



Since its foundation in 1974, Kimmage DSC has facilitated education and training for development practitioners working in a range of occupations from over sixty five countries. Kimmage DSC has a strong reputation in development studies in Ireland and abroad and offers an inter-cultural and experience-based learning environment. The ethos of Kimmage DSC is embodied in a teaching approach which is based on participatory learning and critical thinking on development practice which seeks to empower course participants to be leaders in their own communities and active facilitators of change.

Programmes on offer reflect a combination of formal and non-formal educational methodologies and are run at undergraduate ordinary bachelor (BA) and post graduate (MA and Post Graduate Diploma) levels, with options to study on a full-time or part-time basis, as well as training and capacity building opportunities for development professionals (DTALK) and distance learning options (KODE). Courses provide hands-on practical training whilst also providing an opportunity for participants to become fully familiar with relevant theories of development.

Irish Aid Review (2008) on Kimmage DSC: The *“learning experience offered by Kimmage DSC is highly valued by students and graduates for a combination of reasons: the small size of Kimmage and its relatively intimate atmosphere; the nature of the student body, and its experience and diversity; the balance of theory and practice in both the techniques and content of the course...and the staff recognition of the importance and value of student input.”*

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Learning and Critical Reflection  
on Development Practice



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# KIMMAGE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES CENTRE



Learning and Critical Reflection on Development Practice

## PROGRAMMES CURRENTLY ON OFFER

- **MA in Development Studies**
- **MA in Drylands Policy and Climate Change Adaptation**
- **Post Graduate Diploma in Development Studies**
- **BA Degree in Development Studies**
- **Understanding Development - part-time evening course**
- **DTALK Learning– Building capacity for effective international development**
- **KODE – Kimmage Open and Distance Education**

### MA in Development Studies:

**Duration: 14 months - 9 Course Work, 5 Research.**

Designed for professional development practitioners who wish to undertake postgraduate education and training for work in development, in a community, youth/adult education, volunteer or international setting.

### MA in Drylands Policy and Climate Change Adaptation:

**Duration: 16 months - First semester in Kimmage DSC, Dublin. Second semester in Sokoine University, Tanzania. + 7 months research.**

Designed for present and future policy makers, development practitioners and staff within international agencies, especially those whose work is concerned with supporting dryland communities, as well as people who are interested in pursuing a career working in the drylands.

### DTALK Learning– Building capacity for effective international development:

**Duration: Short professional courses (1- 4 days)**  
Designed for development practitioners from within the civil society sector active in international development.

### BA in Development Studies:

**Duration: 2 years - 1 year course work, 1 year work placement and applied research project.**

Designed for those working in the community and voluntary sector in Ireland or internationally, staff within NGOs and community based organisations, members of groups concerned with development or those who have a keen interest in and commitment to local, national and international development issues.

### Understanding Development:

**Duration: 1 year part-time evening course**  
Designed for anyone with an interest in local and global development issues. It aims to assist participants to enhance their understanding of the nature, problems and possibilities of development at local, national and global levels.

### KODE – Distance Learning for Development Workers

**Duration: 5-10 weeks**  
Provides a range of distance education opportunities designed for busy development practitioners particularly those working in community projects.

## WHY STUDY AT KIMMAGE DSC?

Kimmage DSC is a creative, critically reflective and dynamic education and training centre. With almost forty years experience in development studies it offers a range of education, learning and training programmes that are participatory, learner centred, practical and relevant. It provides a space for critical reflection, dialogue, research and capacity building for development activists working in local

community contexts or for international NGOs. It bridges the divide between development practitioners North and South, between academic and civil society, higher education and adult education and between NGOs and the missionary sector. Kimmage DSC offers flexible learning options, including distance learning, part-time study and recognition of prior learning and experience.



**Vincent Bukenya, Senior Programme Assistant, World Food Programme, Uganda on KODE: “Unit by unit, and reference material after another, the course package gave ample time towards each of its objectives. The course stood out to me as very ‘user friendly’, enabling participants to understand the complexities of sustainable development and to critically reflect on their experience.”**

**DTALK Participant on course in ‘Proposal Development’: “Good practical course with key learnings that I can put into practice immediately.”**

**The mission of Kimmage DSC is to create an international, inter-cultural learning community which promotes thinking and action for justice, equality and the eradication of poverty in the world. It aims to do this through facilitating the education and training of individual practitioners and groups working for social, economic and political change in society and so enabling all practitioners to work effectively for the holistic development of all.**



## LOCATION AND FACILITIES

Situated on its own grounds within Kimmage Manor, it is located within easy reach of Dublin City Centre and is well served by public transport. Kimmage DSC offers its students a comfortable and friendly atmosphere in which to study and a range of facilities which include:

1. Libermann Development Studies Library
2. WIFI access to all students
3. On-campus accommodation for overseas students in the form of purpose built self-catering apartments with all facilities provided
4. Computer and Printing room
5. On site cafeteria

Hugh Bergin – graduate of Kimmage DSC - the Kimmage programme offers *“a wide theoretical basis to development issues encouraging the questioning of assumptions, applied to real world situations...the mix of students is a real benefit – with over half from “developing countries”, an equal gender balance and a cross section of ages...the ‘collegial’ style of learning encouraging a level of student engagement – while at times challenging – resulted in a stimulating learning environment. The calibre of tutors too, who communicated to us their keen interest in and enjoyment of their subjects”.*