

Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Universität Kassel/Witzenhausen Module M.SIA.E36: Institutions and the food system	6 C 4 WLH
Learning outcome, core skills: Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be able to evaluate the role of institutions and governance in the food system and their link to policies • Will know public choice approaches to the analysis of constitutions and policies and their change • Will know theories of decentral and central institutional change in the traditions of New Institutional Economics • Will be able to evaluate policies in the agricultural and environmental sectors and the food system • Can apply concepts and theories of the role, performance and change of institutions and governance to a variety of aspects of food systems in different countries in and outside Europe 	Workload: Attendance time: 60 h Self-study time: 120 h
Course: M.SIA.E36.C Institutions and the food system (Lecture, Excursion, Seminar) <i>Contents:</i> Institutions structure economic exchange and collective action in the food system, for example in the organization of agricultural production, in regulating agriculture and environmental issues and in collective approaches to environmental management and public goods provision at scales, ranging from the farm level to global supply chains. At the same time institutions are expressed in policies. The course first specifies what institutions are and what roles institutions play in food and agricultural systems and in policy making. Approaches will cover the study of institutions from the perspective of New Institutional Economics. Public choice approaches will be presented to explain state-driven institutional change. The role of institutions for performance and change of the food and agricultural sectors will be illustrated through ample recourse to examples drawn from studies of the food and agricultural production systems in and outside of Europe. The module ends with introducing approaches to evaluate policies (being one type of institution) in the food and agricultural sectors. Literature and seminar papers will be circulated to students at the beginning of term	4 WLH
Examination: Oral exam (approx. 20 min.) or term paper (max. 1500 words) M.SIA.E36.Mp: Institutions and the food system Examination requirements: Understanding of the role of institutions and governance in the food system from a social-ecological systems perspective; knowledge of public choice and political science approaches to the analysis of constitutions and policies and their change; knowledge of theories of decentral and central institutional change in the traditions of economics, political science and sociology; application of conceptual knowledge concerning the role, performance and change of institutions and governance to a variety of aspects of	6 C

food systems in different countries in and outside Europe Knowledge of global drivers of change of food and agricultural production systems	
Admission requirements: none	Recommended previous knowledge: none
Language: English	Person responsible for module: Prof. Dr. Andreas Thiel
Course frequency: each winter semester; Witzenhausen	Duration: 1 semester[s]
Number of repeat examinations permitted: twice	Recommended semester:
Maximum number of students: not limited	