DEVELOPMENT, PHD

ADMISSIONS

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Admissions to the Development, PhD have been suspended as of spring 2019 and will be discontinued as of fall 2025. If you have any questions, please contact the department (academicaffairs@cals.wisc.edu).

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. ***Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).*** Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	January 15
Spring Deadline	This program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline	This program does not admit in the summer.
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Required.
English Proficiency Test	Every applicant whose native language is not English, or whose undergraduate instruction was not exclusively in English, must provide an English proficiency test score earned within two years of the anticipated term of enrollment. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Requirements for Admission policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/).
Other Test (s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	None.
Letters of Recommendation Required	None.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants seeking admission to the program must already hold a master's degree in a social science, preferably with a thesis requiring original research. Previous experience living and/or working in a developing country in some capacity (Peace Corps, non-government organizations, individual initiatives, etc.) is an important aspect of a successful applicant's background. An applicant's application is judged on the basis of previous academic records, letters of recommendation, a personal statement, and a research proposal. This proposal will form the cornerstone of the applicant's program. It will provide the admissions committee with a clear explanation of the direction the student intends to take with the research. In their statement of purpose, applicants should clearly outline their reasons for choosing the PhD in Development.

The online application must contain the following:

- Personal statement
- Research proposal
- Unofficial transcripts for all post-secondary institutions attended
    - If an applicant is admitted, official transcripts will be requested by the Graduate School.
- Three letters of recommendation
- A curriculum vitae

International degree-seeking applicants must prove English proficiency using the Graduate School's requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/).

Details on the requirements can be found on the program website (http://devstudies.wisc.edu/admission.html).

FACULTY ADVISOR

Applicants will not be admitted unless a member of the program faculty agrees to serve as advisor. If the Admissions Committee judges your application favorably, you will receive a provisional admission. You should identify one or more potential advisors from the list of faculty (http://devstudies.wisc.edu/people_faculty.html) and include that information in your Reason for Graduate Study. The Admissions Committee will contact potential advisors in order to obtain a match. Most admitted applicants remain with their initial advisor; others find a more compatible match during the first semester.