Beijing Normal University Business School

Program Name: Doctoral Program of International Development
Doctoral Degree
Discipline of Theoretical Economics

1. INTRODUCTION

As economic globalization continues to deepen, the transnational flow of capital, technology, information, and talent not only drives the economic and social development of humanity but also presents numerous challenges and complexities. Addressing these issues requires global cooperation, with a critical need for international professionals who possess innovative development concepts, as well as a solid understanding of international development theory and practice.

To meet the demands of this new development landscape and to better engage in global educational competition, the **Doctoral Program in International Development** has been established as a fully English-taught program. This program is designed to cultivate versatile professionals with a global perspective, strong innovative thinking, and profound economic literacy. Graduates will be equipped to engage in international exchanges, political and economic activities, and to navigate the complex political, economic, social, policy, cultural, and legal environments of the world. They will possess the skills to communicate across cultures and serve in multinational corporations, government agencies, international organizations, and related fields.

2. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Doctoral Program in International Development aims to train professionals who:

- ✧ Possess a deep understanding of economic theories and international development practices;
- ✧ Have a global perspective and the ability to innovate in addressing global challenges;
- ✧ Are capable of conducting independent academic research in international development;
- ✧ Have the communication and leadership skills to thrive in multicultural and complex environments.

Graduates of the program will be well-prepared to contribute to the advancement of international development theory and practice, and to pursue careers in academia, government agencies, international organizations, NGOs, and multinational corporations.

3. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to provide proof of English language proficiency. Candidates should hold a bachelor's degree from an institution in an English-speaking country, or submit official results from an internationally recognized English proficiency test, such as TOEFL iBT (minimum score of 90) or IELTS Academic (minimum overall band score of 6.5).

4. PROGRAM DURATION AND TUITION

The program begins each autumn and has a duration of three years (six semesters). If students are unable to complete the graduation requirements within the standard period, they may apply for an extension. The maximum extension period is one year, with no suspension of study during this time.

Tuition Fee: RMB 98,000 for the three-year program.

5. CURRICULUM AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

All courses in the program are taught in English, utilizing a combination of classroom instruction, independent study, case discussions, social practice, and academic seminars. There is no requirement for applicants to have proficiency in the Chinese language.

Total Credits:22 credits (1 credit = 16 credit hours)

Course Type	Course Title and Credits	Minimum Credit Required	Minimum Courses Required
Public Compulsory Course	Introduction to Contemporary China (2 credits)	6 credits	3
	Chinese Language/Chinese Essay Writing (2 credits)		
	Chinese Language II		
Basic Degree Course	Microeconomics Theory (2 credits)	6 credits	3
	Macroeconomics Theory (2 credits)		
	Development Economics (2 credits)		
Major Elective Courses	International Finance and China (2 credits)	4 credits	2
	Advanced Econometrics (2 credits)		
	International Business and China (2 credits)		
	International Investment (2 credits)		
Compulsory Part	Social Practice (2 credits)	2 credits	1
	Research Activities (2 credits)	2 credits	1
	*Mid-term Assessment (2 credits)	2 credits	1
Total Credit		22 credits	

Courses arrangement in each semester

English Course Title	Course Category	Credits	Teaching hours	Semester
Microeconomics Theory	Basic Degree Course	2	32	Fall Semester
Macroeconomics Theory	Basic Degree Course	2	32	
Introduction to Contemporary China	Public Compulsory Course	2	32	
Chinese Language	Public Compulsory Course	2	32	
Chinese Language Ⅱ	Public Compulsory Course	2	32	Spring Semester
Development Economics	Basic Degree Course	2	32	
Advanced Econometrics	Basic Degree Course	2	32	
International Finance and China	Professional Elective Course	2	32	
International Business and China	Professional Elective Course	2	32	
International Investment	Professional Elective Course	2	32	
*Social Practice	Compulsory	2	32	Prepare for

*Research Activities	Compulsory	2	32	graduation
*Mid-term Assessment	Compulsory	2	32	

*Social Practice
The School or the student's academic advisor will organize a social practice activity. After the practice, students must submit a report (approximately 2,000 words in English), which must be reviewed and signed by the advisor. Upon approval, the report can be counted as credits in the fourth semester.

*Research Activities
Students are required to deliver an open academic seminar, lasting approximately 45 minutes. Upon successful completion, they will earn 2 credits.

*Mid-term Assessment
The mid-term assessment includes evaluations of ideological and moral conduct, completion of all the courses, the thesis proposal, and social practice.

In the third semester, students are required to submit a **thesis proposal report**. After review and approval by their supervisor, they must participate in a **thesis proposal defense** organized by the School. Only those who pass the defense may proceed to the thesis writing stage. According to university policy, students who change their thesis topic after passing the proposal stage must re-submit their proposal.

6. DISSERTATION AND DISSERTATION DEFENSE
The doctoral dissertation should demonstrate that the student possesses a solid and comprehensive foundation in theoretical knowledge, along with systematic and specialized expertise in the relevant field of the thesis topic. The dissertation must contribute original insights to the research topic and possess significant theoretical or practical value. It should be based on reliable and comprehensive data, feature rigorous and precise argumentation and calculations, and exhibit fluency in literature and scientific principles. The dissertation must also demonstrate logical coherence and valid reasoning, confirming the student's ability to undertake independent scientific research or specialized technical work.

The dissertation must be completed independently by the doctoral student under the guidance of their supervisor and must comply with academic standards and the Rules for Compiling Dissertations of Beijing Normal University.

The dissertation must be written in English, using Times New Roman, 12-point font, and 1.5 line spacing. The dissertation should be no fewer than 80,000 words. Both Chinese and English abstracts must not exceed 1,500 words.

The evaluation and defense of the dissertation will strictly adhere to the Working Rules for Degree Awarding of Beijing Normal University and other relevant university requirements. The defense will be organized by the School.

This degree program is offered under the first-level discipline of Theoretical Economics. Students who successfully complete the program within the designated period and fulfill all requirements will be awarded a graduation certificate by Beijing Normal University. Those who meet the criteria for the doctoral degree will be conferred a Doctoral Degree Certificate.

Students have two opportunities to apply for the doctoral degree within the maximum period of study set by the university.

7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For academic inquiries, please contact the program coordinator at the Business School of Beijing Normal University via bnubs@bnu.edu.cn.

For more information about the faculty in BNUBS, please visit https://bs.bnu.edu.cn; For more information about the program, please visit https://admission-is.bnu.edu.cn/, the official website of Beijing Normal University.