# Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Universität Kassel/Witzenhausen

6 C 4 WLH

Module M.SIA.E46: Food Systems Governance and Agriculture

## Learning outcome, core skills:

#### Students

- will understand the food system concept and the role of governance and institutions within it against the background of the European Union, and its role for and interactions with diverse production systems worldwide
- will obtain an overview of the ways in which the many European food systems and demands for agricultural produce shape local agriculture and rural areas in Europe and worldwide
- will obtain an overview of the role of policies, governance arrangements and institutions for the way Europe shapes global food systems and agriculture
- will become familiar with a public choice and institutionalist perspective on public policy making
- will become familiar with a constitutional, new institutional economic and a critical institutionalist perspective on food system interactions and their change
- · will reflect on the concepts of the course throughout seminar discussions
- will explore analytical tools throughout issue-related discussions with practice partners.

#### Workload:

Attendance time: 60 h

Self-study time: 120 h

Course: M.SIA.E46.Lec Food Systems Governance and Agriculture (Lecture, Seminar)

### Contents:

Agricultural production is nowadays conceived as integral part of global food, feed, fuel, and fibre-related supply systems. The European Union plays a major role in structuring global agriculture, food and supply systems. Policies structuring governance and institutions are core elements shaping economic exchange in the food system and the exploitation of natural resources. The course covers what food and agricultural systems are, what roles policies, governance and institutions play in these, and how the European Union's structure of agricultural production shapes them. To explain policy outcomes, the course relies on a public choice and institutionalist perspective. For analyzing the food system, it further introduces new and critical institutionalist approaches and collective action theory, and illustrates these through case materials and literature discussions. Analytical perspectives will further be explored through the discussion of various European governance issues with practice partners and policy makers.

Methods: Lecture, seminar, group works, virtual and in presence stakeholder meetings and potentially short excursions, presentations, readings, presentations (learning through teaching)

4 WLH

Examination: Five literature discussions or responses to set questions (graded) 40%; Oral presentation (student-led seminar) (20 minutes) or oral examination (25min) or written term paper (2500 words) 60%; or working report (max. 2500 words) 100%

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#### **Examination requirements:**

Throughout term students discuss particular literatures or questions in relation to ongoing course contents in class or at home and submit these short answers in writing, Up to 10 opportunities to submit such work exist. Best 5 graded answers will enter final grading with 40% weight. For 60% of marking students have the choice between overall oral examination (25 minutes), oral seminar-style presentation in relation to a topic related to the course contents and agreed with lecturer (20 minutes presentation per person involved) and term paper on a topic related to the course contents and agreed with lecturer (2500 words (graded) including 10 minutes discussion of the paper) — introductory literatures on term paper topic and presentation would be provided

Admission requirements:	Recommended previous knowledge:
none	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: 12	

## Additional notes and regulations:

### Literature:

Literature and seminar papers will be circulated to students at the be ginning of term