Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	6 C
Module M.WIWI-VWL.0075: Selected Problems in Economics I: Be- havioral Aspects of Implementing Social Policies	2 WLH
Learning outcome, core skills: Students are provided with a practical perspective on what works (and what does not work and why) in implementing development or social policies using insights from behavioral sciences. It will draw upon empirical evidence and theoretical concepts discussed in other Development Economics lectures where students are made aware of classical problems of the poor, for instance, regarding nutrition, education, agricultural productivity and household finance. Taking it from there, the course is unique in that it discusses the success and failure of "real life" social interventions (targeted to improve the lives of the poor) looking through the lens of behavioral sciences. The course therefore provides a value added to the existing curriculum and may have particular practical relevance for students in the Master program on Development Economics who aim to work in policy making environments after finishing their degree.	Workload: Attendance time: 28 h Self-study time: 152 h
Courses: 1. Behavioral Aspects of Implementing Social Policies (Lecture) Contents:	1 WLH
Given that funds for implementing development policies are often limited, it makes sense to put some thought into how to use restricted resources in the most efficient way to improve well-being of the poor. Often small changes in how programs are implemented can make a big difference for program uptake and effectiveness. The course will introduce basic concepts and recent insights from the fields of behavioral economics and psychology that try to explain human decision making beyond standard economic theories. Based on these insights and recent research articles as well as examples from books like "Nudge" and "More than good intentions", we will discuss the importance of policy/intervention design for achieving the best poverty alleviating results when implementing social or development policies.	
<ul> <li>2. Behavioral Aspects of Implementing Social Policies (Seminar)</li> <li>Contents:</li> <li>Students will present a paper, applying the concepts learned in the lecture. Each student will comment on three presentations/papers of another student in the framework of short oral supplementary reports.</li> </ul>	1 WLH
Examination: Presentation (approx. 20 minutes) with written elaboration (max. 5 pages) Examination prerequisites: Regular attendance, 3 short oral supplementary reports (approx. 5 minutes each)	
<b>Examination requirements:</b> Good understanding of the importance of policy/intervention design and implementation aspects for program effectiveness. Ability to apply this knowledge to specific example cases. Good knowledge of the related recommended literature.	

Admission requirements: none	Recommended previous knowledge: Basic knowledge of micro issues in development economics, microeconomics and econometrics
<b>Language:</b>	<b>Person responsible for module:</b>
English	Dr. Juliane Zenker
Course frequency:	Duration:
once	1 semester[s]
Number of repeat examinations permitted:	Recommended semester:
twice	2 - 4