Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Universität Kassel/Witzenhausen Module M.SIA.E38: Scientific working in Agricultural Economics

Learning outcome, core skills:

Students have a deep understanding of the following aspects of scientific writing and good academic practice and are prepared to apply them appropriately

- · Scientific writing and structuring
- · Literature search
- Good academic practice, citation and avoidance of plagiarism
- · Use of citation software
- · Structuring and preparation of primary and secondary datasets
- Result illustration
- Presentation of academic content.

Workload:

Attendance time: 48 h

Self-study time:

132 h

Course: M.SIA.E38.C Scientific writing in Agricultural Economics (Lecture, Exercise)

Contents:

- 1) Research process and paper structure: An introduction is given on structuring seminar-papers and master-theses, literature search in various literature databases, formulating valid objectives, research questions and hypotheses. Thereby, the basic principles of describing the research gap based on previous findings and correct citing are covered. Students practice structuring and writing during different practical assignments like creating a commented outline, a reference list or writing an introduction and conclusion for a seminar-paper or a thesis.
- 2) Literature review, citation and plagiarism: An introduction is given on the rules of "good academic practice" according to the standards of the German Research Association (DFG). In addition to detailed explanations about the appropriate use of references and correct citing, the topic of plagiarism and intellectual property rights is addressed in detail including concrete examples. Furthermore, software applications such as Citavi are introduced.
- 3) **Data and methods:** An introduction is given on (i) how to structure, process and present primary and secondary data, and (ii) how to choose and present a method in accordance to the respective research question. Formal requirements and good scientific practice for the illustration in written text, tables and figures are presented. Special emphasis will be given to the interpretation of results (hypothesis testing). Students practice data and results illustration during different practical assignments like structuring datasets, creating a methods & data chapter, preparing tables and figures and embed them into a results chapter.
- 4) **Presentation:** An introduction is given on the design and structure of scientific presentations. In detail, common practices for presenting scientific contents are explained and the typical corporate design of the Georg-August-University is introduced. As an assignment students prepare a presentation about scientific contents.

4 WLH

Examination: 2 Written assignments (each max 800 words), 1 data sheet and 1 presentation-file (max. 6 slides)

6 C

M.SIA.E38.Mp: Scientific writing in Agricultural Economics

Examination requirements:

Students have to prepare two written assignments, one data sheet and one presentation file (se above) and upload the documents. The required assignments accompany the content of the lecture and include the following topics:

- Sections of scientific manuscripts (Introduction; Methods&Data, Results)
- data documentation (e.g. descriptive tables)
- · presentation slides.

Admission requirements: Enrolled in SIA study-program with focus on International Agribusiness and Rural Development Economics	Recommended previous knowledge: none
Language: English	Person responsible for module: Dr. Hartmut Ernst Reinhard Uehleke
Course frequency: each winter semester; Göttingen	Duration: 1 semester[s]
Number of repeat examinations permitted: twice	Recommended semester:
Maximum number of students: 30	