined below:

2. Generative AI/LLMs must never be used to generate new and original content, as written examinations are expected to reflect the student's own knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.

3. However, students are allowed to use generative AI/LLMs as an exam aid to enhance the presentation of their own original work, for example, for text editing, argument validation, or improving statistical code.

Regardless of how AI/LLMs are used, students must clearly disclose their use in an appendix, which will not count towards the overall length of the examination submission. This appendix must specify how the AI/LLMs were used and for what purpose(s).

Please note the specific requirements for [quotations marks and source referencing](#) when using GAI as an exam aid. Failure to provide proper attribution will be considered plagiarism.

**Form of assessment:** Pass/fail.

**Type of examiner:** Internal examiner.

### **4.3 Master's Thesis (30 ECTS)**

It is a requirement that 60 ECTS have been passed before the Master's Thesis writing period begins.

#### **Objectives for the Master's Thesis:**

Formulating, defining, and operationalising a social science research question in relation to global development in a broad sense. The Master's Thesis is prepared on the basis of the courses and other teaching activities (including courses merited from other study programmes) covered by the MSc in Global Development programme.

The Master's Thesis should combine primary or secondary, quantitative and qualitative empirical data, and the data should facilitate/enable/call for a mixed methods/interdisciplinary approach. The use of the different methodological approaches doesn't have to be of equal weighing.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

##### *Knowledge*

- Understand how to set up clear research questions and objectives and perform systematic and logical research on global development.
- Display comprehensive knowledge of the Master's Thesis topic and relevant theory and methods.

### *Skills*

- Identify and process primary or secondary, quantitative and qualitative empirical material of relevance to the analysis.
- Critically select, discuss and apply relevant interdisciplinary/mixed methods methodological approaches as well as relevant theoretical concepts in an analysis of global development.
- Ability to connect empirical analysis to theoretical insights.
- Set up clear research questions and objectives, and carry out systematic, independent and research-based answers to these questions within one or more core areas of the programme.
- Communicate specialised knowledge at a high academic level in English.

### *Competences*

- Ability to analyse and critically reflect upon challenges and possible solutions related to global development.
- Ability to identify the contribution and generalizability of one's own work in relation to a larger research field.
- Critically evaluate one's own work by reflecting upon the strengths and weaknesses of the applied methods and theories.

The Head of Studies must approve the student's choice of topic for the Master's Thesis and set a deadline for its submission, see University Programme Order.

Master's Thesis students must comply with the rules on confidentiality and collaboration with third parties as well as confidentiality as specified by the Faculty of Social Sciences in [the common part of the curriculum](#). Furthermore, students must comply with regulation regarding the collection and handling of data. If students use data collected as part of the course "Master's Thesis Data Collection", this must be clearly and unambiguously mentioned in the method section of their Master's Thesis.

If a student is doing fieldwork abroad, the student must inform the supervisors about the field work, the location of the field work, the duration of the field work and any possible ethical considerations or relevant risk assessments related to the field work. The student is expected to follow the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs travel advice before undertaking a fieldwork abroad.

If the deadline for the Master Thesis is not met the student can apply for a second exam attempt (and eventually a third attempt) following the rules described in the section on second and third exam attempts of the Curricula's Common Part.

### **Supervision**

Students are given 6x45 min of supervision, which can be distributed between their supervisor and a potential co-supervisor. Students are not entitled to additional supervision after the first exam attempt. For each additional student, the supervision sessions are extended with 15 minutes.

The maximum length of Master's Thesis is 60 pages for one student. For groups of students writing together, the maximum length of the Master's Thesis is extended by 10 extra pages for each additional student.

Formal requirements for written assignments and exams are described in Curricula's Common Part.

**Sign up:** Registration deadline for the Master's Thesis follows the rules described in the section on Master's Thesis registration in the Curricula's Common Part.

**Credit:** 30 ECTS.

**Form of examination:** Home assignment and oral examination.

**Details for the exam form:** The Master's Thesis is an individual or group based, written home assignment on an optional subject and an oral examination of approx. 45 minutes (excl. voting). The oral examination is a defence of the written home assignment and its components.

In connection with the oral defence, the student must demonstrate a command of the methodologies applied in connection with the preparation of the Master's Thesis, and must be able to account for the results of the Master's Thesis in a clear, well-argued and comprehensible manner.

The maximum group size is 4 people. In case of a group Master's Thesis the rules and regulations for group work apply (see the [Curricula's Common Part](#)).

The Master's Thesis must include a summary. The summary is included in the overall assessment of the Master's Thesis. The summary must be written in English or Danish.

**Exam registration requirements:** It is a requirement that 60 ECTS credits have been passed before the thesis writing period begins. Students are strongly

encouraged to place the Master's thesis in their final semester, and as a minimum complete all compulsory courses before writing their thesis.

**Aid:** All aids allowed.

### **Use of Generative AI in Written Examinations at Global Development**

At the MSc in Global Development, the use of generative AI software and Large Language Models (AI/LLMs), such as ChatGPT, is permitted in all written examinations categorized as 'All Aids Allowed'. The use of generative AI/LLMs must, however, comply with the conditions outlined below:

3. Generative AI/LLMs must never be used to generate new and original content, as written examinations are expected to reflect the student's own knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.
4. However, students are allowed to use generative AI/LLMs as an exam aid to enhance the presentation of their own original work, for example, for text editing, argument validation, or improving statistical code.

Regardless of how AI/LLMs are used, students must clearly disclose their use in an appendix, which will not count towards the overall length of the examination submission. This appendix must specify how the AI/LLMs were used and for what purpose(s).

Please note the specific requirements for [quotations marks and source referencing](#) when using GAI as an exam aid. Failure to provide proper attribution will be considered plagiarism.

**Duration:** The home assignment is written on an ongoing basis throughout the semester, and the oral examination is set for 45 minutes. At the oral examination the student will be given 5-10 min to make a presentation of the home assignment. A group based, oral examination will be prolonged by 15 minutes per extra student.

**Form of Assessment:** 7-point grading scale.

**Weighting:** The final assessment of the Master's Thesis is based on an overall assessment of the written part of the Master's Thesis as well as the oral defence.

**Type of examiner:** External examiner.

**Re-examination:** Students who fail to submit their Master's thesis within the stipulated deadline must register for a second examination attempt (and, if needed, a third attempt) in accordance with the rules laid down by section 4.2.5 of the Curricula's Common Part.

**Criteria for assessment:** Students are assessed to the extent to which they master the learning outcome for the course.

To obtain the top grade "12", the student must with no or only a few minor weaknesses be able to demonstrate an excellent performance displaying a high level of command of all aspects of the relevant material and can make use of the knowledge, skills and competencies listed in the learning outcomes. Furthermore, the student must apply a mixed methods/interdisciplinary approach to obtain the top grade "12".

To obtain the passing grade "02", the student must in a satisfactory way be able to demonstrate a minimal acceptable level of the knowledge, skills and competencies listed in the learning outcomes.

Spelling and writing skills are considered in the overall assessment of the Master's Thesis, but the academic content is given the highest weight, see the Examination Order. The University (Board of Studies) may grant exemptions from this provision for students who are able to document a relevant and specific impairment, unless spelling and writing skills are significant objectives of the examination.

### **Master's Thesis Models**

#### *Master's Thesis – classic format*

A thesis of maximum 60 pages with the following main components:

- An introduction giving an account of the theory and methods employed, outlining the academic background for the study and its relevance for the context of Global Development.
- Main section in which the empirical material is analyzed with respect to the selected theories and relevant contexts.
- A conclusion.

#### *Internship based Master's Thesis*

A Master's Thesis of maximum 60 pages. The Master's Thesis must include the following main components, the order and scope of each to be decided in collaboration with the supervisor(s):

- An introduction giving an account of the theory and methods employed; outlining the academic background for the study and its relevance for the context of Global Development.

- A consultancy report primarily addressed to an external party, in which a problem from the project-oriented work (internship) is analyzed. This report is to be supplemented by a brief introduction, in which the format defining the consultancy report is justified.
- A paper, in which a theme or challenge relevant to the project-oriented work (internship) is discussed, targeted for an academic audience.
- A paper on methods and ethics, giving an account of a methodological and/or an ethical problem that is especially significant for the fieldwork and the project

### *Academic article*

A Master's Thesis of maximum 60 pages with the following main components:

- An introduction giving an account of the theory and method(s) employed, outlining the academic background for the study and its relevance for the context of Global Development.
- One article. The article must be targeted for a specific scientific journal. Students must enclose guidelines for the chosen journal.
- A policy brief aimed at a relevant target audience (ministry, company, NGO, research institution, think tank).
- A paper on methods and ethics, giving an account of the method(s) chosen and one or several ethical problem that is especially significant for the project.

## **Chapter 5. General Rules**

### **5.1 Academic progression and completion time**

#### **5.1.1 Maximum Completion time**

Students on master's degree programmes must complete the degree programme no later than 3 years after commencing their studies. Students who fail to complete the degree programme within the maximum duration of study will be disenrolled from the University. Students are not entitled for a second and/or third attempt at an exam if this exceeds their maximum study time.

#### **5.1.2 Study-start test**

Students must pass a non-academic study-start test to be allowed to continue the programme. The purpose of the study-start test is to promote an active study environment and to determine whether students have started their studies.

**Form of exam:** Home assignment.

**Content:** Non-academic study-start test.

**Form of assessment:** Pass/fail.

**Type of examiner:** Internal examiner.

**Scheduled for:** During September.

Students are given two attempts to pass the study-start test. Students who do not pass the test by their second attempt will be disenrolled from the degree programme without further notice.

## **5.2 Teaching**

### **5.2.1 Course and exam registration**

The study administration registers students for courses and exams on the first year of the master's degree programme. From the second year and onward, students must register for courses via Self-Service on KUnet within the course registration period prior to each semester.

Students will automatically be registered for the ordinary exam when registering for a course.

Students can register for courses twice each semester, during either the ordinary registration period and/or the late registration period. The registration periods enable students to both register and withdraw from courses.

Prior to the third semester students must register for an academic internship, a co-curricular written assignment and/or register for elective courses amounting to a total of 30 ECTS credits. However, the student must obtain a pre-approval for elective courses not offered by the degree programme, and the pre-approval must be obtained prior to the registration for the elective course. Elective courses must be of relevance for the MSc in Global Development. On the website of Global Development there is a list of elective courses at the University of Copenhagen with relevance for Global Development. This list can serve as inspiration when planning for the third semester. The list is not exhaustive, and the study board reserves the right to decide, at any given time, which courses it finds relevant.

### **5.2.2 Course binding**

Registration for all courses, including elective courses, is binding once the late registration period has expired.

### **5.2.3 Selection Criteria for Electives taken at Faculty of Social Sciences**

If the number of registrations for a specific course within the ordinary registration period exceeds the course capacity, students will be apportioned by the following order of prioritization:

1. Students, including exchange students, enrolled in the programme which offers the course.
2. Students from other programmes at the Faculty of Social Sciences who have registered for the course through KU Self Service.
3. Credit students.
4. Part-time tuition fee students.

The respective courses are filled with students from Category 1 before students from Category 2 are considered, and so forth.

Within each category (1-4), students are distributed by lot.

### **5.2.4 Credit transfer**

Students on the master's degree programme in Global Development are entitled to transfer a maximum of 30 ECTS credits from subjects studied at another educational institution in Denmark or abroad. Exempted from this rule are students who (1) transfer credit for course elements when transferring from another institution or degree programme and (2) transfer credit from another degree programme that has already successfully completed. Credits from foreign universities are transferred with the assessment pass/fail.

## **5.3 Examinations**

### **5.3.1 Purpose of exams**

Exams are designed to assess whether and to what extent students' qualifications comply with the objectives, competences and academic requirements stipulated for the degree programme in the Danish University Programme Order, the programme curriculum etc.

### **5.3.2 Number of exam attempts**

Students are entitled to three exam attempts for each subject element.

Students will use an exam attempt if they do not sit an exam for which they have registered. Students who can document exceptional circumstances can apply for an exemption from these provisions.

### **5.3.3 Exam registration requirements and use of exam attempts**

The course descriptions at <https://kurser.ku.dk/> stipulate the requirements for registering for an exam. The requirements may include submission and approval of compulsory written assignments, active course participation, compulsory attendance etc. Students who fail to meet the requirements stipulated in the course description will not be allowed to sit the exam but will be registered as having used one of their exam attempts. Students cannot register for a re-exam, unless the course description determines that it is possible to meet the requirements prior to the date of the re-exam. Students who do not meet the requirements for sitting an exam will have to register for the course and, thus, a second exam attempt.

### **5.3.4 Re-exams**

Students who fail to show up for an exam, withdraw a registration from an exam, become ill or do not pass an exam must register for a re-exam on their own initiative. Re-exams are held after each ordinary exam period (in general in February as regards winter exams and in August as regards summer exams). Re-exams are normally only scheduled in semesters during which the course in question is offered. However, the board of studies have the authority to decide that a re-exam is scheduled anyway.

## **5.4 Assessment and censorship**

According to the Examination Order not more than 1/3 of a programme's ECTS credits can be assessed through a pass/failed examination (credits transferred from other programmes/universities are excluded). Furthermore, at least 1/3 of the programme's exams must be assessed by an external examiner.

### **5.4.1 Assessment**

The following subject elements, amounting to a total of 82.5 ECTS, are assessed using the 7-point grading scale:

- Global Politics (7.5 ECTS)
- Global Development: Theories Facts and Current Issues (7.5 ECTS)
- Transnational Actors, Networks and Place making (7.5 ECTS)
- Interdisciplinary Field Research (15 ECTS)
- Global Business and Economics (7.5 ECTS)

- Social Science Perspectives on Climate Change and Development (7.5 ECTS)
- Master's Thesis (30 ECTS)

#### **5.4.2 Censorship**

The following subject elements, amounting to a total of 45 ECTS, are assessed by an external examiner:

- Global Business and Economics (7.5 ECTS)
- Global Development: Theories, Facts and Current Issues (7.5 ECTS)
- Master's Thesis (30 ECTS)

Furthermore, co-curricular written assignments corresponding to 5.5 ECTS or more are subject to external assessment.