

Career opportunities

The Bachelor of Science in Planning and Community Development prepares students into Policy analysts, community development workers, project managers and program officers, community development facilitators, social development workers and consultants among others.

For more information

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FACULTY OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (FIS)



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (BSc.PCD)



*Mbarara University
of Science & Technology*

FIS Vision:

A centre of excellence in interdisciplinary studies and research that promotes fundamental understanding of problems and enables communities to pragmatically cope with the changing human conditions.

FIS Mision:

To provide quality training and research that integrates methodology and practice from more than one discipline in order to holistically address community needs.

FIS Goal:

Produce graduates and conduct interdisciplinary research geared towards innovative interventions that address multifaceted societal needs.



Students training the community on how to make liquid soap

Website: fis.must.ac.ug

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Bachelor of Science in Planning and Community Development (B.PCD)

The Bachelor of Science in Planning and Community Development (B.PCD) programme is premised on an interdisciplinary approach that integrates the perspectives and ideas of multiple disciplines to build effective community development practitioners. The programme enables students to acquire planning skills that demonstrate inclusive thinking and techniques of integration in order to move towards an interdisciplinary approach to decision making and problem solving for community development. The programme provides a basis for students to understand community needs from a policy legacy, theoretical and conceptual debates in the field of planning and community development. The students also acquire a diverse range of skills in areas such as theory application, community organizing, finance, planning and management. In the third year students focus their studies on either of the following specializations:

- Sustainable Rural Development
- Urban Policy, Governance and Development
- Civil Society and Public Action

Overall Goal

The overall goal is to train professionals that will champion the efficient planning and management of scarce development resources of developing countries like Uganda. The Graduates of Bachelor of Science in Planning and Community Development are trained to become catalysts that steer National planning and growth processes.



Students attend a guest lecture on Youth Leadership by Dr. Leone Andrews, courtesy of the American Embassy

Specific Objectives

- To create specialists with knowledge and skills in developing quality plans that facilitate community development processes
- To build the capacity of development practitioners with planning knowledge and skills that will spearhead the implementation of relevant programmes at local, national and international levels
- To provide specialized training for practitioners involved in a wider spectrum that require an integrated system of service delivery
- To create a data base through quality research that will provide a foundation for planning and evaluation of development programmes
- To produce graduates with the ability to foster partnerships and collaborations with both local and international institutions and other development agencies for planning and implementation of development processes

Graduate Knowledge Skills and Competences

A. Knowledge

By the end of the training the graduate will have acquired knowledge in the following:

1. Planning techniques
2. Policy making, formulation, implementation and evaluation
3. Community based development and societal transformation
4. Project planning, implementation and evaluation approaches
5. Planning, urban policy, governance and development
6. Interdisciplinary methodologies
7. Risk analysis, planning and disaster management
8. Planning for sustainable rural development
9. Planning, urban policy, governance and development
10. Planning, civil society and public action
11. Contemporary debates rethinking planning for community development

B. Intellectual skills

On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:

1. Describe and assess a range of established theories and concepts in planning and community development.
2. Review, synthesize and critically evaluate published materials from a range of source.
3. Critically review and evaluate evidence and use this to construct reasoned, evidenced argument.
4. Apply conceptual and theoretical approaches to empirical material
5. Apply knowledge to practical development problems.
6. Critically evaluate policy, policy implementation and community intervention programmes and projects.
7. Plan, conduct and write reports on independent projects.

C. Practical Skills

On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:

1. Construct responses to assignments using word-processing, databases, spread sheets and presentation software.
2. Make oral presentations
3. Practical hands-on field skills
4. Identify key issues and search for relevant information and solutions
5. Plan and deliver an individual piece of research, typically based on fieldwork.

C. Practical Skills

On completion of the training graduates will be able to:

1. Develop and implement an enterprise
2. Use IT (word processing, using standard and statistical software)
3. Communicate scientific and social scientific ideas to different stakeholders
4. Give oral presentations
5. Work as part of a team
6. Use library and other information resources
7. Manage time
8. Plan their careers
9. Facilitation and negotiation skills