



STELLENBOSCH BUSINESS SCHOOL SUMMER SCHOOL

2025

FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

6 – 11 July 2025

Hosted in Stellenbosch, South Africa



SUMMER SCHOOL DESCRIPTION

In recent years, many low-income countries and emerging economies have undergone extensive financial reforms. Despite these reforms, many households and enterprises, especially in Africa, are still unable to participate in the financial sector. While it is well known that financial institutions and markets can help induce economic growth, it is much less clear how financial development can become inclusive and kick-start a process of sustainable economic growth with a positive effect on the poor.

This Summer School, presented by Stellenbosch Business School, Laval University and the University of Groningen, will discuss the major developments regarding research on financial inclusion, including microfinance. It will provide insight into how financial inclusion can induce sustainable growth in low-income economies, with explicit attention paid to African countries.

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Master's (research or professional), PhD candidates, postdoctoral researchers, alumni

CREDIT WEIGHTING

- 2 ECTS and a certificate of attendance **OR**
- 5 ECTS (and an additional assignment)

LANGUAGE OF MODULE OFFERING

- English

PROGRAMME INFORMATION

The Summer School on Financial Inclusion and Sustainable Growth does not rely on a single source or textbook as a reference. The course notes will contain all the necessary background and reading required. However, the affordable textbook below constitutes a solid reference for many topics covered:

Advanced Introduction to Financial Inclusion (2022) (Paperback).

By Robert Lensink, Calumn Hamilton and Charles Adjasi. Elgar Advanced Introductions series, Cheltenham UK, Northampton, USA.

This course is structured in three parts, and each part is taught by a specific lecturer:



Classes will take place from **08:00 to 16:00, Monday to Friday** with short breaks in the morning and afternoon, and a one-hour break for lunch.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

- Gain an in-depth understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of financial inclusion and sustainable economic growth.
- Conduct an in-depth study of theories on financial innovation, cross-border banking and their relation to economic development.
- Enhance your understanding of impact analysis theory and practice in developing countries.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Learn how to design randomised experiments to measure the impacts of financial inclusion interventions.
- Learn how to evaluate the inclusivity of financial products and build frameworks for designing inclusive financial products.

JUDGEMENT AND APPROACH

- Study the concept of financial inclusion and its role in economic growth.
- Analyse financial interventions, designs, innovations and market types in relation to the growth and development of developing countries.

ACADEMIC FACILITATORS



PROF ROBERT LENSINK

Professor of Finance and Financial Markets
Faculty of Economics and Business
University of Groningen



PROF CHARLES K.D. ADJASI

Professor of Development Finance and Economics
Stellenbosch Business School



PROF ISSOUF SOUMARÉ

Professor of Finance
Director of the Laboratory for Financial Engineering
FSA, Laval University, Canada



DR CALUMN HAMILTON

(Postdoctoral researcher)
Affiliate of the Groningen Growth and Development Centre
University of Groningen

PROGRAMME FEES

University of Groningen and Laval University students	€755 R14 956
Tuition-paying students (non-partner universities)	€956 R18 956

Sunday 6 July 2025	Full-day social excursion
Monday 7 July 2025 – Friday 11 July 2025	Full-day academic sessions

INCLUDED

- Airport transfers
- Welcome Day guided tour excursion
- Weekday lunches (5 days)
- Weekday coffee breaks, each morning and afternoon
- 2 dinners at a restaurant
- Graduation cocktail on the last day
- Academic lectures, corporate visit
- Course material
- On-site Wi-Fi



EXCLUDED

- Flights
- Accommodation (recommended options will be provided)
- Visa cost



NOMINATION PROCESS

- Students must be nominated by their home university by emailing maynette@stellenboschbusiness.ac.za
- Due date for nominations: **30 April 2025**.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

- Nominated students will receive instructions on how to submit their application and payment once their nomination has been received.
- Due date for application and payment: **30 April 2025**.

REFUND POLICY IN THE EVENT OF CANCELLATION:

- All cancellations **on or after 30 May 2025 will not be refunded**.

LOCATION

Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS)
10 Marais Rd, Stellenbosch Central, Stellenbosch, 7600

FURTHER INFORMATION

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