



PRESS RELEASE

SCHOOL OF LAW, ECONOMICS AND GOVERNMENT

MASTER OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY PROGRAMME

SEPTEMBER 2025 INTAKE

The University of Malawi (UNIMA) is introducing a pioneering Master of Development Studies in Political Economy aimed at fostering a comprehensive understanding of the interplay between political and economic forces. The programme which will be offered under the School of Law, Economics and Government is designed to equip students with both theoretical and practical insights into the complex dynamics of politics and economics. It addresses several training gaps, including regional economic and political challenges, practical policy analysis and the impact of ethnic and cultural dimensions on political and economic systems. This programme responds to the critical need for expertise in understanding the multifaceted interactions between these domains, which is essential for effective governance, policy making and national development.

The University of Malawi is therefore inviting applications from suitably qualified candidates for enrolment into the programme which will commence in September 2025.

General entry requirements

The following are the **minimum application requirements**:

- a. A letter of application or a filled PG1 form to be downloaded from our website www.unima.ac.mw
- b. A Bachelor's degree from a recognized institution in Public Administration, Political Science, Social Sciences, Economics, Journalism and Media Studies, or a related field. Candidates should also have completed at least one module in either economics or political science as part of their undergraduate studies.

- c. A detailed CV.
- d. Certified or notarised copies of academic transcripts and certificates.
- e. Two letters of reference from traceable referees (one of which shall be an academician) are to be submitted in sealed envelopes or as PDF attachments.
- f. A copy of the bank deposit slip for the application fee of **MK20,000** for Malawian nationals and **US\$50** for international applicants. Please indicate the name of the programme you are applying for and deposit the money into the following account: Chanco Sundry Income, Account No: 282553, held at the National Bank of Malawi, Zomba Service Centre.
- g. Evidence of sponsorship: Preference will be given to applicants who will present credible evidence of funding for their studies.
- h. Candidates must sign on the 2025 PG1 Form that they have satisfied all the general entry requirements.

Conditions of Admission

- a) The tuition fees cover costs of registration, examinations, supervision and institutional overheads. Students are expected to meet the costs of research, accommodation, meals, medical cover, books, stationery and learning materials.
- b) The University does not provide accommodation and the students will be required to look for their accommodation outside the campus.
- c) The programme operates on a no-fee no-classes basis. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate how they will support their studies either through a letter of commitment from their sponsors or a bank statement.

Programme Duration: 2 years (full-time)

Programme Description: The programme consists of a taught coursework component in the first academic year, followed by the preparation of an examinable thesis in the second year. The coursework will be undertaken in two semesters during which a total of 8 courses will be offered from the following list: International and Comparative Political Economy, Research Methods for Development Studies, Contemporary Perspectives in Political Economy, Public Policy and Political Economy Analysis, Leadership and Governance in Political Economy, Theories of Development, Monitoring and Evaluation, Public Finance and Economic Management and Theories of Development Economics.

Fee Structure: K7,000,000.00 for Malawian Nationals (or K3,500,000 per year of study); and US\$8,000.00 for international students for the entire period of study.

Contact for further details: deanleg@unima.ac.mw

Procedure for submitting applications

Only short-listed applications will be acknowledged. All applications should reach the following address by **10th July, 2025**. This includes Electronic Applications.

Postgraduate Studies

University of Malawi

P.O. Box 280, Zomba

Email: pgstudies@unima.ac.mw