

**THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES IN THE HAGUE offers a DIPLOMA in FEMINIST DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS (May-June 2003)**

One of the most pertinent social differentiations among agents in any economy is that of gender. Women work longer days than men, earn lower wages, have less access to resources and are predominantly responsible for meeting household needs. Moreover, gender inequalities impact upon economic variables such as productivity, economic growth and efficiency. The recognition of gender stratification and its impact upon economic dynamics has led to a new area of research: feminist economics. The impact of feminist economics has been particularly notable in the area of development economics.

**Programme**

The Diploma programme at the ISS is a six-week intensive course. After an introduction into feminist economic methodology, which introduces gender into economics, the course will focus on major topics in micro- and macroeconomics, including quantitative analyses in computer labs. The block on feminist development microeconomics includes topics such as intrahousehold relations and the theory of choice; gender and the theory of the firm; labour market segmentation; asymmetrical asset and capital markets; engendering market failure; and gender budgeting. The block on feminist development macro economics includes topics such as the circular flow in the economy, including the unpaid care economy; gender-aware economic indicators; gendered effects of public finance, monetary policy and stabilization; gendered effects of structural adjustment; gender dimensions of the business cycle, growth and productivity; and gender dimensions of international trade and international capital flows.

**Teaching methods**

The course will have some formal lectures. However, many of the scheduled hours will be organised around the discussion of case studies and student-led learning activities, including an individual final paper. This will be done to ensure that all students will go through the necessary stages of being able to elaborate the gender critique of economics, to engender economic analysis both qualitatively and quantitatively, and to develop gender-aware economic policy suggestions. Following this methodology, the programme will develop a feminist development economic analysis that complements neoclassical theory as well as providing a feminist development economics analysis that strengthens post-Keynesian, Marxian and institutional economic theories.

**Requirements**

Participants in this programme are economists that work for international development organisations, government agencies and NGOs, as well as academics, who want to better understand the gendered character of economies as well as seek to develop economic policies that are gender-aware. In addition, the course is geared towards economic students at the MA or PhD levels that seek to complement their studies with feminist analysis. Applicants must have an internationally recognised Bachelor's Degree in economics, and preferably have some basic knowledge of gender studies or women and development studies.

**Practical issues**

The course will be delivered at the Institute of Social Studies in the Hague (the Netherlands) in the period 12 May – 20 June 2003. The course staff consists of dr. Irene van Staveren and dr. Haroon Akram-Lodhi, as well as invited speakers (including prof. dr. Diane Elson and dr. Geske Dijkstra). The fee is 2,200 Euro. Application deadline: 1 March 2003. For further information about the ISS and the diploma programmes please check the ISS website at <[www.iss.nl](http://www.iss.nl)> For inquiries about the Feminist Development Economics Diploma you may want to contact the Convenor, dr. I.P. van Staveren, e-mail address: <[staveren@iss.nl](mailto:staveren@iss.nl)>