



LUMBINI BUDDHIST UNIVERSITY
School of Development Studies & Applied Sciences

MASTER IN AGRO-FORESTRY (MAF)
MASTER IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (MDS)
MASTER IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (MES)

PROGRAM INFORMATION PACK 2021

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The School of Development Studies & Applied Sciences (SDSAS) was established in accordance to the Article 9D of the Lumbini Buddhist University (LBU) Act 2006 and by the decision of the LBU's XI Senate Meeting held on August 14, 2019 in Lumbini. It aims to promoting teaching and learning of development studies & applied sciences by integrating the conceptual and practical applications of Buddhist philosophy, knowledge and education for inspiring *Tapovana*, ethical society, sustainable development and nature conservation. The Senate also decided to offer three master level programs under the School, namely a) Master in Agroforestry (MAF), b) Master in Development Studies (MDS), and c) Master in Environmental Studies (MES).

1.2 Program Goals

MAF: focus on the development of economically viable *tapovana* (meditation grove) in line with Buddhist philosophy and the universal goals of sustainable development.

MDS: focus on sustainable development in line with the Buddhist concepts of *Sheela sampanna sangha* and shared prosperity with *maitri* (amity), *karuna* (compassion) and *mudita* (joy).

MES: focus on development and conservation of natural environment suitable for the birthplace of Shakyamuni Buddha and sustainable development.

1.3 Program Objective

An objective of all the three programs is to prepare the learner (student) equipped with knowledge, skill and attitude for independently conceptualizing, planning, implementing and evaluating the respective fields of agroforestry/development/environment programs/projects through integration of the Buddhist philosophy and the contemporary applied sciences along with innovative ideas for bringing positive changes in the livelihood of the people.

1.4 Program Outcome

The learners who would successfully complete the MAF/MDS/MES program would be competitively instrumental in the respective organizations at the government, nongovernment or community from the grass-root through the policy-making levels.

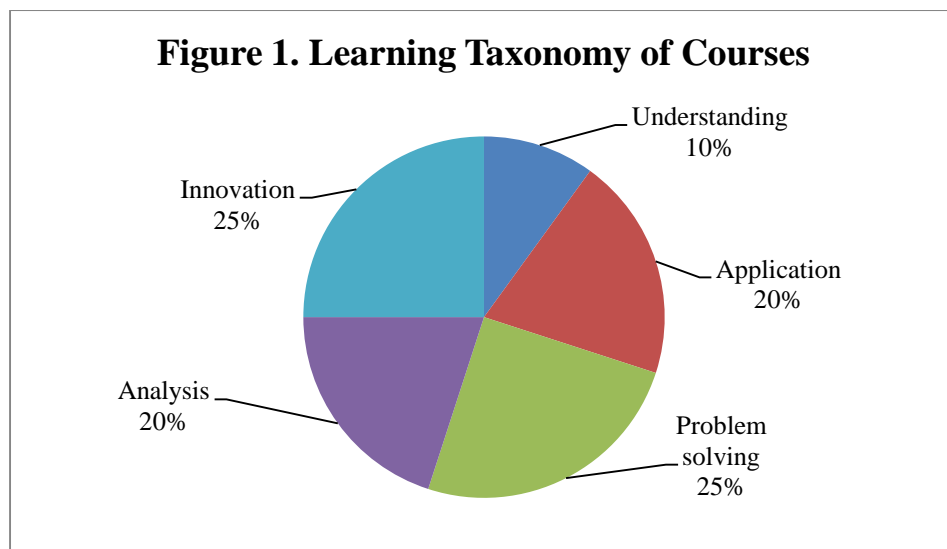
2. Courses

2.1 Credits

The MAF/MDS/MES program offers 60 credits in accordance to the qualification framework for master level programs as outlined by the University Grants Commission (UGC) (HEQFDT, 2016:8). The thesis work carries 12 credits, and will be initiated in the third semester. The remaining courses carry 3 credits each. In the case of practical courses namely Monastic Experience, Farm Experience and Outreach Program, the 21 days of field experience qualifies for 3 credits on the basis of the UGC's definitions of credit hours (HEQFDT, 2016:9) (**Annex 1**).

2.2 Learning Domains and Taxonomy

The course objectives will be formulated on the basis of the learning domains and taxonomy as well as classifications of the Buddhist pedagogy (**Figure 1**). There are three practical courses that expose the learners to the real life situations while studying the program.



2.3 Inter-Program Courses

In addition to the courses offered in the MAF program, a learner may opt for additional courses that are offered in LBU's other master programs. Upon the approval of a supervising professor, a learner may extend the timeframe for completing those course(s) by up to two additional semesters.

2.4 Course Structure

The course structures of the programs are given in the following tables:

2.4.1 Master in Agroforestry

Table 1. Course Structure by Semesters Master in Agroforestry

Semester	Course	Taxonomy
First	AGFR 510 Basics of Agroforestry (Non-assessment course)	2. Understanding
	AGFR 511 Monastic Experiences	4. Problem solving
	AGFR 512 Agroforestry for Sustainable Development	2. Understanding
	AGFR 513 Buddhism and Natural Resource Management	2. Understanding
	AGFR 514 Home/School Gardening	3. Application
	AGFR 515 Research Methodology in Agroforestry	4. Problem solving
Second	AGFR 551 Agroforestry Farm Experience	4. Problem solving
	AGFR 552 Geographical Information System	4. Problem solving
	AGFR 553 Agroforestry Plan and Policy	5. Analysis
	AGFR 554 Agroforestry Extension Education	3. Application

Table 1. Course Structure by Semesters Master in Agroforestry

Semester	Course	Taxonomy
	AGFR 555 Urban Forestry	3. Application
Third	AGFR 611 Outreach Program	4. Problem solving
	AGFR 612 Integrated Pest Management	5. Analysis
	AGFR 613 Herbal Farming	3. Application
	AGFR 614 Agroforestry Products & Markets	5. Analysis
	AGFR 615 Agroforestry Cooperatives	6. Innovation
Fourth	AGFR 651 World Trade in Agroforestry	5. Analysis
	AGFR 652 Thesis	6. Innovation

Notes:

- *AGFR 652 Thesis* carries 12 credits, and the remaining courses carry 3 credits each.
- Courses to be offered as independent study are *AGFR 510 Basics of Agroforestry*, *AGFR 513 Buddhism and Natural Resource Management*, *AGFR 554 Agroforestry Plan and Policy*, and *AGFR 615 Agroforestry Cooperatives*
- The number in the Taxonomy column denotes the hierarchy level of learning domain.
- Syllabus construction is in progress for the four courses namely *AGFR 511 Monastic Experiences*, *AGFR 551 Agroforestry Farm Experience*, *AGFR 611 Outreach Program*, and *AGFR 652 Thesis*.

2.4.2 Master in Development Studies

Table 2. Course Structure by Semesters Master in Development Studies

Semester	Course	Taxonomy
First	DEVS 510 Basics of Economics	2. Understanding
	DEVS 511 Monastic Experience	4. Problem solving
	DEVS 512 Buddhist Perspectives of Development	2. Understanding
	DEVS 513 Development Theories and Contemporary Issues	2. Understanding
	DEVS 514 Poverty and Inequality	5. Analysis
	DEVS 515 Research Methodology	5. Analysis
Second	DEVS 551 Development Field Experience	4. Problem solving
	DEVS 552 Development Communication	3. Application
	DEVS 553 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)	5. Analysis
	DEVS 554 Conflict Management	5. Analysis
	DEVS 555 Development Project Management	3. Application
Third	DEVS 611 Outreach Program	4. Problem solving
	DEVS 612 Governance and Role of the State	5. Analysis
	DEVS 613 Globalization, Value Chains and Trade	5. Analysis
	DEVS 614 Entrepreneurship Development	6. Innovation
	DEVS 615 Development Planning	3. Application
Fourth	DEVS 651 International Cooperation	5. Analysis
	DEVS 652 Thesis	6. Innovation

Notes:

- *DEVS 652 Thesis* carries 12 credits, and the remaining courses carry 3 credits each.
- Courses to be offered as independent study are *DEVS 512 Buddhist Perspectives of*

Development, DEVS 554 Conflict Management, and ENVT 612 Governance and Role of the State

- The number in the Taxonomy column denotes the hierarchy level of learning domain.
- Syllabus construction is in progress for the four courses namely *DEVS 511 Monastic Experiences, DEVS 551 Development Field Experience, DEVS 611 Outreach Program, and DEVS 652 Thesis.*

2.4.3 Master in Environmental Studies

Table 3. Course Structure by Semesters Master in Environmental Studies

Semester	Title	Taxonomy
I	ENVT 510 Basics of Environmental Science	2. Understanding
	ENVT 511 Monastic Experience in Conservation	4. Problem solving
	ENVT 512 Buddhist Perspectives of Environment	2. Understanding
	ENVT 513 Ecosystem Services	2. Understanding
	ENVT 514 Environmental Perspectives of Sustainable Development	2. Understanding
	ENVT 515 Research Methodology in Environmental Fields	4. Problem solving
II	ENVT 551 Environment Field Experience	4. Problem solving
	ENVT 552 Geographical Information System	4. Problem solving
	ENVT 553 Payment for Ecosystem Services	5. Analysis
	ENVT 554 Environment Education	3. Application
	ENVT 555 Natural Disasters	3. Application
III	ENVT 611 Outreach Program	4. Problem solving
	ENVT 612 Environmental Policy	5. Analysis
	ENVT 613 Environmental Planning	3. Application
	ENVT 614 Environmental Assessment (EA)	5. Analysis
	ENVT 615 Green Technology	6. Innovation
IV	ENVT 651 Globalization and Environment	5. Analysis
	ENVT 652 Thesis	6. Innovation

Notes:

- *ENVT 652 Thesis* carries 12 credits, and the remaining courses carry 3 credits each.
- Courses to be offered as independent study are *ENVT 512 Buddhist Perspectives of Environment, ENVT 555 Natural Disasters, and ENVT 612 Environmental Policy*
- The number in the Taxonomy column denotes the hierarchy level of learning domain.
- Syllabus construction is in progress for the four courses namely *ENVT 511 Monastic Experiences, ENVT 551 Environment Field Experience, ENVT 611 Outreach Program, and ENVT 652 Thesis.*

Annex 1. Definitions of Credit Hour

Types of Study (One credit hour equivalent)	Engaged Learning Hours (minimum)	Independent Learning Hours of Students (minimum)	Total Hours
1. Lecture hour	15	30	45
2. Hours of lab studies	45	30	75
3. Hours of field studies	45	30	75
4. Hours of clinical studies	45	30	75
5. Hours of industrial training	90	30	120
6. Hours of self-study or online study or distance study	-	45	45

Note: The three practical courses such as *AGFR 511 Monastic Experience*, *AGFR 551 Farm Experience*, and *AGFR 611 Outreach Program* are considered equivalent to 'field studies' and/or 'clinical studies' that require minimum 45 hours of engaged learning. Considering that a student's daily engagement of 7.5 hours of field/clinical studies and 5 hours of independent learning totals 45 hours in three weeks.

Source:

HEQFDT, 2016. Higher Education Qualification Framework Nepal. Bhaktapur: Higher Education Qualification Framework Drafting Taskforce (HEQFDT), University Grant Commission, Nepal (p 9)

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