Studying International Development at ICE – choosing between Certificate and Diploma level.

The Institute of Continuing Education (ICE) offers three qualifications in International Development, one at Certificate (FHEQ4) and two at Diploma (FHEQ5). If you are new to academic study or the field of International Development please have a look at the information below to help you decide whether to choose a Certificate or Diploma level course.

Both the Certificate and Diploma courses take place over 1 academic year, and comprise of 10 day schools supported by online study. There are some key differences in content and levels of study, outlined below:

Certificate in International Development 60 Credits at FHEQ4

- Introduction to International Development
- Key concepts and approaches to poverty alleviation
- Governance and Institutions

Diplomas in International Development, 60 Credits at FHEQ5

- Understanding different models of development
- Welfare and social change
- Environment and sustainability
- Globalisation and inequality

Which course?

Some students have concerns over whether the Certificate or Diploma level course is most appropriate for them. This guide is intended to help you understand what you can expect and what is expected of you at the different levels of study.

Certificate

- This is an entry level qualification.
 It is ideal for people who are new to International Development and to University level study.
- The teaching level is similar to the first year of a Bachelors degree.
- It introduces students to the core concepts of poverty, inequality and approaches to development.
- Its purpose is to ensure all students understand the variety of academic and practical concepts.

Diplomas

- These build upon the learning and development acquired by students in the Certificate.
- Applicants who have not taken the Certificate are expected to be aware of and have experience of the core principles taught in the Certificate and have studied at University level before.
- The teaching level is similar to that of a second year Bachelor degree.
- The two Diplomas explore the subject at deeper levels in ie. (a)

- This course has been designed for both those who have no prior knowledge of the subject and those who have some practical experience.
- It is designed to lead directly into the Diploma.

how environment and resources are linked to development and (b) the economic and human capital approaches to alleviating poverty and improving welfare.

Still unsure?

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