

INTRODUCTION

Master in Development Economics

October 2022

Outline

- The program MSc Development Economics
- Study plan
- Rules and regulations
- Course offers for 1st semester students
- Studying abroad
- Internships
- Studying & exams
- Contact & communication

The University of Göttingen

- Founded 1737
- University + university hospital
- Ca. 31,000 students, 13% international students
- Ca. 12,700 employees, ca. 11% internationals

MSc Development Economics

- Comprehensive teaching program since 2011
- Director of program: Prof. Sebastian Vollmer, Prof. Andreas Fuchs
- Numerous staff: full & junior professors, postdocs, PhD students
- 4 locations in 3 buildings
 - Department of Economics
 - OEC BUILDING: 3 Profs
 - BLUE TOWER (8th & 9th floor): 1 Prof
 - CEMIS (Centre or Modern Indian Studies; Waldweg 26): 1 Prof
 - Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development (BLUE TOWER): 4 Profs

Winter term 2022

- Ca. 120 active students
- 38 students joining in first semester
- 5 incomings from Florence joining in third semester
- 4 incomings from Clermont-Auvergne joining in third semester

Topic areas

- Poverty, Inequality
- Gender Bias
- Health, Social Protection Systems
- Food Security, Environment, Agriculture
- Trade, Capital Flows, Investment and Globalization
- Development Aid, Aid Effectiveness
- Employment, Wages, Education
- Conflict
- Migration

Key features

- Four semester program (120 credits) dedicated to the study of economic/agro-economic issues related to developing countries
- Two profiles:
 - Quantitative Economics (Prof. Andreas Fuchs, Prof. Sebastian Vollmer, Prof. Marcela Ibañez, Prof. Krisztina Kis-Katos, Prof. Holger Strulik)
 - Agricultural Economics (Prof. Meike Wollni, Prof. Bernhard Brümmer, Prof. Lisbeth Colen, Prof. Stefan von Cramon)

Key features

Compulsory Courses [Pflichtkurse]

Compulsory (Econometric I or II) [Pflichtkurse]

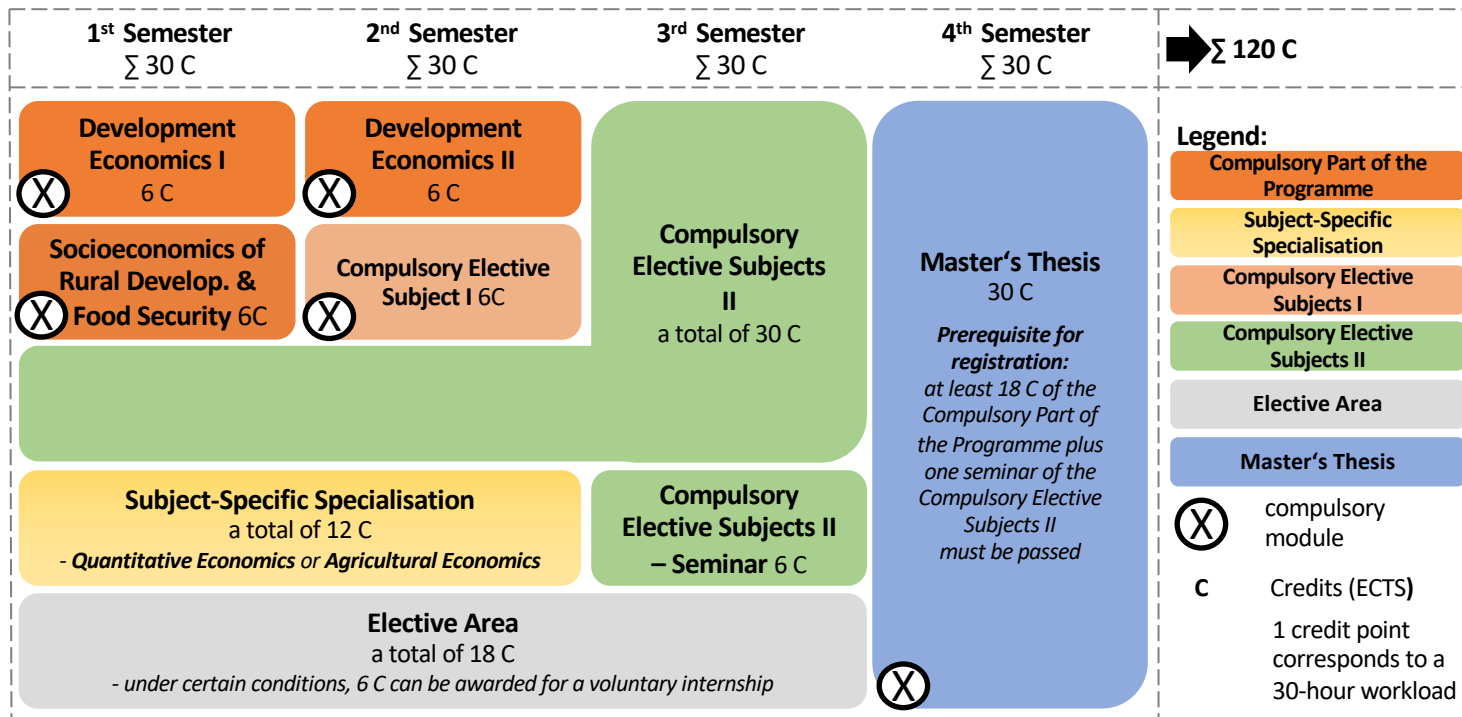
Mandatory specialization courses [Pflichtspezialisierungskurse]

Compulsory elective courses (elective mandatory / optional required / optional compulsory) [Wahlpflichtkurse]

Elective courses (optional courses) [Wahlfächer]

Classification of courses for students in the regular program (not double degree students)

Recommended study plan



Study plan for students in the regular program.

For all regulations please see the Study and Examination Regulations and Catalogue and Descriptions of Modules on the website of your study program.

Summary of requirement in terms of credit points

18C : three compulsory lectures + tutorials in Development Economics
6C : one compulsory modules in Econometrics, either Econometrics I or II

12C : two (out of four) mandatory specialization modules in your field of specialization (Economics or Agricultural Economics)

36C : six further elective compulsory courses, among them
1 compulsory seminar
5 elective compulsory modules

18C : three electives to chose among all modules of the two faculties [ECON, QUANT, SIA identification in module codes)

One semester abroad, not required for international students
Instead of semester abroad, a field study is possible; not required for international students but possible

= 15
modules
(90C) + 20-
week
Master
Thesis
(30C)

Important requirements in terms of CP

- The course work (90 CP = 15 modules * 6 CP) can be optimally done in 3 semesters (super-fast students) or in 4 to 5 semesters
- However, please note that the course work must have been accomplished at the beginning of your 6th semester (Fachsemester; holiday semesters do not count) after the re-sit exams have taken place (in your case: April 2025!). If you are below 90 CP in your course work, you will be ex-matriculated and not be able to obtain your degree in MSc Development Economics.

Important requirements in terms of CP

Hence, we suggest the following:

- Get done with your course work in your 5th semester (latest)
- Plan your internships for the time after you have completed your course work & before you start writing your master thesis
- The master thesis (30 CP, 20 weeks) can be written thereafter whenever it suits you. No ex-matriculation will occur but tuition fees (Langzeitstudiengebühren) might increase for long-term students (Langzeitstudenten)

List of modules

- Overview: <http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/204890.html>
- BUT, only the latest study regulations (currently from April 2022) are legally binding: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/204431.html>

Courses this semester

- Use [EXA](#) to find courses
- List of all modules taught, timetable, list of seminars uploaded in the Master Development Economics group in Stud.IP

Compulsory classes (winter semester)

all blocked October - December

Lecture

MON, 18:00 - 19:30
WED, 8:00 - 10:00

Tutorial

A: MON, 16:00 - 18:00
OR 18:00 - 19:30
B: THU, 16:00 - 18:00
OR 18:00 - 19:30

Development Economics I (Lecture)

+ Tutorial

Prof. Andreas Fuchs

Lecture

MON, 14:00 - 16:00
TUE, 12:00 - 14:00

Practical

TUE, 8:00 - 10:00
OR THU, 16:00 - 18:00

Tutorial s. schedule

Econometrics I (Lecture)

+ Practical

+ Tutorial (schedule on EXA / in Stud.IP)

Prof. Helmut Herwartz

MON, 9:30 - 12:00
WED, 14:00 - 16:00

Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security (Lecture)

Prof. Liesbeth Colen

Specialization: Economics

blocked October - December

TUE, 14:00 – 16:00
WED, 10:00 – 12:00
THU, 14:00 – 16:00

Poverty and Inequality (Lecture)
+ Tutorial
Prof. Sebastian Vollmer

Optional Compulsory (selection of suitable courses)

WED, 16:00 – 18:00
THU, 10:00 – 12:00

Macroeconomics of Open Economics
(Lecture)
+ Tutorial
Prof. Holger Strulik

TUE, 14:00 – 16:00
THU, 10:00 – 12:00
FRI, 10:00 – 12:00

Advanced Microeconomics
(Lecture and Tutorial)
Dr. Stephan Müller

FRI, 10:00 – 12:00

Behavioral Development Economics
(Lecture and Seminar)
Prof. Marcela Ibanez Diaz

Optional Compulsory (selection of suitable courses)

THU, 08:30 – 10:00
MON, 16:00 – 18:00

**Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainable Food
Systems (Lecture)**
Prof. Liesbeth Colen

Introduction: 28.10., 14-18:00
Further sessions: 20./21.01.; 27./28.01.,
03./04.02

**Gender and Development
(Lecture and Tutorial)**
Dr. Jana Tschurenev

For further courses see EXA and the time table uploaded in Stud.IP

Timetable suggestions

- We recommend taking only 4 courses in the first semester (unless you are familiar with the system/feel well-prepared)
- It is highly advisable to take the courses: Development Economics I & Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security
- We also strongly recommend taking Econometrics I unless you plan to take Econometrics II instead or you are very busy settling in
- The following examples are suggestions. You are free to make your own choices.

Timetable example I – Economics specialisation

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 -10:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 9:30 - 12:00	Econometrics I Practical - 08:00 - 10:00	Development Economics I Lecture - 08:00 - 10:00 *		
10:00 -12:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 9:30 - 12:00		Poverty and Inequality Tutorial - 10:00 - 12:00 *		
12:00 -14:00		Econometrics I Lecture - 12:00 - 14:00 *			
14:00 -16:00	Econometrics I Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00 *	Poverty and Inequality Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00 *	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00	Poverty and Inequality Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00 *	Econometrics I Tutorial - 14:00 - 16:00
16:00 -18:00				Development Economics I Tutorial B - 16:00- 18:00 *	
18:00 -20:00	Development Economics - 18:00- 19:30 * Lecture / Tutorial A				

Can be combined with

- Macroeconomics of Open Economies
- Behavioral Development Economics
- Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainable Food Systems
- Gender and Development

Timetable example II – Interest in agricultural econ

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 -10:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 9:30 - 12:00	Econometrics I Practical - 08:00 - 10:00	Development Economics I Lecture - 08:00 - 10:00 *	Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainable Food Systems Lecture - 8:30 - 10:00	
10:00 -12:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 9:30 - 12:00				
12:00 -14:00		Econometrics I Lecture - 12:00 - 14:00 *			
14:00 -16:00	Econometrics I Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00 *		Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00		Econometrics I Tutorial - 14:00 - 16:00
16:00 -18:00	Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainable Food Systems Lecture - 8:30 - 10:00			Development Economics I Tutorial B - 16:00- 18:00 *	
18:00 -20:00	Development Economics - 18:00- 19:30 * Lecture / Tutorial A				

Can be combined with

- Advanced Micro
- & same courses as in example I:
- Macroeconomics of Open Economies
- Behavioral Development Economics
- Gender and Development

Timetable example IIIa – Interest in general econ - micro

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 -10:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 9:30 - 12:00	Econometrics I Practical - 08:00 - 10:00	Development Economics I Lecture - 08:00 - 10:00 *		
10:00 -12:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 9:30 - 12:00			Advanced Microeconomics Lecture / Tut - 10:00 - 12:00	Advanced Microeconomics Lecture / Tut - 10:00 - 12:00
12:00 -14:00		Econometrics I Lecture - 12:00 - 14:00 *			
14:00 -16:00	Econometrics I Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00 *	Advanced Microeconomics Lecture / Tut - 14:00 - 16:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00		Econometrics I Tutorial - 14:00 - 16:00
16:00 -18:00				Development Economics I Tutorial B - 16:00- 18:00 *	
18:00 -20:00	Development Economics - 18:00- 19:30 * Lecture / Tutorial A				

Can be combined with

- Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainable Food Systems Lecture
- Gender and Development

Timetable example IIIb – Interest in general econ - macro

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 -10:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 9:30 - 12:00	Econometrics I Practical - 08:00 - 10:00	Development Economics I Lecture - 08:00 - 10:00 *		
10:00 -12:00	Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 9:30 - 12:00			Macroeconomics of Open Economies Lecture – 10:00 - 12:00	
12:00 -14:00		Econometrics I Lecture - 12:00 - 14:00 *			
14:00 -16:00	Econometrics I Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00 *		Socioeconomics of Rural Development and Food Security Lecture - 14:00 - 16:00		Econometrics I Tutorial - 14:00 - 16:00
16:00 -18:00			Macroeconomics of Open Economies Tutorial - 16:00 - 18:00	Development Economics I Tutorial B - 16:00- 18:00 *	
18:00 -20:00	Development Economics - 18:00- 19:30 * Lecture / Tutorial A				

Timetable examples

- You can of course combine any of the courses suggested in Option 2 and 3
- You can also take other courses in addition/ instead

Your timetable

- Any general questions?
- Overview time table of all compulsory, specialisation and optional compulsory courses available in the Master Development Economics group in Stud.IP
- Whole session for your individual questions tomorrow

Teaching

- Format
 - Lectures
 - (Practicals)
 - Tutorials
 - Seminars
- Each lecturer decides on how to organize their lecture themselves
- Check syllabus & announcements in Stud.IP

Teaching: Seminars

- Block seminars and seminars with weekly sessions
- Not advisable to take seminars (esp. block seminars) in your first semester
- Take 1-2 seminars before you start writing your thesis

Stay abroad

- Germans and foreigners with a German education must study abroad for one semester at a partner university
- Exemption: Bachelor certificate with at least 18 credits obtained during an exchange semester
- Alternative: field work abroad related to master thesis

Semester abroad (not required for international students)

- Should be planned for 3rd or 4th semester
- Plan sufficient time for preparation: Deadlines usually in December / January for a stay starting in August/September/October
- Uni-wide programs and specific exchange programs of the faculty
 - Some scholarships are tied to EU or German citizenship
- Advice and guidance: Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Auslandsstudienberatung (Study Abroad Advisory): <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/479624.html>
 - Info meetings in November
- Not possible for students with EPOS scholarship (and most other DAAD funding)

Semester abroad (not required for international students)



Auslandssemester für WiWis - Übersicht über alle angebotenen Programme und Bewerbungsprozesse (WiWi Auslandsstudienberatung)

- Mittwoch, 16.11.2022, 16-18 Uhr in ZHG 008 und über ZOOM

Erasmus+

Erasmus+ für WiWis - Mobilitäten innerhalb von Europa (WiWi Erasmus+ Team)

- Mittwoch, 30.11.2022, 16-18 Uhr in ZHG 008 und über ZOOM



Global Exchange Programme - Mobilitäten außerhalb Europas für alle Studierenden der Georg-August-Universität (Göttingen International)

- Dienstag, 08.11.2022, 16-18 Uhr, Anmeldung über Stud.IP

Alle weiteren Informationen zu den Veranstaltungen und ZOOM Links finden Sie auf unserer Website!

✉ auslandsstudium@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de



Semester abroad (not required for international students)

- Choice of more than 60 different universities
- Students may apply for the following programmes:
 - Exchange programme with the Stellenbosch University, South Africa
 - Exchange programme with universities in Latin America (for example Colombia, Brazil, Mexico) & the Caribbean (SALISES, Trinidad and Tobago)
 - Exchange programme with universities in Asia (for example China, India, and South Korea, Indonesia)
 - European Exchange Programmes ERASMUS , e.g. University of Florence; University of Clermont Auvergne, University of Lund, University of Groningen

Field study

- Usually: student assistant in a data collection
- Research projects of staff of the Development Economics group of the university or of other research institutes
- Mostly only expenses covered
- Difficult to plan, opportunities come spontaneously
- To fulfil the requirement of the mandatory stay abroad, the field work should be related to the master thesis

Internships

- One internship can be included as Elective module (6 CP, no grade)
 - Internship must be related to master program
 - Duration of at least 170 hours
 - Approval process ([detailed info](#)):
 - Apply for it at the dean of studies, at least 6 weeks ahead of planned start of internship to get pre-approval, provide plan for internship
 - After completion of internship provide report & certificate of employer

Has to be approved by Prof. Vollmer / Prof. Fuchs to earn credit points

- International students: mind visa regulations!
- Not possible for students in a Double Degree program

Double Degree programs

- Three double degree programs
 - Stellenbosch University, South Africa
 - University of Florence, Italy
 - University of Clermont Auvergne, France
- Some slots still available
- Interested students must join the mandatory info meeting tomorrow!

Major features of our MSc DE program

- MSc program offers a lot of freedom: Seven “pre-determined” courses & eight courses that can be elected from a large number of options
- The work-load seems small but a lot of independent study is required!
- Attendance of classes is neither checked nor enforced but indispensable!
- Often only 1 final exam (counts 100%) at the end of each lecture!
- Independent scientific work: Reading & understanding proposed literature, writing seminar papers & a 20-week MSc thesis
- We recommend to take 4-5 courses per semester and to earn (optimally) 24-30 credits per semester

Idea of students

- Interested
- Eager to learn, motivated
- Independent
- Responsible
- Fair
- Cooperative
- Honest

Exams : What will be on the exam??

- No lecturer will tell you the exam questions before-hand
- During lectures and tutorials professors emphasize certain aspects (listen carefully!)
- If professors talk about exams, they will do so in front of ALL students (equal treatment policy)
- The ASTA / Fachschaft usually collects OLD exams; prepare by the help of these exams

Exams: How to prepare for them??

- Start already during the semester with the preparation
- Going through the power point slides is NOT enough!
- Read the related literature carefully. Take notes!
- Go through the exercises in the tutorials
- Test critically whether you can solve the exercises without help
- Work with old exam questions
- Think of new exam questions
- Form study groups

Exams: Important regulations

- In order to earn CREDIT POINTS and GRADES you have to register in **FlexNow**
- You have 3 attempts to pass a course. The 3rd time you have to pass!!!
If you do not pass a compulsory course, you will be exmatriculated!
- If you are registered for an exam, it counts as an attempt, whether or not you show up!
- Deregister if you do not want to take the exam
- Improvement of grades is NOT possible. If you obtain e.g. a 3.0/3.3/3.7/4.0, you pass but you cannot take a second attempt. The first attempt counts 100%!
Prepare well for compulsory courses.

Register for your exams : FlexNow

- Different rules for registration depending on type of course and examination
- **Written Exam** : Usually until one week before the exam
- **Seminar Paper** : Sometimes upon registration for the seminar, sometimes until one week after the introductory meeting, sometimes until one week prior to the first submission deadline
- **Courses with exam but additional homework/paper** : Can vary, but make sure to check!

Deregistering / Not able to attend

- You can also deregister from FlexNow in a given time period, for exams until 24 hours before
- If you are sick and don't feel able to attend the exam:
 - Don't attempt it
 - Get a medical certificate from the doctor
 - Hand in the certificate with the WiWi Prüfungsamt

Importance of eCampus

- In order to earn CREDIT POINTS and GRADES you have to register in **FlexNow**
- In order to get the latest announcements & course material you have to register in **Stud.IP**
- In order to get official mails check your xy@stud.uni-goettingen.de account daily

Important links

- Study regulations of Msc DE (PStO MA DevEcon AM I/18 from **26 April 2022** in GERMAN, legally binding, carefully study appendices)
 - [German version](#)
 - [English version](#)
- [List of all modules \(MSc DE\)](#)
- [List of courses taught in English](#) (click on semester)

Communication

- Student email account
- Newsletter of economics department → need to sign up ([instructions](#))
- Development Economics newsletter
- Stud.IP group Master Development Economics

Contact

- Weekly office hours, in person and online, book appointment via Stud.IP
- Ann-Charline Weber: Thursdays, 16:00-18:00 ([sign-up](#))
- Dr. Felicitas Nowak-Lehmann Danzinger: Wednesdays, 11:00-12:00 ([sign-up](#))

Q & A