

**UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE**  
**FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND COMMERCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

**TITLE**

**Doctor of Philosophy (PHD) Social sciences  
in Development studies**

A research proposal of not more than 600 words outlining the topic, introduction, problem statement, research objectives and methodology.

and Higher Degrees Committee (FRHDC).

- Assessment by external examiners.

**PURPOSE**

To equip the student with both epistemological and methodological grasp, towards building conceptual and theoretical oversight. The intended outcome is to equip the student with the ability to work at theoretical, conceptual and empirical levels of development.

The PhD is predicated upon the premise that the student has mastered the ability to translate concepts and theories into a research programme at the Masters level.

**MODE OF DELIVERY**

Mixed mode (face to face and distant)

**ARTICULATION**

Qualifiers may enroll for post-doctoral studies. Horizontally, learners can have access to other PhD programmes in the faculty or in the faculty of Social and Human Sciences.

**ADMISSION CRITERIA**

A Masters degree with a pass mark of not less than 60% for the major courses (in the case of coursework Masters) or a good Masters and evidence of scholarly contribution (in the case of a research Masters).

**EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES**

- A coherent and critical understanding of the concepts, theories and research methodologies relevant to development studies.
- The ability to analyse development issues and practice related to scholarly debates in areas of specialization.
- The ability to use a range of concepts to identify, analyze and deal with complex problems of development relying on theories and empirical evidence.

**CRITICAL CROSSFIELD OUTCOMES**

Ability to work from a transdisciplinary perspective to formulate different approaches including policies and plans at all levels of governance.

**INTEGRATED ASSESMENT**

- Seminar presentations, and discussions aimed at assessing mastery of the theory and conceptual clarity.
- Presentation of the research proposal to the Faculty Research

**PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

The programme runs through a period of 2 to 4 years. The first 6 months are devoted to literature survey, writing the research proposal and defending it before the Faculty Research and Higher Degrees Committee (FRHDC). The rest of the time is for data collection and completion of the thesis.

**AREAS OF RESEARCH FOCUS**

- **Public policy**
- **Local governance and development**
- **land, agrarian reform & community development**
- **rural transformation and poverty alleviation**
- **Environmental and urban development and demography**
- **International trade relations**
- **Africa's international economic relations**
- **Migration and development**
- **Developmental theory**

### INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

All staff involved in the programme have extensive experience in teaching, research and supervision. The university is equipped with the necessary infrastructure in terms of , adequate libraries in the Alice, Bisho and East London campuses access to email, internet and other online services. Students are assigned individual staff members for supervision, guidance and support.

### REGISTRATION

Registration in the program is provisional until the candidate has fulfilled the requirements of defending the research proposal before the FRHDC within 6 months. Registration takes place between December and March of the following year. Applications must reach the university before August 31 each year, after which a late application fee is charged.

### AS A STUDENT YOU ARE EXPECTED TO:

- Always work closely with your supervisor. Do not wait for the supervisor to comment before you ask for feedback.
- Take each critical comment made by your supervisor very seriously, analyze it and work on it. Where you do not understand, or where you fail to make use of any criticism, consult your supervisor.
- Always assume a learning role.
- If you are unhappy do not procrastinate.

Approach your supervisor. If that doesn't work, approach, the HOD.

- Ensure that you comply with the University admission requirements.
- Work independently as far as possible, with high levels of motivation. Be dedicated.

### FORMAT FOR THE SUBMISSION OF FINAL COPIES OF THE DISSERTATION

The following pages should all be numbered in roman numerals, viz, i ii iii etc.

1. A title page with the following:
  - Full title of the research
  - Full name of the author
  - Submitted in fulfillment of the degree of ...
  - Date of submission
  - Name of the supervisor
2. A table of contents
3. An abstract of not more than 2 pages (covering the introduction, problem statement, objective, methodology, findings and conclusion).
4. A declaration (stating that the research is the candidate's work and that it has not previously been submitted to another university).
5. Acknowledgement

6. Dedication.

7. A list of acronyms used in the dissertation.

8. After the acronyms the rest of the pages from the introduction should be numbered in the normal numerals, viz, 1 2 3 etc.

9. The spine of the dissertation/thesis should reflect the surname and initials of the author, the degree and the date (Mountain D, PhD Development Studies, 2009).

10. Length of dissertation/thesis:

- PhD thesis: 80 000 to 100 000 words (approximately 260 to 300 A4 pages of double spaced typing excluding footnotes, bibliography, illustrative materials and appendices).

11. Font size should be Ariel 10 (official font size of the university).