International Development: Critical Perspectives on Theory and Practice
Entrepreneurship and Alternative Economies Track

COURSE DESIGNATOR MSID 4001
Language of Instruction English
NUMBER OF CREDITS 4 credits
Contact Hours 60 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This track forms a part of the MSID 4001 course. It aims at enabling participants to appreciate the nature, role, environment and challenges facing micro businesses in Kenya. Micro businesses have special characteristics, are of various types and make special contributions to the social and economic development of Kenya.

Students will be exposed to the challenges that face these enterprises and exploration of the possible solutions to these challenges. Students are expected to actively participate in discussions and share experiences as well as prepare themselves for the internship session.

INSTRUCTOR
George Omondi

COURSE GOALS
The specific objectives of the course are to enable students to:
- Understand the nature and characteristics of micro businesses in Kenya;
- Understand the historical growth of the micro business sector in Kenya;
- Appreciate the types of and the environment of micro businesses in Kenya;
- Appreciate the contributions of micro businesses to the economic and social development of the people of Kenya;
- Understand the challenges facing micro businesses in Kenya and suggest plausible solutions to these challenges.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
- Effectively describe the nature of micro business enterprises;
- Knowledge of the history of micro business enterprises in Kenya;
- Identify and define various types of micro business enterprises in Kenya;
- Understand the environment in which micro businesses operate in Kenya;
- Understand the economic and social contributions of micro business sector to the development of Kenya and;
- Describe the challenges facing micro businesses in Kenya and appropriate responses to the challenges.

METHODOLOGY
This course will be delivered through various methods including lectures, observations, discussions, illustrations, case studies, and field visits.

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS
MAIN TEXT

OTHER READINGS
Specific readings will be assigned to students for each of the topics to supplement material from the main text.

### GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-66</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.</td>
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Summary of how grades are weighted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of Term Examination</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Grade</td>
<td>50%</td>
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### CLASS SCHEDULE

#### WEEK 1

- **INTRODUCTION TO MICRO BUSINESS ENTERPRISES:**
  - Meaning of micro business
  - Characteristics of micro businesses

#### WEEK 2

- **INTRODUCTION TO MICRO BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (contd.):**
  - Difference between micro business and small and medium businesses
  - Environment of micro businesses in Kenya
  - Historical growth of micro businesses in Kenya

#### WEEK 3

- **TYPES OF MICRO BUSINESSES**
  - Legal forms of micro businesses in Kenya
  - Nature of businesses in which micro enterprises in Kenya are engaged in.
WEEK 4
• CONTRIBUTIONS OF MICRO BUSINESSES TO DEVELOPMENT IN KENYA
  o Social contributions
  o Economic contributions

WEEK 5
• CHALLENGES FACING MICRO BUSINESSES IN KENYA
  o Outline of the challenges
  o Case Studies and Exercises

WEEK 6
• DEALING WITH THE CHALLENGES FACING MICRO BUSINESSES IN KENYA
  o Macro-level interventions
  o Micro-level interventions
  o Case Studies and Exercises

WEEK 7
• Wrap up session
• Sharing of experiences on projects assigned to each student.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Regular attendance and punctuality are mandatory in order to earn full marks. The final grade will take into consideration preparation required for class (i.e. readings) and participation in class discussions. If you miss any meetings without an excused absence from the on-site director, your final grade will be dropped accordingly. In the case of absences, it is the student’s responsibility to find out what information was given in class including any announcements made.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else’s work as your own, can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:
Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis. Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an “F” or “N” for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

STUDENT CONDUCT
The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct and student needs. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.