

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT (EPD)

Economic and Political Development Curriculum

The EPD curriculum provides students with a broad understanding of the processes of economic, political and social change in the developing world, and of the global and national commitments reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. Students develop a variety of skills in policy analysis, program planning, monitoring and evaluation, and management, as well as in focused competencies in practice areas such as financial inclusion, small business and social enterprise development, corporate social responsibility, gender and development, education and health policy, sustainable development, post-conflict reconstruction and governance.

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Visit our SIPA Faculty Directory to view bios

The Concentration in Economic and Political Development (EPD) requires 18 credits, consisting of 6 three-point courses: 2 **core courses** (economic dimensions of sustainable development and political dimensions of sustainable development); 2 **sustainable development practice courses** (methods, workshop*); and 2 **professional focus area courses** (both courses must be from ONE of four professional focus areas). *Workshop satisfies the Capstone requirement for MIA and MPA students.

Courses taken to fulfill an EPD course requirement cannot be audited or taken pass/fail.

Language requirement: All EPD students are also required to satisfy the MIA language requirement. Students may fulfill the language requirement for the MIA degree and the MPA/EPD Concentration with any modern language offered by Columbia University language programs or the Language Resource Center: <http://www.lrc.columbia.edu/languages/#languageprograms>. Information on language proficiency assessment at Columbia University is provided here: <http://www.lrc.columbia.edu/proficiency-testing/>.

EPD double counting policy

- Except for DAQA specializers, students may double count up to 2 courses (or 6 credits) of EPD courses toward their specialization requirement (if the courses are approved for both EPD and the specialization). However, only one focus area course (or up to 3 credits) can have a regional or country focus.
- Students may double count an EPD course from our approved political dimensions of sustainable development core courses or our political dimensions of sustainable development focus area to satisfy the Interstate Relations (IR) requirement for the MIA degree (if the course is also an approved IR course).
- Students may not double count an EPD core course towards their chosen professional focus area. However, if they take both economic dimensions of sustainable development core courses (or two different political dimensions of sustainable development core

courses), they can count one for their core requirement and the other one for the related focus area.

Political Dimensions of Sustainable Development Core Courses

Select one of the following:

		Points
INAF U6178	Politics of Sustainable Development	3.00
INAF U6189	Political Development	3.00
INAF U6412	State and Society in the Developing World	3.00
INAF U6438	Persistent Problems in the Global South: Policies and Politics for Sustainable Development	3.00
INAF U6538	State Building in the Developing World	3.00
INAF U8258	State Formation, Deformation, and Citizenship	3.00
INAF U8260	Authoritarianism	3.00
Other (requires approval)		

Economic Dimensions of Sustainable Development Core Courses

Select one of the following:

		Points
INAF U6602	Economic Development for International Affairs	3.00
INAF U6641	Economics of Sustainable Development	3.00
INAF U8145	Advanced Economic Development for International Affairs	3.00
Other (requires approval)		

Sustainable Development Practice Courses

EPD students must take the following:

		Points
INAF U6827	Methods for Sustainable Development Practice	3.00
SIPA U9001	Capstone Workshop in Sustainable Development Practice*	3.00

*Fulfills the capstone requirement for students in the MIA and MPA programs

Professional Focus Area Courses

The Professional Focus Area requirement allows EPD students to focus their coursework in one of four substantive areas: **Economic Dimensions of Sustainable Development (ECON)**, **Political Dimensions of Sustainable Development (POLI)**, **Social Dimensions of Sustainable Development (SOC)**, or **Environmental Dimensions of Sustainable Development (ENV)**. Since development is a multidisciplinary field, many EPD courses may straddle two or more professional focus areas (e.g. Global Inequality; Gender, Politics and Development; or Corporations and Human Rights).

Students select courses totaling 6 points in ONE of four professional focus area: **Economic, Political, Social, or Environmental Dimensions of Sustainable Development**. However, only one focus area course (or up to

3 credits) can be a regional course. To view a complete list of courses, visit the [EPD - Professional Focus Area page](#).

Degree Audit Report

Matriculated students in this program can view their degree audit report on [Stellic](#).