



# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Our interconnected global community demands innovative critical thinkers to devise viable solutions to society's most difficult challenges. Alongside the United Nations System Staff College, the Master in International Development trains students to design strategies to promote sustainable social, economic and environmental development for citizens around the globe.



# ABOUT THE PROGRAM

## Your program overview

Mode of Study	<b>Full-time</b>
Format	<b>In-person</b>
Intake	<b>September</b>
Duration	<b>10 Months</b>
Language	<b>English</b>
Location	<b>Madrid</b>

Developed alongside the United Nations System Staff College, the Master in International Development delivers world-class training to tackle the challenges of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Students are trained to promote sustainable development through practical case studies, debates and a dynamic immersion week in Geneva, home of many of the world's leading developmental institutions and UN offices alike.

Your high-impact journey starts here. Discover the Master in International Development.

[Find out more →](#)

**I will carry my experience at IE University with me for the rest of my life. Thanks to my year at IE University, I have made friends from all over the world who continue to inspire me every day.”**

Julie Krols, Belgium



# WHO IS THIS PROGRAM FOR?

## The perfect fit

This program is for globally minded professionals who are eager to make a difference. While students come from a variety of backgrounds, they are united by their ambition to tackle complex challenges associated with sustainability, international aid, policy and the eradication of poverty. Upon graduation, students are ready to generate a positive global impact in the field, industry and country of their choosing.

For those who wish to become...

Head of Office  
at the UN

International  
Development  
Specialist

Project Manager

Policy and Planning  
Officer

Head of Programs

Researcher

Consultant

# WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAM?

Reasons you should join

01

## Benefit from our unique partnership with the UNSSC

Our partnership with the United Nations System Staff College enhances students' learning experience by bringing them into close contact with world leaders in the international development field. Through class debates, discussions and case studies, students will learn to analyze and dissect challenges directly from the most experienced practitioners in the globe.

02

## Immerse yourself in the UN

A unique immersion experience to gain valuable insights from UN agencies and other international organizations focused on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. By meeting international development professionals throughout the week, students will gain firsthand exposure to the sector's working environment while enhancing their professional networks.

Learn more about our partnership with the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC).

[Find out more →](#)



# 03

---

## Prepare for an international career

Throughout the Master in International Development, students are encouraged to think globally thanks to our close connections to the UN and other top international development institutions. At each stage of their academic journey, students are empowered to undertake internships at organizations around the world to build up their profile and prepare for a career in the international arena.

# 04

---

## Learn from experienced professionals

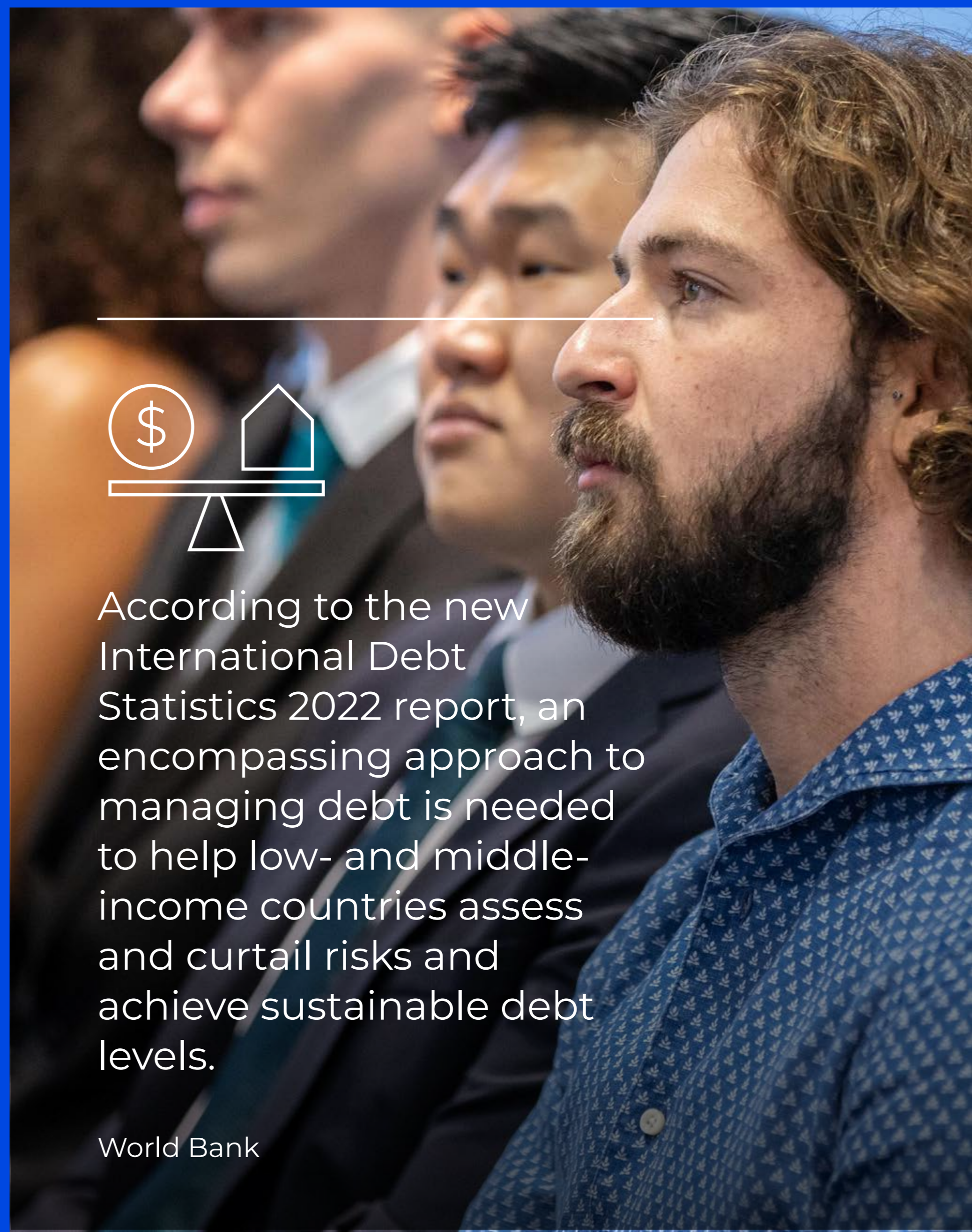
Our professors are industry-leading experts, academics and international development practitioners who bring their expansive knowledge and expertise to the classroom. In addition, students will get the chance to interact with world-class professionals and experts from the UN and other international organizations through courses, seminars and the Capstone project.

# 05

---

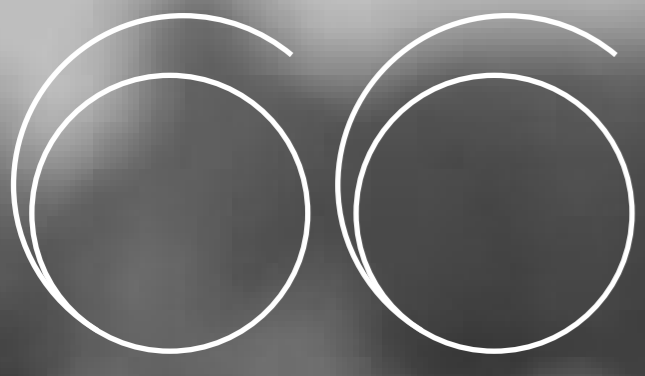
## Build an expansive professional network

By working alongside diverse colleagues from a range of academic backgrounds, you will explore a plethora of perspectives and approaches through meaningful debates and class discussions. What's more, your peers and professors will become part of your professional network, offering insight and advice as you take the next step in your career.



According to the new International Debt Statistics 2022 report, an encompassing approach to managing debt is needed to help low- and middle-income countries assess and curtail risks and achieve sustainable debt levels.

World Bank



**After completing the Capstone project, my team and I were hired as consultants to launch our project! This was an exciting experience that I would not have without the master's."**

# PROGRAM STRUCTURE

## Your learning journey

This highly practical program revolves around the 5 Ps of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: people, planet, peace, prosperity and partnership. What's more, students will enjoy a unique week-long immersive experience in Geneva, where they'll have an unparalleled opportunity to visit the UN and network with international development professionals.



### PROGRAM STRUCTURE

#### Periods 1 & 2

Foundational courses in four core pillars.

Visits to UN agencies and other international organizations.

#### Period 3

Final project: Master's Thesis or Capstone Consulting Project.

Explore the program's selection of engaging electives.

#### Period 4 (optional) Beyond Borders Experience

Spend a semester abroad at one of IE University's partner universities around the globe.

Find out more about this unique program experience

[Find out more →](#)

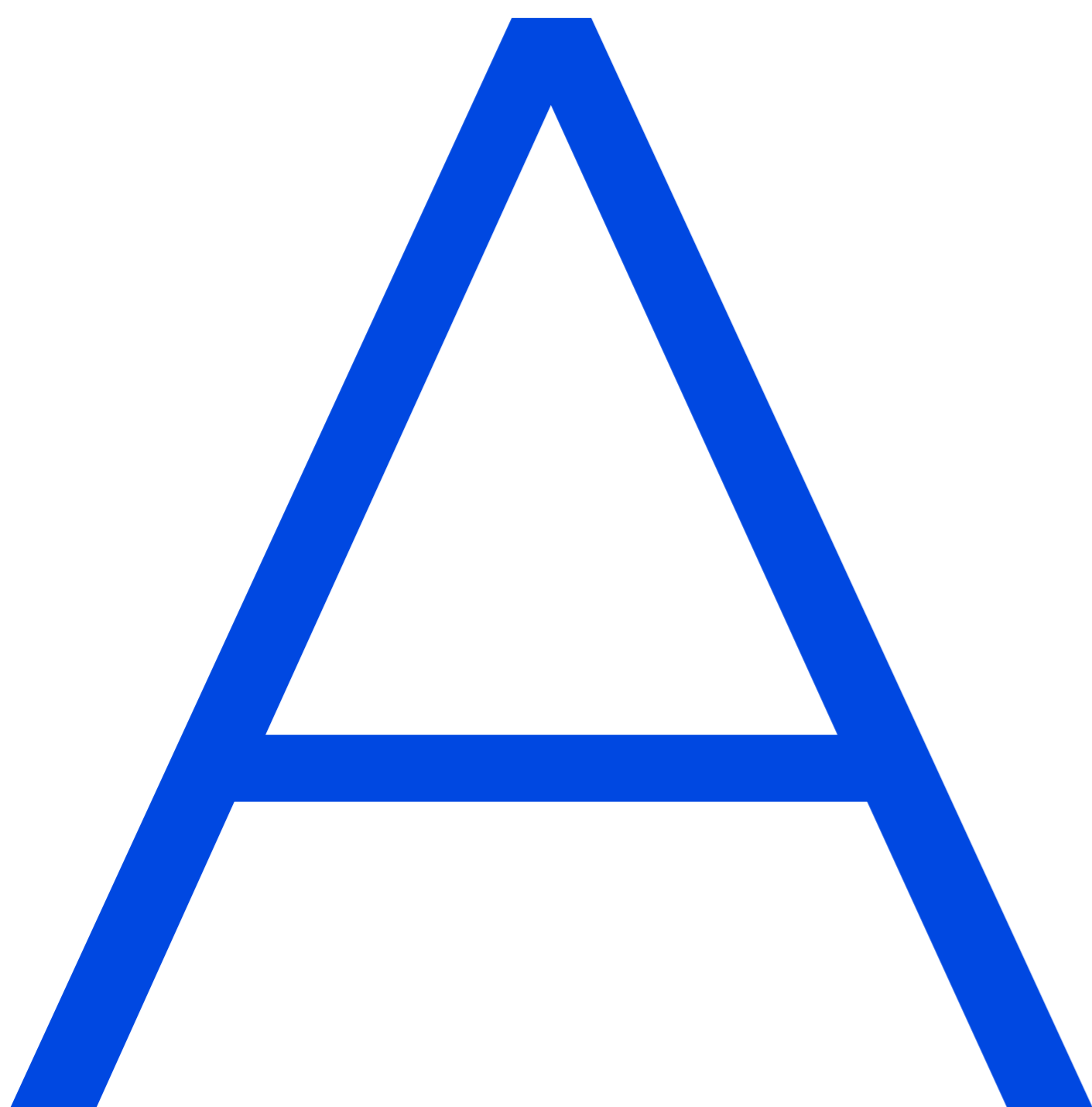
---

# CORE PILLARS

---

## **The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Deepen your understanding of sustainable growth strategies and get to grips with the 5 Ps of the UN's 2030 Agenda: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership. You'll look at topics such as development economics, the political economy of climate change, effective multistakeholder engagement, among others.



---

132  
million

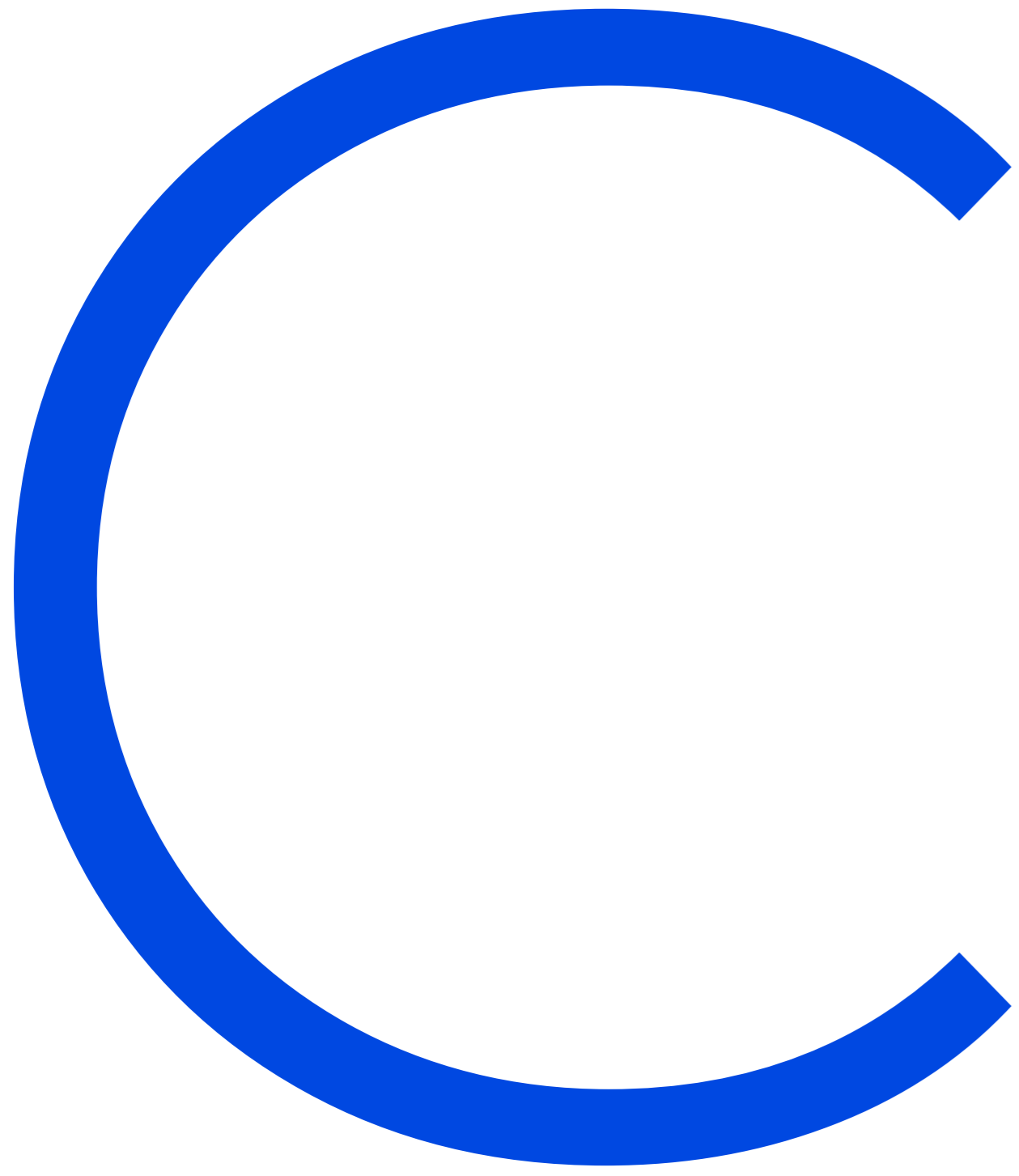
people may be living in poverty as a direct result of climate change by the end of the decade.

World Bank



## **Data Analysis and Project Management**

To fully grasp the complexity of development challenges, students must possess strong analytical and management skills to ensure projects are efficient and sustainable. You'll learn to effectively manage projects and improve viability and efficiency, using risk analysis, econometrics and data analytics.

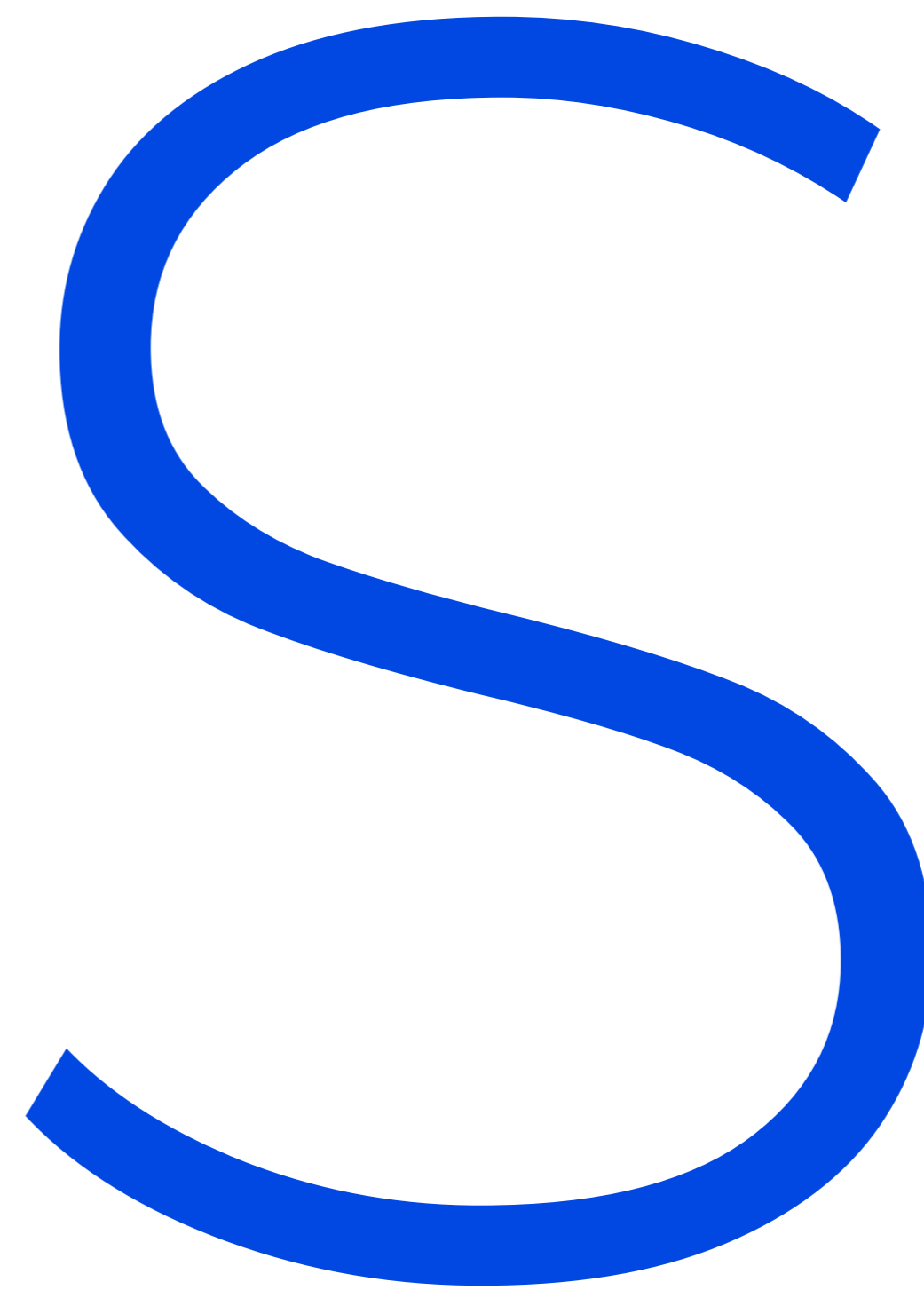


## **Cross-cultural Negotiation and Empowerment**

Emotional intelligence and communication skills are vital to international development. Throughout the program, students will explore adaptive leadership and community empowerment by considering key ethnic diversity and civil society concepts. In addition, students will develop hard-hitting negotiation strategies by analyzing examples of conflict resolution.

## **Specialization Tracks**

Students can take the reins of their careers and pursue their personal goals by electing from four tracks: development, innovation and emerging tech; governance and social inclusion; environmental sustainability and climate action; or finance, trade and economics for sustainable development.



## **Final Projects**

Students can choose whether to complete a master's thesis on the research topic of their choice or a capstone consulting project, where they'll work within an international organization to carry out risk assessment and impact reports.

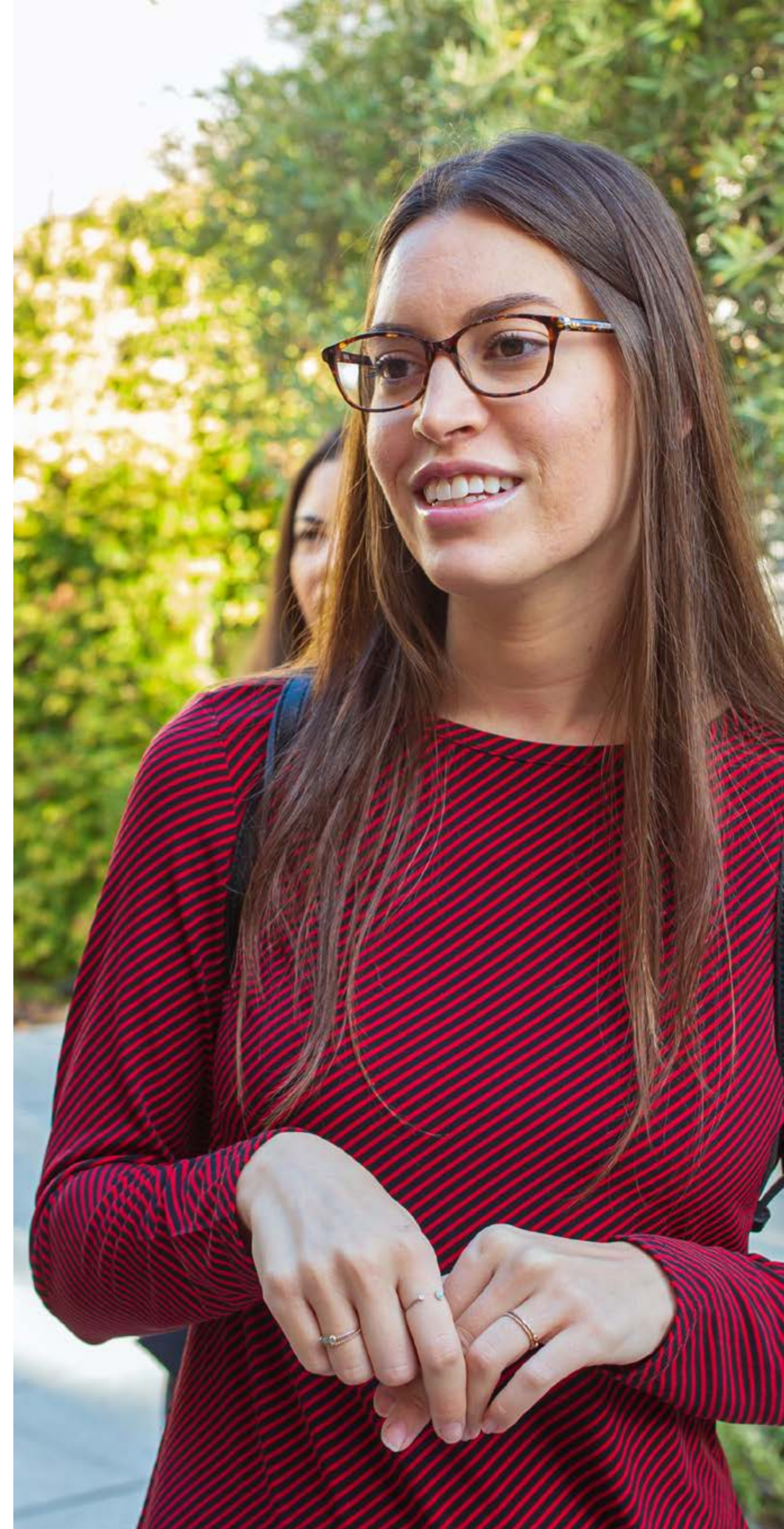
## **Personal & Career Development Workshops**

During these workshops, students will prepare for their future career by learning to craft an impactful resume and LinkedIn profile as well as rehearsing for interviews.

# STUDENT PROFILE

## Your future network

The Master in International Development trains both recent graduates and young professionals to become future leaders in sustainable development. Our students acquire the analytical, critical thinking and management skills they need to become policymakers, consultants and researchers capable of addressing the complex challenges facing the global community today.



18

### **nationalities**

represented on average in the classroom.

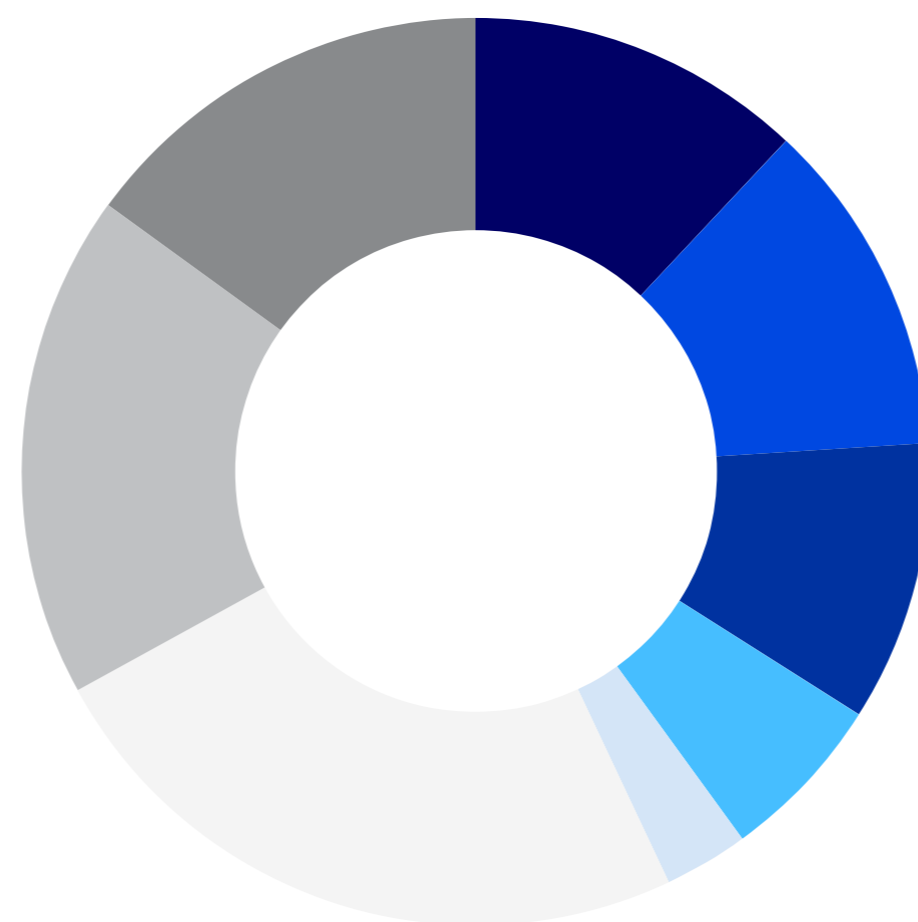
25

**years old** average age of students in the program.

1-3

**years** of professional experience

### **Academic background (%)**



- Science
- Law
- Social Sciences & Humanities
- Economics
- Finance
- Business & Management
- International Relations
- Politics

### **Where do program alumni work?**



# ADMISSIONS PROCESS & FINANCIAL AID

**The IE University admissions process is simple yet rigorous—and carried out entirely online.**

While the particulars may change depending on your chosen program, it always follows a similar format, which you can discover below. With our rolling admissions process, there's no application deadline. But spaces are limited so we recommend that you apply as soon as possible.

## **The first steps**

Before you embark on your personal learning journey, there are six preliminary steps you need to take.

## **Who you are**

Students across all program areas share common traits that we look out for. We particularly value dedicated and talented individuals who come from diverse backgrounds and possess a global mindset.

Alongside your strong interpersonal skills and innovative outlook, you thrive under an intensive academic workload, considering it an opportunity to share new experiences and create unique approaches to problem-solving.

# 01

## Online Application Form

Complete the online application form and upload the documents required by your program.



# 02

## Online Assessment

With the application submitted and the fee paid, you will receive a link to answer three live questions, two in video format and one in written format.



# 04

## English Proficiency

TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo or Cambridge (C1 or C2) certifications may be necessary to demonstrate your English level.



# 05

## Personal Interview

This online interview will take place with an associate director of the admissions team.

# 03

## Entrance Exam

Next, you will have to take either the GMAT, GRE or IEGAT. If you would like to apply to a Finance Program you must take either the GMAT, GRE, CFA Level 1 or CAIA Level 1. Note that this is a mandatory requirement, and the IEGAT will not be accepted.

# 06

## Final Decision

Your entire application will be evaluated by the Admissions Committee and you will receive an answer within 1-3 weeks.



This process may vary depending on the program. Be sure to consult the Admissions area of your program of interest for more details on the admissions process.

\* Special admission requirements for Master in Finance candidates, contact the admissions team for more information.

\*\* If you are considering a dual degree, keep in mind that students must be admitted to both programs.

[Get started →](#)

# FINANCIAL AID



**If sorting out funding and scholarships is an important part of making IE University your next big step in your professional journey, the good news is that we have a range of funding options available to support you!**

Most of our students rely on a combination of different types of financial means to cover the tuition fees and the overall costs associated with program attendance. These means typically include personal resources, student loans, scholarships and, at times, some form of family support or tuition assistance from employers.

The IE Financial Aid Office will help you understand the different financing options and scholarship opportunities available. Researching, understanding your options and planning ahead is key. The FAO will provide you with all the necessary guidance to make any scholarship or loan application process as smooth as possible.

Please visit our financial aid website for more details or schedule an appointment with our team.

[Go to the Site →](#)

**The aim is twofold: celebrating and rewarding outstanding individuals and providing scholarship support to deserving and promising candidates who would otherwise not be able to attend IE University.**

---

## **IE Scholarships**

Thanks to the IE Foundation and the generosity of our students, alumni, parents, corporate partners and other benefactors who support our groundbreaking Financial Aid program, we are able to maintain a strong commitment to providing top-notch education to highly qualified candidates from around the world, regardless of their economic situation. Our wide portfolio of scholarships allows us to guarantee diversity and excellence through our needs-based and merit-based scholarships.

Scholarships are awarded based on economic need, merit, distinctive competencies and/or academic and professional excellence. The aim is twofold: celebrating and rewarding outstanding individuals and providing scholarship support to deserving and promising candidates who would otherwise not be able to attend IE University.

---

[Check the IE Financial Aid website to discover the full list of scholarships available and to learn more about the application process.](#)

## **Direct Awards**

There is no formal application process for the IE High Potential Award— all applicants are automatically considered. Awards are communicated at the time of admission and recipients are chosen based on the information provided during the admissions process: the strength of their application, academic merit, professional experience, the quality of the interview, competitiveness, life experiences and suitability to the program and our school.

These awards are need-blind. Should the candidate require further support, they are encouraged to submit a formal scholarship application. Should they be awarded a scholarship of greater value, the scholarship would replace the IE High Potential Award.

[Check the IE Financial Aid website to discover the full list of scholarships available and to learn more about the application process.](#)



## Loans

Many of our students rely on loans — either government and/or privately funded—to at least partially finance their studies at IE University. As we strive to provide our students with further financing opportunities, we are committed to securing agreements with both Spanish and international institutions that offer our students financial loan schemes on favorable grounds. While there are many organizations that lend to IE students—including those we have an agreement with—it is critical that you understand all fees and terms of available loans to compare them and determine which are best suited to your particular needs.

## Tuition Payment Options

While making an investment in higher education is extremely worthwhile, we understand it isn't always easy. At IE University, we allow students to pay in interest-free installments, without pre-approval requirements or credit checks.

The number of installments and conditions depends on the program, please talk to your admissions advisor for more information.

---

Contact our dedicated team at [loans@ie.edu](mailto:loans@ie.edu) to find out which financing options may be available to you. Please note that many financing schemes are time sensitive and may require planning several months before your program starts.



---

# ABOUT YOUR UNIVERSITY

The IE University ecosystem is designed with the student in mind. Rooted in a human-centered approach to entrepreneurship and innovation, we offer an extensive global network, cutting-edge facilities and top institutional partnerships—empowering future leaders to define their journey.



# WHO WE ARE

**First and foremost,  
we are Liquid Learners.**

**Liquid Learning  
at IE University is the  
culmination of our  
educational vision,  
transcending any single  
platform or approach  
to produce a holistic,  
streamlined academic  
experience.**

Developed over 20 years, this model blurs the lines between online and in-person education resulting in a flexible, highly interactive learning journey.

By breaking down traditional barriers to education, Liquid Learning provides access to the same world-class education, regardless of location or personal circumstances.

But what does this mean? Allow us to explain. As Liquid Learners, we are:

1,800+

students can attend  
the same session  
simultaneously

100%

of our students have  
online access to classes

200

classes streaming  
online simultaneously  
in HD

100K+

online sessions  
in total

## Leaders in Business Education

IE University was founded by entrepreneurs with a vision to disrupt traditional models of education to equip students with the skills they need for the future.

To achieve this, the institution was created with five values in mind: diversity, humanities, technology & innovation, sustainability and entrepreneurship.

## Pioneers in Disruptive Learning

IE University transformed business education by introducing disruptive teaching methodologies, ranging from immersive classroom approaches and technological innovation to close ties with industry leaders.

Over the years, our broad spectrum of disruptive learning innovations has helped students from 140 different countries unleash their true potential.

**“Through Extended Reality (XR),  
we’re integrating engaging  
technologies into our academic  
offering to simulate real-world  
scenarios and bring immersive  
learning to life.”**

**Diego del Alcázar Benjumea**  
CEO of IE University



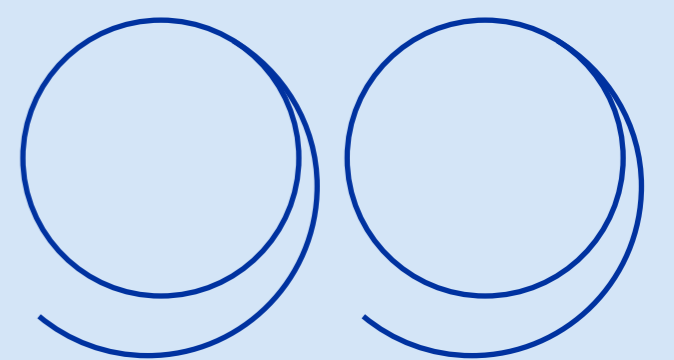
# Diverse Visionaries

Our cutting-edge methodologies and global approach to education is complemented by the diversity of our community.

Students are in constant contact with a variety of academic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, which challenges preconceived notions and empowers them to think in new, innovative ways.



**“I'm able to study with people from all around the world and learn about different cultures.”**



---

**Patricia**  
Master in Management



25%

of our alumni have  
started their own  
businesses

---

1,500+

students trained  
in entrepreneurial  
management

---

100+

mentors working  
alongside our students

---

## Restless Entrepreneurs

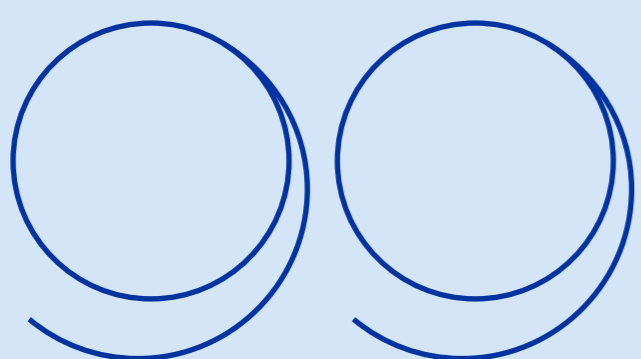
All our programs are taught from an entrepreneurial perspective, encouraging students to craft and apply solutions in the real world—whether in an intrapreneurial or entrepreneurial capacity.

Through startup accelerators and networking opportunities, students are able to fuel their ideas, fully supported as they embark on their entrepreneurial journey.





**“IE University teaches you to work and cooperate with people from different backgrounds, and to bring out the best in others.**



**Dionysios Stavrakas, Russia**  
Executive MBA

# WHERE WE ARE OUR EDUCATIONAL ECOSYSTEM

**Enjoy the right university experience for you. We have three locations: Segovia, Madrid and Online.**

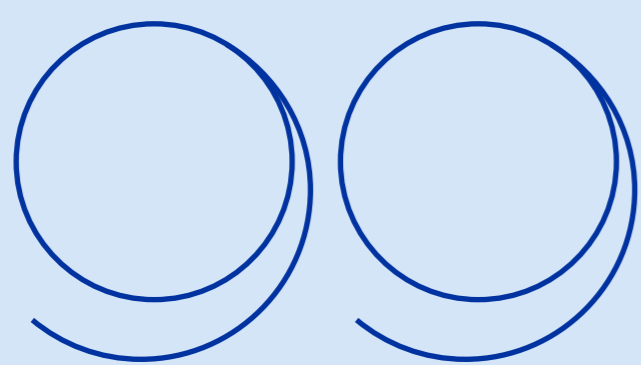


Discover the history of our Segovia Campus: From Roman ruins to IE University

[Watch the video →](#)



**“In every corner of Segovia, in every step you take through its streets, squares, and countryside, there’s a sense of tradition, art, and history.**



**Cheyenne Uribe**

Switzerland. Dual Degree in Laws and International Relations  
Class of 2020

## Segovia

[Know more →](#)

Declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1985, Segovia is famous for its cathedral, alcázar and aqueduct.

One of the city’s most historic buildings, the Convent of Santa Cruz la Real, is home to the IE University campus. This campus combines rich history with state-of-the-art classrooms.





**Discover the magic of studying in Madrid**

[Watch the video →](#)

## Madrid

[Know more →](#)

Our urban tech-based education hub is located at the heart of one of the most exclusive neighborhoods of the city. Not far away, you can find our new innovation tower—the fifth addition to the Cuatro Torres—bringing an environmentally efficient and avant-garde architectural design to a lively business district.

## Online

Our online classrooms enable us to provide Liquid Learning with hybrid teaching methodology.

Featuring synchronous and asynchronous learning, the online campus puts the student at the center with dynamic learning methodologies that adapt to individual circumstances.



# The IE Tower in numbers



7,000

square meters set aside for green spaces

---

180

meters high and 35 floors

---

6,000

undergraduate students on campus

---

35

story tower with classrooms and educational zones

---

70+

classrooms and a large number of workspaces and chill-out zones

---

50,000

square meters

---

OUR ALUMNI IN NUMBERS

70,000+

total alumni

169

countries

1,300+

alumni events worldwide

28

alumni reunions

6,000

participants

60+

career sessions per year

300+

career orientation interviews

## Global Presence

Our extended IE community stretches across the globe, with 30 offices working together to build a lasting community around the world.

These offices organize thousands of international networking events, connecting our alumni community, candidates, companies and partner universities.

### Benefits for our global community:

- ▶ IE events, masterclasses and workshops led by IE professors
- ▶ Corporate partnerships
- ▶ Venture Days
- ▶ Networking and social events for alumni and students
- ▶ Global Alumni Weekends
- ▶ “Glocal” network
- ▶ Worldwide conferences
- ▶ Career opportunities for alumni and students
- ▶ Alumni clubs

Find us at one of our international offices.

[Know more →](#)

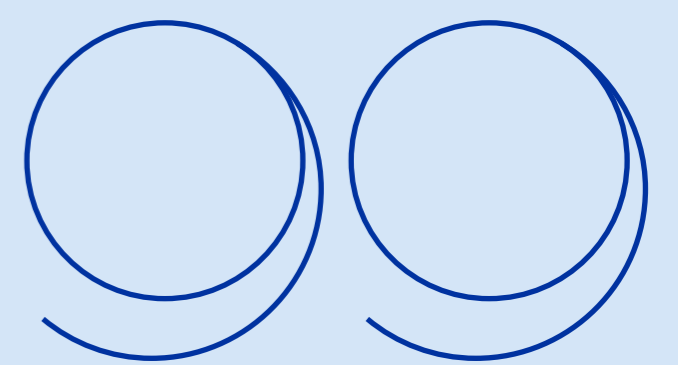


# WHAT'S LIFE LIKE AT IE UNIVERSITY

**There's always something happening at IE University. From business conferences to sports games and coding competitions, you'll never be lacking in opportunities for growth—and fun!**



**“IE University has provided me with the right network and environment to strengthen my professional potential as an entrepreneur and architect.**



---

**Dana Nayef Alfayez**  
Alum. Master in Business for  
Architecture & Design



## Venture Days

Event that connects the entrepreneurial community across all continents.

30+

cities around the globe

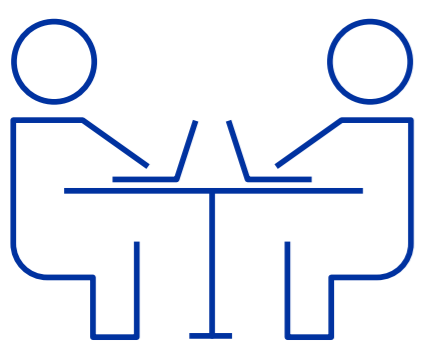
---

1,000+

startups applied

## Area 31

Weekly Venture Network event with pitches given to investors.



Exclusive workspace for admitted teams

---

100

events every year

---

[Know more →](#)

## Venture Lab

Launchpad for startups under the guidance of industry experts.

10

finalists go to the Venture Day in Madrid

---

450+

startups participate each year



## EnlightED

Bringing together the most innovative startups in education, innovation and edtech.



## South Summit

Brings together the most innovative startups regardless their industry, development stage and country.



6,700+

CEO / Executives participated in our latest edition

\$4.3B+

raised by former startup competition finalists

## IE Rockets

Residency program to build your skills and brand in the higher education sector.

146

startups applied

\$60M

raised from startups

# IE Clubs and Centers

We believe that campus life is just as important as academic life. With more than 120 active student-led clubs on campus and online, our students have access to countless opportunities to engage with a variety of topics and learn beyond the classroom.

## Club spotlights

### IE Out & Allies Club

The IE Out & Allies Club endeavors to broaden understanding and support for LGBTQI\* populations worldwide. This student-led LGBTQI\* club organizes inclusive, year-round events, which range from educational meetups to networking and cocktail events to celebrate a break from school.

The club also proudly organizes the LGBT@Work, the longest-running LGBTQI\* work conference in Europe, and third-largest business school LGBTQI\* conference in the world.

### Women at IE

At IE University, we strive to maintain and promote gender equality both on and off campus. With over 2,000 members, the IE Women in Business Club was created to reduce the obstacles facing women in gaining top leadership positions.

We also work with multiple international women's organizations to provide talented and driven women the financial resources required to reach their academic and professional goals.

Every year, we celebrate International Women's Day with a week full of events addressing gender equality.

Women at IE University  
in numbers...

39%

of our full-time faculty  
are women

---

48%

of our students are  
women

---

56%

of the scholarships  
offered to master's  
students are awarded  
to women

---

7.7  
million

was awarded to women  
pursuing a master's or  
bachelor's degree in  
2019

---

[IE Clubs →](#)



1,500+

annual face-to-face and  
online events

600+

speakers hosted on campus

37,000+

attendees

## IE Center for Diversity in Global Management

The IE Center for Diversity in Global Management harnesses the power of diversity to help organizations become more resilient, efficient and innovative.

Created in September 2002, the Center is an invaluable resource for the IE University community, engaging in training, applied research and awareness-raising activities, alongside holding networking events to foster international debate.

## IE Africa Center

IE Africa Center aims to revolutionize the way the next generation of global executives understand African innovation—past and present.

We understand that the intellectual and physical contributions of Africa and its people are not only central to the modern world as it exists today, but are crucial to building a better future.

[IE Centers →](#)

More IE student clubs:

- ▶ **Net Impact**
- ▶ **AI & Big Data**
- ▶ **TechIE**
- ▶ **IE Tech Lab**
- ▶ **IE Tech & Innovation**
- ▶ **IE Smart Cities**
- ▶ **IE Cybersecurity**
- ▶ **IE Blockchain**
- ▶ **IE Air & Space**
- ▶ **IE Fintech**
- ▶ **IE Coding**
- ▶ **IE Women in Business**
- ▶ **IE E-Commerce**
- ▶ **IE EdTech**

and more...

OUR STUDENTS  
IN NUMBERS

85%

international students

160+

nationalities  
on campus

45+

languages spoken  
on campus

52%

male students

7,000+

students on campus

48%

female students

100+

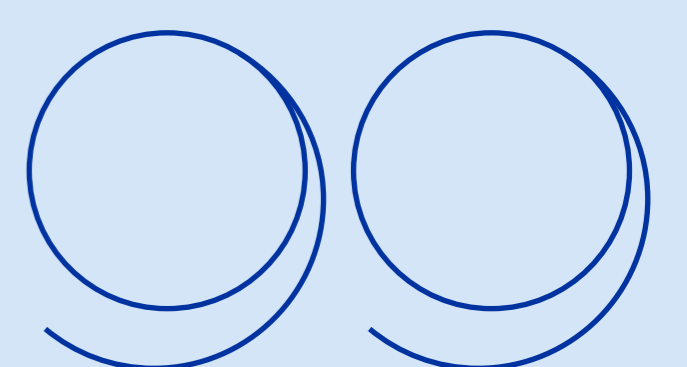
active clubs on campus



**“I think the fact that there were only 20 of us and there are 17 different nationalities, the fact that we got to learn so much from different cultures, is great. I think I learned as much outside as inside the classroom.**

**Manon Germain**

Alum. Master in Talent Development  
& Human Resources



# OUR RECOGNITION & REPUTATION



IE Business School is consistently recognized as one of the world's leading academic institutions in global rankings, reflecting the excellence of our teaching, faculty and students.



We are dedicated to fostering innovation and nurturing talent to develop the next generation of top professionals. By offering a global perspective, we equip our students to face the challenges of the future with confidence.



Our **rankings highlight** our commitment to academic excellence, cutting-edge innovation, and a transformative learning experience.



[Click here to discover our global rankings](#) →

# WORLDWIDE ACCREDITATIONS



**“I believe it is critical to understand cultural differences and to be able to work in a diverse environment, which is exactly what IE University provides for both its professors and students.**

---

**Bin Ma**

Assistant Professor, Human Resources  
& Organizational Behavior

