

Community Development

Department Information

- **Program Coordinator:**
Christopher Whitsel, Ph.D.
- **Email:**
christopher.whitsel@ndsu.edu
- **Department Location:**
Minard 428
- **Department Phone:**
(701) 231-7637
- **Department Web Site:**
www.ndsu.edu/socanth/
- **Application Deadline:**
International application materials must be received before May 1 for the fall semester and prior to August 1 for spring and summer semesters. Domestic applications must be received at least one month prior to the start of the semester.
- **Credential Offered:**
M.A., M.S.
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**
TOEFL iBT 71, IELTS 6

Program Description

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology, in cooperation with the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics, offers a master's degree in Community Development. The degree is a multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary, online program in conjunction with the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (IDEA). Other institutions participating in this program include Iowa State University, Kansas State University, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and South Dakota State University.

The primary audience for this program is community economic development officials and specialists already employed in the field.

The program requires a total of 36 credit hours, including 16 credits (six courses) of core courses, 15 credits in two of the four track areas, and up to six credits of thesis. The four track areas include Building Economic Capacity, Natural Resource Management, Working with Native Communities, and Non-profit Leadership.

Program Objectives

The objectives of the Community Development graduate degree program are to:

- Increase the skills, knowledge, and competencies of community economic development officials who are currently employed and have limited opportunity to participate in an on-campus degree program.
- Provide graduate training for individuals entering the community economic development career field who require training/degrees for career advancement.
- Enhance the community economic development skills, knowledge, and competencies of individuals working with Native American communities, natural resource-based communities, non-profit organizations, and/or state and local government.

A total of 36 credits are required for the master's degree program. Students will write a thesis or complete a creative component (Plan B) to capstone the degree program, which will be worth six credit hours. The student's schedule of courses must be approved by the faculty adviser and the campus coordinator. Students may select either a Master of Science (M.S.) or Master of Arts (M.A.) option. The M.A. option requirement normally includes two (2) years of a foreign language. This requirement can be satisfied with undergraduate courses and/or a proficiency examination.

Students will be required to take all of the six core courses and an additional 15 credits selected from at least two tracks.

There are presently four tracks that have been developed from which students may choose. These include:

- Building Economic Capacity
- Natural Resource Management
- Working with Native Communities
- Non-profit Leadership

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses Credits		18
CED 709	Foundations in Community Development	
CED 711	Principles and Strategies of Community Change	
CED 713	Community Development II: Organizing for Community Change	
CED 715	Community Analysis: Introduction to Methods	
CED 717	Community and Regional Economic Policy and Analysis	
CED 719	Community Natural Resource Management	
Electives		12-18
CED 752	Basic Grant Development and Management	3
CED 721	Introduction to Native Community Development	3
CED 723	Building Native Community/Economic Capacity	3
CED 733	Sustainable Communities	3
CED 741	Economic Development Strategies and Programs	3
CED 745	Land Management Planning	3
CED 761	Government, Politics, & Community Development	3
CED 753	Not-for-profit Management	3
CED 755	Community Leadership and Capacity Building	3
CED 763 IMMIGRANTS AND COMMUI		3
CED 758 EVALUATION OF ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS		3
CED 746 HOUSING AND DEVELOPME		3
CED 756 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT		3
Plan A or B option		
CED 798	Master's Thesis	
or CED 797		
Plan C		
The Plan C option requires 36 credits of coursework only.		