

HDCA Summer School on Capability and Multidimensional Poverty

Organised by the [Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative \(OPHI\)](http://www.ophi.org.uk)
Oxford Department of International Development, University of Oxford
Jakarta, Indonesia ~ 23 August – 4 September 2012

The capability approach formulated by Amartya Sen, and further developed by the philosopher Martha Nussbaum and others, provides a conceptual framework that grounds many multidimensional approaches to poverty and social protection. This includes the MDGs, PRSPs, rights-based development, integrated social policy, and other specific initiatives.

In the past few years, interest in multidimensional quantitative techniques of analysis has surged. New quantitative methodologies have been developed for measurement, comparison, and analysis. Many more are still under development. It is a fast-moving area.

The purpose of this intensive summer school is to provide a thorough conceptual and technical introduction to the techniques of measuring multidimensional poverty, drawing on the capability approach, with a strong emphasis on the Alkire Foster method.

The summer school will be led by the researchers and director of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI – www.ophi.org.uk) of the University of Oxford. This will include Sabina Alkire, Paola Ballón, Mauricio Apablaza, José Manuel Roche, Suman Seth, and Diego Zavaleta.

Who Should Apply

Audience

The summer school is primarily addressed to post-graduate students, academics, and professionals who are working, or actively interested in pursuing research, on multidimensional poverty measurement. Other applicants having a demonstrated research interest in empirical analysis in these topics can be considered on the basis of their experience and space availability.

Pre-requisites

- **Participants should be familiar with the capability approach, welfare economics, or social science research methods.** Participants with these qualifications will be strongly favoured.
- **A strong knowledge in quantitative methods (e.g. econometrics, statistics, etc).**
- **The summer school teaches quantitative techniques, therefore a demonstrable knowledge of STATA is an absolute pre-requisite for attending the course.** For those who are not familiar with this programme, a course on STATA must be completed prior to the summer school. Every attendant to the summer school will need to have STATA 9.2 or higher installed in his/her laptop. The software cannot be provided by the summer school.



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Course Format

The summer school will consist of 10 days of instruction and working group sessions, taught in English. Teaching sessions will cover: unidimensional poverty, capability approach, multidimensional poverty (properties, measurement, dynamics, econometric tools for analysis, case studies and applications), missing dimensions of poverty, and the politics of measurement. The programme will further include problem sets and working group activities. Each participant needs to bring a laptop with them to do the problem sets. The syllabus and background readings will be made available to participants prior to the summer school. Throughout the summer school, participants will be actively involved in discussions and problem-sets, and will be invited to present their research work as well as to share their experiences.

Dates

Thursday 23 August to Tuesday 4 September 2012. Participants are strongly encouraged to attend the Annual Amartya Sen Lecture and the HDCA International Conference also in Jakarta, Indonesia, 5-7 September 2012 (HDCA www.hd-ca.org; Conference www.hdca2012.org).

Location

Jakarta, Indonesia

Costs

The course fee is \$750 USD for all students and any participant based in low-income to lower-middle income countries, as defined by the World Bank on November 2011 (go.worldbank.org/K2CKM78CC0) and \$1,500 USD for other all participants. In addition, participants will need to pay for accommodation (approximately \$700 USD), meals (approximately \$350 USD), and travel fares. It is hoped a group booking can be arranged at a specific accommodation. The acceptance letter will have more information about recommended accommodation.

Financial Support

Limited financial support will be available. Competition for financial support will be very strong and mainly intended for students from low to lower-middle income countries; however, well qualified and committed applicants with financial need are strongly encouraged to apply for support, regardless of their situation. Successful applicants are also highly encouraged to seek support from their local government and institutions. We are happy to provide supporting letters for these funding applications.

All scholarship recipients are expected to attend the HDCA International Conference.

Application

To apply, please complete the online application form at www.ophi.org.uk/summerschool2012-application and submit a most recent curriculum vitae and sample STATA .do file you have authored. An outline of on-going research or work project, or recent publication or paper with abstract, must also be submitted by applicants requesting financial support and is strongly encouraged for all other applicants. For applications requesting financial support from OPHI, **the deadline to submit a completed application is 7 May 2012.** For all other applicants, **the final deadline is 15 June 2012.**

The application process is competitive. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of the information provided in their application. Successful applicants will receive an e-mail notification starting 31 May.

For further information, please write to Tery van Taack (tery.vantaack@qeh.ox.ac.uk).

