



Courses taught in English at the Faculty of Economic Sciences

Module No.: M.WIWI-VWL.0116 Title: Special Interest Politics	Credits: 6
Course Content: This course focuses on the mechanisms by which groups of pressure (e.g. lobbies) influence policy outcomes in modern democracies and/or in developing countries. Special interest groups (SIGs) are ubiquitous in U.S. politics and in the political systems of most countries. We will ask, and provide answers to, the following questions: What qualifies a voluntary association as a SIG? How do SIGs derive and consolidate their power and influence? Which channels (feasible strategies) do they exploit to bias policy outcomes to their favour? What happens when groups with differing objectives compete for influence? The course introduces and analyzes several theoretical tools (e.g. campaign giving, influence buying, informational lobbying), progressing from standard constructions to more complex frameworks.	Course Type: Lecture

Recommended Prerequisites: Microeconomic Theory, Basic Game Theory	Exam: Written exam (90 min.)
Recommended Semester: 2-3	Cycle: Winter term
Literature: tba	Lecturer: Jun.-Prof. Dr. Marco Maria Sorge