



PEP online courses

Graduate microprogram in Applied Development Economics

Advanced training, provided by world-leading experts, in cutting edge concepts and methodologies in development economics

The Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) offers online training courses on the most up-to-date techniques and tools for economic policy analysis. These courses aim to help local researchers contribute to the design of effective national growth and poverty reduction strategies in their own countries.

Courses

In collaboration with University of Florence in Italy, PEP is offering four online distance-learning courses between **February 24 and May 31, 2025**:

- Course 1 – Non-experimental impact analysis
- Course 2 – Computable General Equilibrium Modelling
- Course 3 – Measuring and Alleviating Poverty and Inequality
- Course 4 – Gender Analysis in Economic Policy Research

(Specific course content [below](#))

The courses are offered in **English and French**.

The pedagogical approach is founded on narrated presentations, accompanied by readings, guided exercises, and forum discussions. Evaluations are based on frequent quizzes and tests, practical works, and a final exam.

Participants will need to devote, on average, **six hours per week to each course**.

Graduate microprogram in Applied Development Economics

On successful completion of each course (which is possible with a minimum score of 60%), the University of Florence will provide students with an electronic transcript.

University of Florence will award a **graduate microprogram certificate** to students who complete **three courses** of their choice within a maximum of four years. These credits are recognized by University of Florence – if participants choose to pursue graduate studies there – and may be recognized by other academic institutions.

Cost

The course fees are:

- **\$US 650¹ per course** for participants who are nationals and residents of a developing country, or developing country nationals who are residing in a developed country but currently studying (proof of student status required)
- \$US 1250 per course for all other participants

Registration process

Before applying, it is important to carefully read the program description.

Participants must hold an **undergraduate degree in economics or related fields**.

- **Step 1 – Application**

Registration for the courses in 2025 must be completed **by October 31, 2024**.

[Apply here](#)

The number of places is limited, and candidates will be selected based on their application form and CV.

¹ This amount includes bank fees.

- **Step 2 – Registration**

Decisions will be communicated by **email** and successful applicants will receive instructions for payment and registration.

Successful applicants must pay their course fees in full by **November 24, 2024**. Failure to do so means their places will be offered to candidates on the waiting list.

Note that no funding is available from PEP. Please make sure you have adequate funding from your own or external sources before applying.

- **Step 3 – Start the course**

Courses will run from **February 24 to May 31, 2025**.

One (1) or two (2) weeks before the beginning of the session, participants will receive a guide to log in and use the course platform.

The courses are organized as a series of weekly lessons. Each week, participants are required to watch the course videos, complete the exercises, and take the quizzes. An active forum is provided where participants can ask the instructor questions and interact with other course participants.

Course content

Course 1: Non-experimental Impact Analysis

Policy impact analysis is used to determine which policies, interventions and programs work, for whom, and in what circumstances. This course provides practical guidelines for designing and implementing various types of non-experimental techniques, including how to select the appropriate technique for each context. This course takes an applied, non-technical approach.

Participants should have a working knowledge of basic statistics, particularly key concepts such as regression analysis.

Course 2: Computable General Equilibrium Modelling

Computable general equilibrium models are powerful analytical tools that are used widely in both developing and developed countries. This course introduces all aspects

of this type of modeling, both theoretical and applied. At the end of this course, participants will be able to develop, program and use a computable general equilibrium model.

Course 3: Measuring and Alleviating Poverty and Inequality

Reducing poverty and inequality is a central objective of economic policies in both developed and developing countries. This course introduces the main theoretical and empirical aspects of the economic analysis of poverty and inequality: distributive analysis, poverty and inequality measures and profiles, multidimensional poverty, robustness, pro-poor growth and policies, poverty alleviation, targeting criteria and the distributive effects of price changes and tax reforms, progressivity and benefit incidence analysis, and estimation of individual budget and poverty rates. Each theoretical class is accompanied with practices exercises on real data.

Participants should have a working knowledge of basic statistics and economics.

Course 4: Gender Analysis in Economic Policy Research

The course explores the gender dimensions of economic life in developing countries, drawing on the rich body of research on gender-aware analyses of household economics, paid and unpaid work, labor markets, entrepreneurship, migration, agriculture, trade and gender-responsive budgeting. Explanations of gender-related issues include a feminist economics perspective and focus on its application in developing countries and in the process of economic development.

FAQ

Are there scholarships for students who are interested but cannot afford the fees due to financial constraints?

Unfortunately, we currently have no funding available to provide scholarships. We hope to be able to do so in the future.

Are there any additional fees?

No. The cost of all material used for the course is included in the course fees. This includes the required readings and access, for the duration of the course, to the required student software.

Is it possible to take more than one course in a year?

It is possible to take more than one course per year, but we do *not* recommend trying to take all three at the same time. We calculate that you will need to devote six hours per week to each course, on average.

Can I receive a certificate if I complete only one course?

University of Florence only issues a certificate when the entire program is completed, i.e. when participants have completed 3 courses of their choice. On successful completion of each course (which is possible with a minimum score of 60%), University of Florence will provide students with an electronic transcript.