



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

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Study Guide

MSc Sustainable International Agriculture

Winter semester 2026/2027



In the digital version, an arrow (↗) indicates that a hyperlink is embedded in the text and can be opened directly. In the printed version, QR codes provide quick access to the same online resources.

Dear students,

As you embark on your journey in the Master's program in Sustainable International Agriculture (SIA), I want to warmly welcome you to the Universities of Göttingen and Kassel (Witzenhausen). While most of you have completed Bachelor's studies in Agriculture or a related field, some may already possess a Master's degree, but seek to complement that with knowledge and expertise in a new area.

Most of you are new to Göttingen or Witzenhausen, and many did not live in Germany, or Europe, before. We hope that this student guide helps you to facilitate your transition to your new academic home, and to navigate your academic journey. Within this guide, you will find all the essential information about your studies, university facilities, and examination procedures.

The Sustainable International Agriculture Master's program addresses many critical questions of our time. Agriculture and its connections to human and planetary health are central to many ongoing societal debates, demanding expertise and critical thinking on these topics. We believe this study program will enable you to actively participate in these discussions and to contribute to a sustainable future for agriculture and food. Depending on your chosen study orientation, your primary focus will be on tropical agriculture and agroecosystems, on organic agriculture, or on agribusiness and the economics of rural development, all with a strong international perspective. However, we encourage you to make use of the numerous opportunities to broaden your horizons, by attending lectures from the other study orientations, but also from other faculties.

Throughout this program, you will not only develop academically, but you will also build connections and grow as a person and a future professional. The past experiences and career trajectories of SIA program graduates underscore the significance of the program's international profile, insights and experiences shared by students from around the world, and the networks and friendships formed here.

We hope you will enjoy your time studying in Göttingen and Witzenhausen. The Faculties of Agricultural Sciences at both Universities wish you a successful start in the SIA program!

Liesbeth Colen**Speaker of the SIA Study Program**

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Contacts are grouped by study location for easier orientation.

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1 The M.Sc. Sustainable International Agriculture (SIA): At a Glance

The master's program "Sustainable International Agriculture" (SIA) is a joint degree program of the **University of Göttingen** and the **University of Kassel**. Courses are offered at two study locations: **Göttingen and Witzenhausen**, where the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences of the University of Kassel is located. The program is internationally oriented, and all SIA modules are taught in English. The program starts in the winter semester, has a standard period of study of 4 semesters, and comprises 120 ECTS credits.

Students choose one of three specialization profiles:

- International Agribusiness and Rural Development Economics
- International Organic Agriculture
- Tropical Agricultural and Agroecosystems Sciences

The profiles differ in their thematic focus and in the distribution of modules between Göttingen and Witzenhausen. Most modules in **International Agribusiness and Rural Development Economics** are offered in Göttingen, while **International Organic Agriculture** mainly takes place in Witzenhausen. Modules in **Tropical Agricultural and Agroecosystems Sciences** are offered at both locations.

For detailed information on requirements of each specialization, please consult the **Examination and Study Regulations (PStO)**⁷ and the current **Module Catalog**⁷.

4 semesters standard period of study	120 ECTS to complete the degree	30 ECTS regular full-time semester
International Agribusiness and Rural Development Economics		
Block A: Compulsory Modules (24C) • Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches (6C) • World Agriculture Markets and Trade (6C) • Socioeconomics of rural development and food security (6C) • Econometrics I (6C)		
Block B: Elective Compulsory Modules (30C) Choose from the elective compulsory modules listed in the module catalog, including at least one methods module (code M).	Block C: Elective Modules (36C) Choose from the elective modules listed in the module catalog or from elective compulsory modules that you have not yet selected.	
Master's thesis and colloquium (30C)		

International Organic Agriculture

Block A: Compulsory Modules (30C)

- Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches (6C)
- Organic livestock farming under temperate conditions (6C)
- Applied statistical modelling (6C)
- Organic cropping systems under temperate and (sub)tropical conditions (6C)
- Soil and plant science (6C)

Block B: Elective Compulsory Modules (24C)

Choose from the elective compulsory modules listed in the module catalog, including at least **one** methods module (code **M**) and **one** economics module (Code **E**).

Block C: Elective Modules (36C)

Choose from the elective modules listed in the module catalog or from elective compulsory modules that you have not yet selected.

Master's thesis and colloquium (30C)

Tropical Agricultural and Agroecosystems Sciences

Block A: Compulsory Modules (30C)

- Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches (6C)
- Tropical animal husbandry systems (6C)
- Applied statistical modelling (6C)
- Soil and plant science (6C)
- Management of tropical plant production systems (6C)

Block B: Elective Compulsory Modules (24C)

Choose from the elective compulsory modules listed in the module catalog, including at least **one** methods module (code **M**).

Block C: Elective Modules (36C)

Choose from the elective modules listed in the module catalog or from elective compulsory modules that you have not yet selected.

Master's thesis and colloquium (30C)

Understanding ECTS and SWS

Each module is assigned a certain number of credits under the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). ECTS credits are commonly abbreviated as C.

1 C ≈ 30 hours of work (including preparation, self-study, assignments, and examinations)

6 C module ≈ 180 hours of work

30 C = regular full-time semester

SWS (Semesterwochenstunden)

One SWS corresponds to one scheduled teaching hour per week during the lecture period. SWS describe teaching time, while ECTS reflect the overall student workload.

Administrative Procedures

As an SIA student, you are enrolled at both the University of Göttingen and the University of Kassel. Although SIA is a joint degree program, most administrative procedures are handled by the University of Göttingen. This includes, in particular, re-registration for every new semester and most examination-related procedures.

2 Planning and Organizing Your Studies

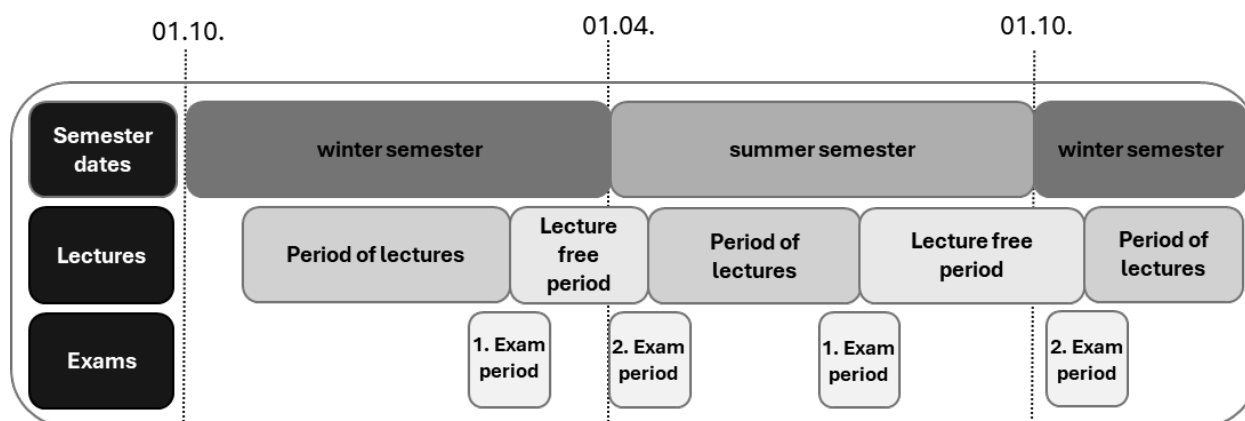
2.1 Standard Period of Study, Workload and Study Planning

The standard period of study is 4 semesters with a regular full-time workload of 30 ECTS credits per semester. As most modules are worth 6 ECTS credits, this usually corresponds to about **5 modules per semester**. An **Exemplary Study Plan** is provided at the end of this Study Guide to help you plan and organize your studies.

The academic year is divided into a winter semester and a summer semester. Each semester consists of a lecture period and a lecture-free period. The exact semester and lecture dates are published in the University's **academic calendar**⁷.

	Winter semester 2026/27	Summer semester 2027
Semester period	01 Oct 2026 – 31 Mar 2027	01 Apr 2027 – 30 Sep 2027
Period of lectures	26 Oct 2026 – 12 Feb 2027	12 Apr 2027 – 16 Jul 2027
winter break (no regular classes)	24 Dec 2026 – 08 Jan 2027	

At the University of Göttingen, there are two **examination periods** per semester: one at the end of the lecture period and one at the beginning of the following semester. Each examination period lasts approximately 2-3 weeks. Students can generally choose in which examination period they take an exam.



Please note: Academic schedules are not identical at the University of Göttingen and the University of Kassel. Lecture periods, examination periods and other relevant dates may therefore differ between the two universities. When planning your semester, make sure to check the current **dates and deadlines of the University of Kassel**⁷ separately.

2.2 Grading System

The German grading system may differ from grading systems used in your home country. In Germany, lower numerical grades indicate better performance. Grades generally range from **1.0 (very good)** to **4.0 (sufficient/pass)**. A grade of 5.0 indicates that the examination has not been passed.

passed										failed
1,0	1,3	1,7	2,0	2,3	2,7	3,0	3,3	3,7	4,0	5,0

2.3 Choosing and Changing Your Study Profile

At the beginning of your studies, you choose one of the three SIA study profiles. **The profile you indicated during your application does not determine your final study profile.** If, during the first weeks of your studies, you realize that another profile better matches your interests, you can still choose a different one. **Your study profile only becomes binding when you register for your first examination.** What matters is the profile under which this first examination is registered (see chapter 4.2).

It is generally possible to change your study profile later. There is no specific deadline for requesting a change. However, **you may change your study profile only once.** To request a change, you need to contact the Examination Office (see chapter 4.1).

Before requesting a change, carefully check how your completed modules fit into the structure of the new profile. As the profiles have different compulsory and elective compulsory modules:

- some modules may remain in the same category;
- some modules may be reassigned to another category, for example from an elective compulsory module to an elective module; and
- you may need to complete additional compulsory or elective compulsory modules required for the new profile.

Please consult the current Module Catalog to compare the requirements of the profiles (see also chapter 13). If you are unsure how your completed modules may fit into the new profile, you may contact Dr. Lydia Pohl (sia@uni-goettingen.de) for an initial assessment before submitting your request.

2.4 Semester Re-registration

You will need to re-register for your study program each semester. To do so, you must pay the semester fee by the **re-registration deadline**, which usually falls in July for the upcoming winter semester and in January for the upcoming summer semester. If you have missed the re-registration deadline or forgotten to pay the semester fee, please contact Dr. Lydia Pohl (sia@uni-goettingen.de) as soon as possible to clarify the next steps.



Please note: Re-registration is only required at the **University of Göttingen**. Your re-registration will be communicated to the **University of Kassel automatically**, so no separate re-registration in Kassel is necessary.

2.5 Long-Term Tuition Fees

Students may be required to pay long-term tuition fees once their available study credit (*Studienguthaben*) has been used up. For students who obtained their qualifying degree outside Germany, the study credit usually corresponds to twice the standard period of study. This means that long-term tuition fees generally apply from the 9th semester onwards. The fee is currently **€250 per semester** and is charged **in addition to the regular semester fee**. Previous semesters at German public universities may reduce this study credit. Further information is available on the University's website on **long-term tuition fees**⁷.



3 Digital Systems

During your studies, you will use several digital systems of the University of Göttingen, which serve different purposes:

- **eCampus:** central access point for university services and your university e-mail
- **Stud.IP:** course registration (not exam registration!) and course materials
- **EXA:** course catalog and information on courses, times and locations
- **FlexNow:** examination registration, grades and records of achievement

Please note: The digital systems described in this chapter refer to the **University of Göttingen**. The **University of Kassel** uses its own digital platforms and services for courses in Witzenhausen, including **Moodle** and **eCampus Kassel** (see also chapter 12). Depending on the module, course information, materials and organizational details may therefore be provided through different systems. Please make sure to check the relevant platform for each course.

3.1 eCampus and University E-Mail

eCampus is the central online portal of the University of Göttingen. Via eCampus, you can access the digital services presented in the following sections, including Stud.IP, EXA, FlexNow, Self-Service Functions and your student e-mail account (“eCampusMail”).

Together with your university user account, you will receive the access details for your student e-mail address. This address usually follows the format *firstname.lastname@stud.uni-goettingen.de* or *firstnamemiddlename.lastname@stud.uni-goettingen.de* and cannot be changed. The first part of your e-mail address (e.g. *firstname.lastname*) is your central university user ID. This user ID, together with your central university password, is used to log in to eCampus, Stud.IP and other university services. **Your personal password is universally valid.**

Your university e-mail address is the official communication channel of the University. Important information from the university administration, the Examination Office and other

university services will be sent to this address. Therefore, please check your university e-mail regularly.

3.2 EXA – Course Catalog and Semester Planning

EXA is the University's online course catalog. It provides information about courses offered in the current and upcoming semesters, including course dates, locations and lecturers. You can use EXA to search for courses and plan your semester. You can access EXA via eCampus by following the link "University Course Catalog."

3.3 Stud.IP – Course Registration and Materials

Stud.IP is the University's central learning platform. For most modules, you should register for the corresponding course in Stud.IP at the beginning of the semester.

Stud.IP is mainly used to:

- register for courses;
- access course materials and announcements;
- receive information from lecturers;
- view course dates and your personal timetable; and
- communicate within your courses.

Stud.IP automatically generates a personal timetable based on the courses you have registered for. You can use this timetable to keep track of your weekly schedule.

Please note that registration in Stud.IP is not the same as registration for an examination.

Examination registration is usually completed separately in FlexNow. If you decide not to participate in a course for which places are limited, please deregister in Stud.IP so that the place can be made available to another student.

Stud.IP Group "M.Sc. Sustainable International Agriculture"

In Stud.IP, you can find a study group titled "M.Sc. Sustainable International Agriculture". This group is used to share information related to the SIA program. All SIA students should join the group to receive important information, including announcements, events, course-related information and job advertisements.

3.4 FlexNow – Examinations and Grades

FlexNow is the University's examination management system. It is used to register for and withdraw from examinations, to check examination results and grades, and to access your academic record.

In FlexNow, you can:

- register for and withdraw from examinations;
- check your current examination registrations;
- view examination results and grades; and
- generate a record of achievement.

Please note that registration in **Stud.IP** does not automatically register you for an **examination in FlexNow**. Examination registration must be completed separately within the applicable deadlines. For detailed information on examination registration, withdrawal and examination deadlines, please refer to **Chapter 4.2**.

3.5 Self-Service Functions

The Self-Service Functions („SB-Funktionen“) are used for administrative matters related to your enrollment. Here you can:

- re-register for the next semester;
- download certificates of enrollment;
- update your contact details; and
- apply for de-registration from the University.

Please make sure that your contact details are always up to date!

3.6 Technical Support

If you experience technical problems with your university account, password or eCampus, please contact **studIT – IT Service for Students** (campussupport@uni-goettingen.de). For problems with Stud.IP, please contact the **Stud.IP Support** for Students (studip@uni-goettingen.de).

4 Examination Matters

4.1 Examination Office

The **Examination Office of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences** is responsible for the administrative aspects of examinations. Please contact the Examination Office if you have questions or problems concerning **FlexNow, examination registration or withdrawal, examination results, or other formal examination matters**.

If you need to visit the Examination Office in person, please arrange an appointment in advance.

Faculty of Agricultural Sciences – Examination Office	
Büsgenweg 5, 37077 Göttingen	
E-Mail:	paagrar@uni-goettingen.de
Phone:	+49 551 39-29649
Telephone hours:	Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 09:30–10:30 Tuesday and Thursday: 13:30–14:30



Most examination administration for the SIA program is handled by the University of Göttingen. However, the Examination Office in Witzenhausen serves as an additional important contact point for examinations and academic records related to courses taken in Witzenhausen (see chapter 12).

4.2 Examination Registration and Withdrawal

Examinations generally take place during **two examination periods per semester** at the University of Göttingen. For information on the timing of these periods, please refer to **Chapter 2.1**. In the first lecture of each module, the examination procedure will usually be explained by the lecturer responsible for the module.

Registration

Registration for module examinations is carried out independently by students in **FlexNow via eCampus**. To register, open FlexNow and select **“Register for exams/cancel registration”**. Please make sure to check the examination date carefully so that you register for the correct examination.

The following registration deadlines apply:

- **Written and oral examinations:** at least **7 days before the examination date**
- **Course-related examinations**, such as reports: generally until the end of the official submission period
- **Practical examinations**, project work, laboratory courses, etc.: specific registration periods may apply

Please always check the deadline shown in FlexNow and the information provided by the lecturer. Modules are generally offered in two examination periods. When registering, check carefully that you select the examination date you intend to take.

Check whether additional registration is required: For some modules, especially those taught in Witzenhausen, additional registration directly with the responsible lecturer may be required. However, all lecturers in Witzenhausen must also ensure that registration for SIA module examinations is possible via FlexNow. Registration with the lecturer alone is therefore not sufficient.

Select the correct study profile: When registering for an examination, make sure to select the module under your own study profile, e.g. *International Organic Agriculture*. The same module may be listed under several profiles. **This is particularly important for your first examination registration, as the profile selected at this stage determines which modules are subsequently displayed in FlexNow.** If you selected the wrong profile, please contact the Examination Office in Göttingen. For information on changing your study profile, see Chapter 2.3.

Withdrawal

If you decide not to take an examination, you must withdraw from it in FlexNow within the applicable deadline.

The following withdrawal deadlines apply:

- **Written examinations:** up to **24 hours before the examination**
- **Oral examinations:** up to **5 days before the examination**

- **Course-related examinations**, such as reports: withdrawal is generally only possible within the course specific registration period
- **Practical examinations**, project work, laboratory courses, etc.: specific withdrawal periods may apply

If you remain registered and do not attend the examination without an accepted reason, the examination may count as a **failed attempt**.

Important: Successfully completed modules cannot be repeated to improve the grade.

4.3 Illness on the Examination Date

If you are unable to take an examination due to illness, you must notify the Examination Office and submit a medical certificate within 3 days of the examination date.

The notification is submitted through eCampus.

Go to: “Forms” → “Examination Office’s forms” → “Acknowledgement of an illness”

Select the relevant examination, upload the medical certificate, add your electronic signature, and submit the form. You can check in FlexNow whether the Examination Office has received your notification. If the medical certificate is submitted **later than 3 days after the exam**, or if you miss the examination without an accepted excuse, the examination will count as a **failed attempt**.

4.4 Failed Exams and Repetition of Examinations

If you fail an examination, you can repeat it **twice**, giving you a **maximum of 3 attempts** in total. Before the second repetition, i.e. before your final attempt, you should contact the program coordination/advisory service and the lecturer responsible for the respective module. You can normally repeat the examination in the following examination period. The examination should be **repeated within 1 year** at the latest.

5 Internship

An internship is **not a compulsory part** of the SIA program. However, students are encouraged to gain practical experience through a voluntary internship, as this can complement their academic studies and support their professional development.

Depending on the duration of the internship, it may be documented through one of the following modules:

- **M.Agr.P1: Internship A** – minimum 4 weeks
- **M.Agr.P2: Internship B** – minimum 8 weeks
- **M.Agr.P3: Internship C** – minimum 12 weeks

These internship modules are not part of the regular curriculum and do not count towards the credits required for the degree. Once completed, however, the internship will be listed as an **additional achievement** on the final transcript.

To complete the module, students must submit an **ungraded internship report** of no more than 6 pages. The report should demonstrate the ability to:

- connect theoretical knowledge with practical experience;
- present the internship activities and tasks in a clear and well-structured manner; and
- reflect critically on the experience gained during the internship.

After completing the internship, please send the report to Dr. Lydia Pohl (sia@uni-goettingen.de).

Leave of Absence for an Internship

If you complete a longer voluntary internship, you may be eligible to apply for a **leave of absence (Urlaubssemester)**⁷. Since internships are not a compulsory part of the SIA program, a voluntary internship may qualify as a reason for a leave of absence if it takes up more than half of the lecture period. A copy of the internship contract must be submitted with the application.

During a semester of leave, you remain enrolled as a member of the University, but the semester is generally not counted as a subject semester (*Fachsemester*) and therefore does not count towards the standard period of study. In addition, you do not have to pay the full regular semester contribution during a semester of leave.

Please note that during a semester of leave, you generally cannot attend courses or complete regular coursework or examinations. A semester of leave is not taken into account for long-term tuition fees and may therefore delay the point at which these fees become due (see Chapter 2.5).

6 Free Project

The module **M.SIA.I11M: Free Project** allows students to carry out an individual academic project under the supervision of a professor or postdoctoral researcher involved in the SIA program. The module is worth 6 C and is counted as an elective module. The Free Project may be completed at any time during the degree program, but only once.

A Free Project can be a useful opportunity to:

- explore a specific topic in greater depth;
- gain experience working with a potential supervisor for the Master's thesis; or
- use the lecture-free period to complete additional credits.

A Free Project is based on a voluntary agreement between the student and a professor or postdoctoral researcher. In principle, any professor or postdoctoral researcher involved in the SIA program may supervise a Free Project, but they are not required to accept a supervision request.

You should first identify a suitable topic and contact a potential supervisor with a short project outline. If they agree to supervise the project, you will jointly define the topic, scope, assignment and other conditions.

Tip: If you are particularly interested in a lecturer's research, consider asking whether a Free Project could be linked to one of their ongoing projects. When contacting a potential supervisor, please mention the official module M.SIA.I11M: Free Project, as not all lecturers may be familiar with this option.

The Free Project does not need to be registered in FlexNow before it begins. No forms or documents need to be submitted to the Examination Office in advance.

After the agreed assignment has been completed and assessed, the supervisor must send the following information directly to the Examination Office (see chapter 4.1):

- the official title of the Free Project; and
- the final grade.

The Examination Office will then record the Free Project and the grade in FlexNow.

7 Master's Thesis and Colloquium

The Master's thesis is an independent scientific research project and is usually completed in the final phase of the study program. Successful completion of the Master's thesis is worth **22.5 C**, and the subsequent colloquium is worth **7.5 C**.

7.1 Requirements for Starting the Master's Thesis

To be admitted to the Master's thesis, SIA students must have earned at least **78 C**, including **all compulsory modules** and at least **four elective compulsory modules**.

Before applying for admission, students need to find a suitable thesis topic and two supervisors. At least one of the supervisors must be a habilitated professor of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Göttingen or the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences at the University of Kassel.

7.2 Registration, Writing Period and Submission

To register your Master's thesis, please request the application form from the Examination Office by email (paagr@uni-goettingen.de).

Complete the form and submit it to the Examination Office **at the beginning of your thesis work and no later than 6 weeks before the planned submission date**. For practical or experimental theses in particular, the timing of the registration should be discussed with your supervisors to ensure that the thesis can realistically be completed within the prescribed writing period.

The application must include:

- the proposed thesis topic;
- the names of the first and second examiners; and
- the signatures of both examiners confirming their supervision.

Once the Examination Office has approved your application, your thesis will automatically be registered in FlexNow. The Examination Office will calculate the final submission deadline and inform you accordingly.

The regular writing period is **22 weeks**. The thesis must be written in English and submitted electronically via FlexNow by the official submission deadline. In exceptional cases, the writing period may be extended up to a total of 30 weeks upon justified application to the Examination Board, provided that there is an important reason beyond the student's control. A thesis submitted after the deadline is considered **not passed**. The Master's thesis may be repeated once.

7.3 Colloquium

The colloquium usually takes place within **6 weeks after submission of the Master's thesis**. Students arrange the date directly with their two supervisors.

The colloquium lasts approximately 60 minutes and consists of:

- a presentation of the Master's thesis of approximately 30 minutes, followed by
- a scientific discussion of approximately 30 minutes.

The purpose of the colloquium is to demonstrate that students can present and discuss their research scientifically, address interdisciplinary and problem-specific questions, and place their work in the broader context. The colloquium may be repeated once. The final grade for the Master's thesis module is calculated by weighting the thesis and the colloquium in a ratio of 3:1

7.4 Certificate and Transcript

After the supervisors have submitted the final grades for the Master's thesis and the colloquium, the grades will be visible in FlexNow. The Examination Office will then inform you by email how to apply for your final certificate and transcript. The Examination Office will issue the certificate and transcript after receiving the required application from you. If you expect to leave Germany before your documents are available, please contact the Examination Office in advance to clarify the available options.

7.5 Legalization of the Master's Certificate

This section applies to **international students only**.

Depending on your home country, your Master's certificate and transcript may need to be legalized in order to be officially recognized. It is the student's responsibility to check the requirements of their home country and to arrange the necessary legalization. The Examination Office can provide further information on the legalization procedure and the relevant contact points. Students should also contact the relevant embassy or consulate to find out which requirements apply in their individual case.

Important: The legalization process may currently take **more than 8 weeks**. Please plan accordingly, especially if you need the documents for further studies, employment, or visa purposes.

8 Support and Useful University Services

The University of Göttingen offers a wide range of services to support students throughout their studies. The following section provides an overview of the most relevant contact points and university services.

8.1 Program Coordination and Academic Advice

The SIA coordinator is your main point of contact for questions related specifically to the SIA study program. You can contact the coordinator for advice on study planning, module combinations and other questions concerning the organization of your studies.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you are unsure about anything or encounter difficulties during your studies, especially if you have failed an examination twice or if your studies are likely to extend beyond the standard period of study. Experience has shown that many issues can be resolved much more easily when they are addressed early. It is therefore always better to ask sooner rather than later.

Dr. Lydia Pohl Büsgenweg 5, 37077 Göttingen sia@uni-goettingen.de; +49 551 39-25532	Ute Gilles Steinstraße 19, 37213 Witzenhausen u.gilles@uni-kassel.de; +49 561 804-1214
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8.2 Support for International Students

8.2.1 Göttingen International - The International Student Office

Göttingen International is the central point of contact for international students regarding non-academic matters before and during their studies. The International Student Office provides information and advice on topics such as student administration, health insurance, accommodation, financing and financial emergencies, as well as general orientation and life in Göttingen. It also offers information on welcome activities, intercultural and cultural events, and other services specifically for international students. For updates on upcoming events, welcome activities and other opportunities for international students, you can also follow Göttingen International on **Instagram (@ugoe.international)**.

If you are unsure which university service to contact with a particular concern, the International Student Office can also help direct you to the appropriate contact point.

The International Student Office ↗ Von-Siebold-Straße 2, 37075 Göttingen	
E-Mail:	international.study@uni-goettingen.de
Phone:	+49 551 39-27777
Telephone hours:	Monday: 13:00 – 16:00 Tuesday to Friday: 09:00–12:00
	

8.2.2 InDiGU-PLUS

The **InDiGU-PLUS** program supports international students from the beginning of their studies through to the transition into the German labor market. Its offers include workshops, intercultural activities, academic and professional communication training, and networking opportunities.

InDiGU-PLUS

Anastasia Klimina (*Project coordination*)

Von-Siebold-Straße 2, 37075 Göttingen

Indigu-plus@uni-goettingen.de; +49 (0)551/39 - 21336



8.2.3 Study Buddy Program

International students may also benefit from the university's **Study Buddy Program**, which connects international students with fellow students and can help with orientation at the university and everyday student life.

8.3 Career and Writing Support

8.3.1 Career Service

The Career Service of the University of Göttingen supports students in preparing for internships, applications, and the transition into professional life. It offers individual advice, workshops, and information on career opportunities.

Career Service - Career Support for international students

Wilhelmsplatz 4, 37073 Göttingen

career@uni-goettingen.de; +49 (0)551 / 39 – 24642



8.3.2 International Writing Lab

The International Writing Lab supports students in developing their academic writing skills. You can receive individual advice and participate in workshops on scientific writing, including reports, protocols, term papers, and the **Master's thesis**. Many of the offers are free of charge and can be useful throughout your studies. More information about current workshops and consultations is available **here**.



8.4 Counseling and Personal Support

Studying can sometimes be challenging, and difficulties related to your studies or personal life can affect your well-being. If you experience study-related stress, exam anxiety, motivational difficulties, personal problems or simply feel that you could benefit from talking to someone, several counseling services are available to students in Göttingen.

The **Psychosocial Counseling Service (PSB)**[↗] of the Studierendenwerk Göttingen supports students with personal and study-related difficulties, such as exam anxiety, learning and work problems, stress, loneliness, personal crises or feeling overwhelmed. Counseling is free of charge and confidential and is available in person, by video or by telephone.



The **Psychotherapeutic Outpatient Clinic for Students (PAS)**[↗] supports students experiencing psychological crises, mental health difficulties or study-related problems. It offers diagnostic consultations, short-term individual support and individual and group therapy.



Nightline Göttingen[↗] is an anonymous listening hotline run by students for students. You can call if you would simply like to talk to someone about something that is bothering you. The service is available Monday to Thursday from 9:00 p.m. to midnight, with English-speaking listeners available on Mondays.



The **Counseling for Study and Social Issues (AStA)**[↗] offers student-to-student counseling on social and practical matters related to studying. Topics include student financing, housing, health insurance, studying with a child, accessible studying, semester ticket reimbursement and questions particularly relevant to international students.



Please do not hesitate to seek support if you feel that something is affecting your studies or well-being. You do not need to wait until a problem becomes serious before contacting a counseling service.

8.5 Equal Opportunities and Anti-Discrimination

The University of Göttingen is committed to providing equal opportunities and to creating an inclusive study environment. If you experience discrimination, sexual harassment or violence during your studies, you can contact the University's Equal Opportunities or Anti-Discrimination services for confidential advice and support. The Equal Opportunities Offices are there to support you confidentially and respectfully.

Equal Opportunities Team – Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

Büsgenweg 5, 37077 Göttingen

Dr. Sabrina Bethge

gb.bethge@agr.uni-goettingen.de; +49 (0)551 / 39 – 25106

University Equal Opportunities Officer

Goßlerstraße 9, 37073 Göttingen

Dr. Doris Hayn

doris.hayn@zvw.uni-goettingen.de; +49 (0)551 / 39 – 26321

For additional support, students may also contact the University's central Anti-Discrimination Counseling Service.

Central Anti-Discrimination Counseling Service

Goßlerstraße 9, 37073 Göttingen

adb@uni-goettingen.de; +49 (0)551 / 39 – 26665

8.6 Maternity Protection

Students who are pregnant, have recently given birth or are breastfeeding are entitled to maternity protection. This may include adjustments to courses, practical work and examinations where necessary to protect the health of the student and child. You can find more information [here](#).

Please inform the University as early as possible so that any necessary arrangements can be made in good time.

Contact person maternity leave at the University of Göttingen

Judith Block, Office of Student Affairs, Wilhelmsplatz 4, 37073 Göttingen

mutterschutz@uni-goettingen.de; +49 551 39-23057

Contact person for maternity leave at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences in Göttingen

Dr. Susann Graupner, Büsgenweg 5, 37077 Göttingen

sgraupn@gwdg.de, +49 551 39-25109

8.7 Library, Study Spaces and IT Services

8.7.1 University Library (SUB)

The Göttingen State and University Library (Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen, SUB) is one of the five largest scientific libraries in Germany. It provides access to books, journals, databases and electronic resources. Your student ID card also serves as your library card. In addition to the Central Library, several branch libraries are located across the University. A list of all the other libraries can be found [here](#).

The SUB offers **introductory courses** for using the library and online catalog. You will be taught how to access the items you want to read and how to search for relevant literature in the



University Catalog (GUK)[↗]. Additionally, the SUB offers advisory services for navigating the library. Occasionally there will also be courses on more specific topics such as how to do research in agricultural sciences. You can find the current offers for courses **here**[↗].

8.7.2 Learning and Study Building (LSG)

The **Learning and Study Building**[↗] (“Lern- und Studiengebäude”, LSG) is located on the Central Campus close to the Central Canteen. It offers individual and group study spaces, some of which are equipped with additional facilities such as whiteboards, smartboards or computers. Study rooms can be booked via eCampus → More → LSG/SUB study rooms. Bookings are managed through a **reservation point system**: the longer a room is booked and the more equipment it offers, the more points are charged. A higher point balance limits how far in advance additional rooms can be reserved; points are automatically removed after 40 days and can be shared for group bookings. Especially during examination periods, rooms may be fully booked, so it is advisable to reserve them in advance.



8.7.3 Printing and Copying

Printers and copy machines are available at several library and University locations. Printing and copying can be paid for using the printing balance linked to your student ID card. To use the machines, you first need to load money onto your student ID card and transfer the required amount to your printing balance (your student ID card will hold two separate budgets; one for canteen/cafes and one for printing/copying). Self-service machines for this purpose are available, for example, in the Central Library.

The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences sometimes provides a **free printing budget** for the students. This will be automatically loaded onto your printing budget sometime around the beginning of the semester. The amount varies between semesters.

8.7.4 Wi-Fi and IT Support

Students have access to the University Wi-Fi network via **eduroam**. Your university account can also be used to access eduroam at many other universities and research institutions worldwide. If you experience problems with your University account, Stud.IP, Wi-Fi or other IT services, please contact **studIT Support**[↗]. Personal support is also available at several locations on campus, including the Central Library.

8.7.5 Campus Licenses

As a student of the University of Göttingen, you have access to a range of **campus licenses** for software and digital services. Depending on the license, software may be available free of charge or at a reduced price. Available licenses include, for example, applications such as **Microsoft Office** and **Zoom**. For an overview of currently available software and license conditions, please refer to the University's campus license website.



9 Student Life in Göttingen

9.1 Student Council and Student Community

The **Student Council of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences** (**Fachschaft Agrarwissenschaften**) represents students' interests within the Faculty and in various university committees. It is also a useful point of contact for questions related to student life and organizes various activities and events for students throughout the semester, including the well-known LaWi-Party twice per year.

In addition, several **student initiatives and working groups (AGs)** offer opportunities to meet other students, exchange ideas on agricultural topics and get involved in university life.

For current information about the Student Council, student initiatives and upcoming events at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, please follow the **Student Council on Instagram (@fsagrar_goe)**.

9.2 Mobility and Semester Ticket

Göttingen is a compact city, and most university facilities can easily be reached by bicycle, bus or on foot. Cycling is particularly common among students and is often the easiest way to travel between the city center, the Central Campus and the North Campus.

The semester fee includes a Germany-wide semester ticket ("*Deutschlandsemesterticket*"). It allows students to use local and regional public transport throughout Germany under the same general conditions as the regular *Deutschlandticket*. The ticket is provided digitally and must be reactivated after re-registration for each new semester. **Here** you can find more information on how the semester ticket works.

The semester fee also currently includes a Culture Semester Ticket ("*Kultursemesterticket*"), which gives students free or substantially reduced admission to participating cultural institutions and events in Göttingen. **Here** you can find more information about the Culture Semester Ticket.



9.3 Canteens

The Studierendenwerk Göttingen operates several canteens and cafeterias across the university campus. They offer a variety of meals and snacks at reduced student prices, including vegetarian and vegan options. Meals and other purchases are usually paid for using your student

ID card (similar to paying with a Debit/credit card). Money can be loaded onto the card at the charging terminals available in the canteens and cafeterias. Current menus, opening hours and information about the different locations can be found on the Studierendenwerk Göttingen website. The daily canteen menu is also available via eCampus.

9.4 University Sport

The University Sports Center ("*Hochschulsport Göttingen*") offers a wide range of sports and fitness activities for students. The program includes team sports, fitness and health courses, martial arts, dance, outdoor activities and many other options for different levels of experience. Some courses require prior registration and may involve an additional fee.

Current courses, registration periods and fees can be found on the **University Sport website**[↗]. Please note that the University Sport website is not yet fully available in English. However, the individual course descriptions indicate which languages the instructors speak, so international students are encouraged to explore the available courses!



10 Finances

There are various ways to finance your studies. If you have questions about study financing or experience financial difficulties, you can contact the **Studierendenwerk Göttingen for advice**[↗]. International students can also find helpful information on **working and financing their studies in Germany** on the **Göttingen International**[↗] website.

Financial Study Assistance

Platz der Göttinger Sieben 4 (Central Canteen Building, level 3), 37073 Göttingen

Phone: +49 551 39-35134

Telephone hours: Monday to Thursday: 09:00 – 15:00
Fridays: 09:00 – 12:00

If you would like to talk "face to face", please use the consultation hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 to 15:00.



10.1 Part-Time Jobs

Part-time employment is a common way to finance your studies and can also provide valuable practical experience, particularly if the job is related to your field of study.

Job vacancies can be found through the **University's job portal**[↗], on the website of the **Student Council of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences**[↗], and on the **Faculty of Agricultural Sciences' Instagram account (@agrar_unigoe)**.

10.2 Scholarships

A wide range of scholarships is available from foundations, public institutions and other funding organizations. Scholarship selection is not always based solely on academic grades; depending on the program, other criteria such as social engagement or extracurricular activities may also be considered.

The University of Göttingen regularly provides information about the **Deutschlandstipendium** [↗] (**Germany Scholarship**) and the **Niedersachsenstipendium** [↗] (**Lower Saxony Scholarship**). **Here** [↗] you can also find a list of various scholarship organizations and foundations.



11 Going Abroad

A semester abroad or an internship abroad can be a valuable addition to your studies. The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences participates in several international exchange programs, including Erasmus+, and cooperates with partner universities in Europe and worldwide.

If you are considering a stay abroad, start planning early. As a general guideline, you should begin preparing approximately 12–18 months before your planned stay, as application deadlines, funding arrangements and the recognition of courses may require considerable preparation.

Information on study and internship opportunities abroad, including Erasmus+ and the Global Exchange Program, is available from **Göttingen International** [↗]. You should also join the Stud.IP group “Studieren im Ausland Fakultät Agrarwissenschaften” (“Studying Abroad – Faculty of Agricultural Sciences”), which provides current information on exchange opportunities, information events, application deadlines and other relevant dates.

For advice on planning your stay abroad and the recognition of academic achievements, please contact:

Dr. Esther Fichtler
Erasmus+ Program Officer, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
Büsgenweg 5, 37077 Göttingen
esther.fichtler@agr.uni-goettingen.de
+49 (0)551 / 39 – 28112

Please make sure to contact Dr. Esther Fichtler early in the planning process. She can provide advice on the organization of your stay abroad and on the recognition of courses and academic achievements.

12 University of Kassel: Studying in Witzenhausen

As an SIA student, you are enrolled at both the University of Göttingen and the University of Kassel. Courses offered by the University of Kassel take place in Witzenhausen, where the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences is located.

At the beginning of your studies, you will receive a matriculation number from the University of Kassel, which allows you to activate your uni-account at the University of Kassel. This account provides access to important digital services, including your University of Kassel e-mail account, Moodle, eCampus and the university Wi-Fi.

Please make sure to check your University of Kassel e-mail account regularly, as important information related to your studies in Witzenhausen may be sent there. For courses taught in Witzenhausen, **Moodle** is the main e-learning platform and serves a similar purpose to Stud.IP in Göttingen. Lecturers use Moodle to provide course materials and information about their courses. The University of Kassel's **eCampus** provides access to additional self-service functions and the course catalog.

For questions concerning your studies in Witzenhausen, you can contact:

Ute Gilles

Steinstraße 19, 37213 Witzenhausen
u.gilles@uni-kassel.de; +49 561 804 1214

Most examination administration for the SIA program is handled by the University of Göttingen. However, the Examination Office in Witzenhausen serves as an additional important contact point for examinations and academic records related to courses taken in Witzenhausen.

Examination Office Witzenhausen

Steinstraße 19 (1st floor), 37213 Witzenhausen
studsek@uni-kassel.de; +49 5542 98 1215

The Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences at the University of Kassel provides its own Study Guide with more detailed information about studying and living in Witzenhausen, including campus facilities, local services and important contact points. You can find it **here**.



Studying at Two Universities

As an SIA student, you study at two universities and therefore use different digital platforms and administrative systems. Depending on the module and study location, course registration, teaching materials and organizational information may be provided through different systems. We therefore recommend becoming familiar with the platforms of both universities early in your studies and checking which system is used for each module (see chapter 3 and chapter 12). At the same time, your enrollment gives you access to the services and facilities offered by both universities – make use of the opportunities available in both Göttingen and Witzenhausen.

13 List of Modules

SIA modules use the prefix **M.SIA.**, followed by one or more letters indicating the thematic area (**A** = Animal, **P** = Plant, **E** = Economics, **M** = Methods, **I** = International).

Modules from other degree programs or faculties can be identified by the following prefixes:

Prefix	Origin	📍
M.Agr.	M. Sc. Agricultural Sciences (<i>Agrarwissenschaften</i>)	Gö
M.Cp.	M. Sc. Crop Protection	Gö
M.iPAB.	M. Sc. Integrated Plant and Animal Breeding	Gö
M.ÖkoAgr	modules offered by the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences in Witzenhausen	WIZ
M.FES.	M. Sc. Forest and Ecosystem Sciences	Gö
M.Forst.	M. Sc. Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology	Gö
M.WIWI-QMW	modules offered by the Faculty of Business and Economics in Göttingen	Gö

Information: Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen

13.1 Profile “International Agribusiness and Rural Development Economics”

13.1.1 Block A: Compulsory Modules

The following compulsory modules amounting to a total of **24 C** must be completed successfully. All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Code	Title	🕒	📍
M.Agr.0086	World Agriculture Markets and Trade	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E11	Socioeconomics of rural development and food security	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.I12	Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches	Wi	WIZ
M.WIWI-QMW.0004	Econometrics I	Wi/Su	Gö

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen

13.1.2 Block B: Elective Compulsory Modules

Elective compulsory modules amounting to a total of at least **30 C** must be completed successfully, including at least **one** methods module (code **M**). All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Methods Modules (choose at least one)

Code	Title		
M.SIA.E05M	Marketing Research	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E12M	Quantitative research methods in rural development economics	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E50M	Microeconomics and Quantitative Analysis for Agri-Food Systems	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.I19M	Participatory research methods for sustainability	Wi	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen

Other Elective Compulsory Modules

Code	Title		
M.Agr.0200	Machine Learning in Food Economics and Agribusiness	Wi	Gö
M.Agr.0201	Dynamic modelling in land use systems	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E14	Evaluation of rural development projects and policies	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E18	Organization of food supply chains	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E21	Rural sociology	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E24	Topics in rural development economics I	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E31	Strategic management	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E34	Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E37	Agricultural policy analysis	Su (2yr)	Gö
M.SIA.E38	Scientific working in Agricultural Economics	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E40	Agriculture, Environment and Development	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E47	Sustainable food systems and management	Wi	WIZ
M.WIWI-VWL.0008	Development Economics I: Macro Issues in Economic Development	Wi	Gö
M.ÖkoAgr-6640	Political agroecology	Su (2yr)	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; 2yr = module is offered biennially (every 2 years); Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen

13.1.3 Block C: Elective modules

From the following modules, modules amounting to a total of at least **36 C** must be completed.

All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Alternatively, compulsory or elective compulsory modules from other specialization profiles that have not yet been selected may also be taken as electives. Language courses at level B1 or B2 amounting to a total of 6 C may be counted once as electives, provided that the language is neither English nor the student's native language.

Code	Title		
M.Agr.0106	China Economic Development. From an Agricultural Economy to an Emerging Economy	Wi	Gö
M.Agr.0151	Data Analysis with R in Agricultural Economics	Wi,Blk	Gö
M.Agr.0221	Causal Machine Learning in Agricultural and Food Economics	Su	Gö
M.FES.734	Agroforestry Design Course	Wi	Gö
M.Forst.739	Basics and application of Geographic Information Systems in life sciences	Wi/Su	Gö
M.SIA.A07	Unconventional livestock and wildlife-management, utilization and conservation	Su (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.A08	Social-ecology in livestock production systems	Su (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.A11	Tropical animal husbandry systems	Su	Gö
M.SIA.A14	Organic livestock farming under temperate conditions	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.A19	Innovative Sustainable Breeding: Shaping the Future of Global Livestock Production	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E02	Agricultural price theory	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E06	International organic food markets and marketing	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E17M	Management and management accounting	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E19	Market integration and price transmission I	Su (2yr)	Gö
M.SIA.E39	Critical and Collective Perspectives on the Global Food System	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E40	Agriculture, Environment and Development	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E41	EU Policies and Organic Agriculture	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E42	Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainable food systems	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E45	Introduction to choice experiments in food economics	Su, Blk	Gö
M.SIA.E46	Food Systems Governance and Agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I02	Management of (sub-) tropical landuse systems	Wi (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.I07	International land use systems research - an interdisciplinary study tour	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.SIA.I11M	Free Project	Wi/Su	Gö/ WIZ
M.SIA.I14M	GIS and remote sensing in agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I20	Agriculture and ecosystem services	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I21M	From conceptualisation to communication: key steps in empirical research	Su	Gö

M.SIA.I23	Sustainable agricultural practices in Mediterranean regions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I24	Modelling climate impacts on agroecosystems	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I30	Organic Agriculture in Europe	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I31	Sustainable land-use and climate mitigation	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I33	Food Processing	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P05	Organic cropping systems under temperate and (sub)tropical conditions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P21	Energetic use of agricultural crops and Field forage production	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.SIA.P22	Management of tropical plant production systems	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.P28	Digitalization in agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P29	Impact of climate extremes on plant production systems around the globe	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.P30M	Ecological Genetics	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P32M	Soil-Plant interactions	Wi	WIZ
M.WIWI-VWL.0096	Essentials of Global Health	Su	Gö
M.ÖkoAgr-6050	Bioeconomy and sustainability	Wi	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; 2yr = module is offered biennially (every 2 years); Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen; Blk = block course (i.e., intensive courses taught over a short, concentrated period)

Additional elective options: Up to **12 C** may also be completed in modules offered by German- or English-taught Master's programs of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Göttingen or the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences at the University of Kassel. Eligible modules may be taught in either German or English.

It is therefore worth checking the module catalogs of other Master's programs at both faculties. Relevant English-taught programs include M.Sc. Crop Protection, M.Sc. Integrated Plant and Animal Breeding, and M.Sc. Agriculture, Ecology and Societies. The mainly German-taught M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences (*Agrarwissenschaften*) also offers several modules in English.

13.2 Profile “International Organic Agriculture”

13.2.1 Block A: Compulsory Modules

The following compulsory modules amounting to a total of **30 C** must be completed successfully. All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Code	Title		
M.SIA.A14	Organic livestock farming under temperate conditions	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I10M	Applied statistical modelling	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I12	Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P05	Organic cropping systems under temperate and (sub)tropical conditions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P07	Soil and plant science	Wi	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen

13.2.2 Block B: Elective Compulsory Modules

From the following modules, modules amounting to a total of at least **24 C** must be completed. At least **one** methods module (**code M**) and **one** economics module (**code E**) must be included. All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Methods and Economics Modules (choose at least one from each category)

Code	Title		
M.SIA.A10M	Livestock nutrition and feed evaluation under (sub)tropical conditions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I14M	GIS and remote sensing in agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I19M	Participatory research methods for sustainability	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P15M	Methods and advances in plant protection	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P16M	Crop modelling for risk management	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E06	International organic food markets and marketing	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E11	Socioeconomics of rural development and food security	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E21	Rural sociology	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E41	EU Policies and Organic Agriculture	Su	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen

Other Elective Compulsory Modules

Code	Title		
M.Agr.0009	Biological Control and Biodiversity	Wi	Gö
M.Agr.0056	Plant Breeding Methodology and Genetic Resources	Su	Gö
M.FES.734	Agroforestry Design Course	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.A08	Social-ecology in livestock production systems	Su (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.I20	Agriculture and ecosystem services	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I30	Organic Agriculture in Europe	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I32	Biodynamic agriculture	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P01	Ecology and agroecosystems	Su	WIZ

M.SIA.P13	Agrobiodiversity and plant genetic resources in the tropics	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P20	Plant nematology	Su	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; 2yr = module is offered biennially (every 2 years);
Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen; Blk = block course (i.e., intensive courses taught over a short, concentrated period)

13.2.3 Block C: Elective modules

From the following modules, modules amounting to a total of at least **36 C** must be completed. All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Alternatively, compulsory or elective compulsory modules from other specialization profiles that have not yet been selected may also be taken as electives. Language courses at level B1 or B2 amounting to a total of 6 C may be counted once as electives, provided that the language is neither English nor the student's native language.

Code	Title		
M.Agr.0086	World Agriculture Markets and Trade	Su	Gö
M.Agr.0174	Plant Health Management in Tropical Crops	Su	Gö
M.Agr.0200	Machine Learning in Food Economics and Agribusiness	Wi	Gö
M.Agr.0201	Dynamic modelling in land use systems	Su	Gö
M.Agr.0221	Causal Machine Learning in Agricultural and Food Economics	Su	Gö
M.FES.321	Ecopedology of the Tropics and Subtropics	Su	Gö
M.Forst.739	Basics and application of Geographic Information Systems in life sciences	Wi/Su	Gö
M.SIA.A02M	Epidemiology of international and tropical animal infectious diseases	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.A04	Livestock reproduction physiology	Su	Gö
M.SIA.A07	Unconventional livestock and wildlife-management, utilization and conservation	Su (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.A08	Social-ecology in livestock production systems	Su (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.A11	Tropical animal husbandry systems	Su	Gö
M.SIA.A13M	Livestock-based sustainable land use	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.A15M	Scientific writing in natural sciences	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.A17	Digitalisation in Livestock Systems	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.A18	Grassland-based livestock systems and climate change mitigation	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.A19	Innovative Sustainable Breeding: Shaping the Future of Global Livestock Production	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E02	Agricultural price theory	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E05M	Marketing research	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E12M	Quantitative research methods in rural development economics	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E14	Evaluation of rural development projects and policies	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E17M	Management and management accounting	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E18	Organization of food supply chains	Su	Gö

M.SIA.E24	Topics in rural development economics I	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E31	Strategic management	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E34	Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E37	Agricultural policy analysis	Su (2yr)	Gö
M.SIA.E39	Critical and Collective Perspectives on the Global Food System	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E42	Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainable food systems	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E46	Food Systems Governance and Agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E47	Sustainable food systems and management	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E50M	Microeconomics and Quantitative Analysis for Agri-Food Systems	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.I02	Management of (sub-) tropical landuse systems	Wi (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.I06M	Exercise on the quality of tropical and subtropical products	Wi, Blk	Gö
M.SIA.I07	International land use systems research – an interdisciplinary study tour	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.SIA.I11M	Free Project	Wi/Su	Gö/ WIZ
M.SIA.I21M	From conceptualisation to communication: key steps in empirical research	Su	Gö
M.SIA.I23	Sustainable agricultural practices in Mediterranean regions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I25	Engineering software in agriculture and livestock farming	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I28M	Unoccupied aerial vehicle (UAV) applications in agriculture	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I29M	Research Methods and Data Science in the Life Sciences	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I33	Food Processing	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P10	Tropical agro-ecosystem functions	Su	Gö
M.SIA.P19M	Experimental techniques in tropical agronomy	Su	Gö
M.SIA.P21	Energetic use of agricultural crops and Field forage production	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.SIA.P22	Management of tropical plant production systems	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.P27M	Nutrient dynamics, experimental design and statistical modelling – bilingual	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P28	Digitalization in agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P29	Impact of climate extremes on plant production systems around the globe	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.P30M	Ecological Genetics	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P32M	Soil-Plant interactions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P33M	Water in the Soil Plant system	Su	WIZ
M.WIWI-VWL.0008	Development Economics I: Macro Issues in Economic Development	Wi	Gö
M.iPAB.0002	Breeding schemes and programs in plant and animal breeding	Su	Gö

M.ÖkoAgr-6025	Model-based predictions in agricultural decision-making	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6050	Bioeconomy and sustainability	Wi	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6080	Plant Ecophysiology and Ecosystem Functioning	Wi	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6160	Introduction to Forest Ecology and Management	Su	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6180	Organic plant breeding	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6640	Political agroecology	Su (2yr)	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; 2yr = module is offered biennially (every 2 years); Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen; Blk = block course (i.e., intensive courses taught over a short, concentrated period)

Additional elective options: Up to **12 C** may also be completed in modules offered by German- or English-taught Master's programs of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Göttingen or the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences at the University of Kassel. Eligible modules may be taught in either German or English.

It is therefore worth checking the module catalogs of other Master's programs at both faculties. Relevant English-taught programs include M.Sc. Crop Protection, M.Sc. Integrated Plant and Animal Breeding, and M.Sc. Agriculture, Ecology and Societies. The mainly German-taught M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences (*Agrarwissenschaften*) also offers several modules in English.

13.3 Profile “Tropical Agricultural and Agroecosystems Sciences”

13.3.1 Block A: Compulsory Modules

The following compulsory modules amounting to a total of **30 C** must be completed successfully. All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Code	Title		
M.SIA.A11	Tropical animal husbandry systems	Su	Gö
M.SIA.I10M	Applied statistical modelling	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I12	Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P07	Soil and plant science	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P22	Management of tropical plant production systems	Wi	Gö

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen

13.3.2 Block B: Elective Compulsory Modules

Elective compulsory modules amounting to a total of at least **24 C** must be completed successfully, including at least **one** methods module (code **M**). All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Methods Modules (choose at least one)

Code	Title		
M.SIA.A10M	Livestock nutrition and feed evaluation under (sub)tropical conditions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.A13M	Livestock-based sustainable land use	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I06M	Exercise on the Quality of Tropical and Subtropical Products	Wi, Blk	Gö
M.SIA.I14M	GIS and Remote Sensing in Agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I19M	Participatory research methods for sustainability	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I21M	From Conceptualisation to Communication: Key Steps in Empirical Research	Su	Gö
M.SIA.P16M	Crop Modelling for Risk Management	Su	Gö
M.SIA.P19M	Experimental Techniques in Tropical Agronomy	Su	Gö

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen; Blk = block course (i.e., intensive courses taught over a short, concentrated period)

Other Elective Compulsory Modules

Code	Title		
M.Agr.0180	Mineral Nutrition of Crops Under Different Climate and Environmental Conditions	Wi	Gö
M.FES.321	Ecopedology of the tropics and subtropics	Su	Gö
M.FES.734	Agroforestry Design Course	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.A04	Livestock reproduction physiology	Su	Gö
M.SIA.A19	Innovative Sustainable Breeding: Shaping the Future of Global Livestock Production	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E11	Socioeconomics of rural development and food security	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E34	Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.I20	Agriculture and Ecosystem Services	Su	WIZ

M.SIA.I24	Modelling Climate Impacts on Agroecosystems	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I31	Sustainable land-use and climate mitigation	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P01	Ecology and Agroecosystems	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P10	Tropical agro-ecosystem Functions	Su	Gö
M.SIA.P13	Agrobiodiversity and Plant Genetic Resources in the Tropics	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P29	Impact of Climate Extremes on Plant Production Systems Around the Globe	Wi	Gö
M.ÖkoAgr-6025	Model-based predictions in agricultural decision-making	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6080	Plant Ecophysiology and Ecosystem Functioning	Wi	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6160	Introduction to Forest Ecology and Management	Su	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6180	Organic plant breeding	Wi (2yr)	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; 2yr = module is offered biennially (every 2 years);
Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen

13.3.3 Block C: Elective modules

From the following modules, modules amounting to a total of at least **36 C** must be completed. All modules listed below are worth 6 C each.

Alternatively, compulsory or elective compulsory modules from other specialization profiles that have not yet been selected may also be taken as electives. Language courses at level B1 or B2 amounting to a total of 6 C may be counted once as electives, provided that the language is neither English nor the student's native language.

Code	Title		
M.Agr.0009	Biological Control and Biodiversity	Wi	Gö
M.Agr.0056	Plant Breeding Methodology and Genetic Resources	Su	Gö
M.Agr.0086	World Agriculture Markets and Trade	Su	Gö
M.Agr.0174	Plant Health Management in Tropical Crops	Su	Gö
M.Agr.0200	Machine Learning in Food Economics and Agribusiness	Wi	Gö
M.Agr.0201	Dynamic modelling in land use systems	Su	Gö
M.Agr.0221	Causal Machine Learning in Agricultural and Food Economics	Su	Gö
M.Forst.739	Basics and application of Geographic Information Systems in life sciences	Wi/Su	Gö
M.SIA.A02M	Epidemiology of international and tropical animal infectious diseases	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.A07	Unconventional livestock and wildlife-management, utilization and conservation	Su (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.A08	Social-ecology in livestock production systems	Su (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.A14	Organic livestock farming under temperate conditions	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.A15M	Scientific writing in natural sciences	Wi	Gö

M.SIA.A17	Digitalisation in Livestock Systems	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.A18	Grassland-based livestock systems and climate change mitigation	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E02	Agricultural price theory	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E05M	Marketing research	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E06	International organic food markets and marketing	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E12M	Quantitative research methods in rural development economics	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E14	Evaluation of rural development projects and policies	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E17M	Management and management accounting	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E18	Organization of food supply chains	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E21	Rural sociology	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E24	Topics in rural development economics I	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E31	Strategic management	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E34	Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.E37	Agricultural policy analysis	Su (2yr)	Gö
M.SIA.E39	Critical and Collective Perspectives on the Global Food System	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E41	EU Policies and Organic Agriculture	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.E42	Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainable food systems	Su	Gö
M.SIA.E46	Food Systems Governance and Agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E47	Sustainable food systems and management	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.E50M	Microeconomics and Quantitative Analysis for Agri-Food Systems	Wi	Gö
M.SIA.I02	Management of (sub-) tropical landuse systems	Wi (2yr) Blk	WIZ
M.SIA.I07	International land use systems research - an interdisciplinary study tour	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.SIA.I11M	Free Project	Wi/Su	Gö/ WIZ
M.SIA.I14M	GIS and remote sensing in agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I19M	Participatory research methods for sustainability	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I23	Sustainable agricultural practices in Mediterranean regions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I25	Engineering software in agriculture and livestock farming	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I28M	Unoccupied aerial vehicle (UAV) applications in agriculture	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I29M	Research Methods and Data Science in the Life Sciences	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I30	Organic Agriculture in Europe	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.I32	Biodynamic agriculture	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.I33	Food Processing	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P05	Organic cropping systems under temperate and (sub-) tropical conditions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P15M	Methods and advances in plant protection	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P20	Plant nematology	Su	WIZ

M.SIA.P21	Energetic use of agricultural crops and Field forage production	Wi (2yr)	WIZ
M.SIA.P27M	Nutrient dynamics, experimental design and statistical modelling – bilingual	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P28	Digitalization in agriculture	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P30M	Ecological Genetics	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P32M	Soil-Plant interactions	Wi	WIZ
M.SIA.P33M	Water in the Soil Plant system	Su	WIZ
M.SIA.P34	Nutrient acquisition by plants	Su	WIZ
M.WIWI-VWL.0008	Development Economics I: Macro Issues in Economic Development	Wi	Gö
M.iPAB.0002	Breeding schemes and programs in plant and animal breeding	Su	Gö
M.ÖkoAgr-6050	Bioeconomy and sustainability	Wi	WIZ
M.ÖkoAgr-6640	Political agroecology	Su (2yr)	WIZ

Information: Wi = Winter semester; Su = Summer semester; 2yr = module is offered biennially (every 2 years); Gö = Göttingen; WIZ = Witzenhausen; Blk = block course (i.e., intensive courses taught over a short, concentrated period)

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13.4 Master's Thesis and Colloquium

Regardless of the chosen specialization profile, all students must complete a Master's thesis and the corresponding colloquium (see chapter 7). Successful completion of the Master's thesis is worth **22.5 C**, and the subsequent colloquium is worth **7.5 C**.

For detailed information on each module, including course content, learning outcomes, examination requirements, and prerequisites, please refer to the **Module Catalog**⁷.



The official Module Catalog must be approved by both the University of Göttingen and the University of Kassel. As this involves several university committees and a lengthy administrative process, the official version may only be published after the start of the semester. To support study planning, an unofficial preliminary version is therefore made available in advance on the SIA website and in the SIA Stud.IP group. It reflects the latest planned updates but has not yet received final approval.

14 Exemplary Study Plan

14.1 Profile “International Agribusiness and Rural Development Economics”

Please note: The following study plan is only an example. The distribution of Blocks A, B and C across the semesters is not binding and may be adapted according to your individual study plan. Please keep in mind that not every module is offered every semester.

Sem. Σ C*					
1. Σ30 C	Block A: Compulsory module Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches (6C)	Block A: Compulsory module Socioeconomics of rural development and food security (6C)	Block A: Compulsory module Econometrics I (6C)	Block B: Elective compulsory module I	Block C: Elective module I
2. Σ30 C	Block A: Compulsory module World Agriculture Markets and Trade (6C)	Block B: Elective compulsory module II (Code M module)	Block B: Elective compulsory module III	Block B: Elective compulsory module IV	Block B: Elective compulsory module V
3. Σ30 C	Block C: Elective module II	Block C: Elective module III	Block C: Elective module IV	Block C: Elective module V	Block C: Elective module VI
4. Σ30 C	Master's Thesis (22.5C)				Colloquium (7.5 C)
Σ 120 C					

* C = ECTS credit

14.2 Profile “International Organic Agriculture”

Please note: The following study plan is only an example. The distribution of Blocks A, B and C across the semesters is not binding and may be adapted according to your individual study plan. Please keep in mind that not every module is offered every semester.

Sem. Σ C*					
1. Σ30 C	Block A: Compulsory module Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches (6C)	Block A: Compulsory module Organic cropping systems under temperate and (sub)tropical conditions (6C)	Block A: Compulsory module Soil and plant science (6C)	Block B: Elective compulsory module I (Code M module)	Block C: Elective module I
2. Σ30 C	Block A: Compulsory module Organic livestock farming under temperate conditions (6C)	Block A: Compulsory module Applied statistical modelling (6C)	Block B: Elective compulsory module II (Code E module)	Block B: Elective compulsory module III	Block B: Elective compulsory module IV
3. Σ30 C	Block C: Elective module II	Block C: Elective module III	Block C: Elective module IV	Block C: Elective module V	Block C: Elective module VI
4. Σ30 C	Master's Thesis (22.5C)				Colloquium (7.5 C)
Σ 120 C					

* C = ECTS credit

14.3 Profile “Tropical Agricultural and Agroecosystems Sciences”

Please note: The following study plan is only an example. The distribution of Blocks A, B and C across the semesters is not binding and may be adapted according to your individual study plan. Please keep in mind that not every module is offered every semester.

Sem. Σ C*					
1. Σ30 C	Block A: Compulsory module Sustainable international agriculture: basic principles and approaches (6C)	Block A: Compulsory module Management of tropical plant production systems (6C)	Block A: Compulsory module Soil and plant science (6C)	Block B: Elective compulsory module I (Code M module)	Block B: Elective compulsory module II
2. Σ30 C	Block A: Compulsory module Tropical animal husbandry systems (6C)	Block A: Compulsory module Applied statistical modelling (6C)	Block B: Elective compulsory module III	Block B: Elective compulsory module IV	Block C: Elective module I
3. Σ30 C	Block C: Elective module II	Block C: Elective module III	Block C: Elective module IV	Block C: Elective module V	Block C: Elective module VI
4. Σ30 C	Master's Thesis (22.5C)				Colloquium (7.5 C)
Σ 120 C					

* C = ECTS credit

15 Improvement Suggestions and Student Feedback

If you have any ideas, suggestions, or feedback on how to improve this study guide or the study program, please contact Dr. Lydia Pohl (sia@uni-goettingen.de) or Ute Gilles (u.gilles@uni-kassel.de). Alternatively, you may provide anonymous feedback through the **Faculty's system accreditation feedback channel**⁷.

Please note: All information in this study guide is subject to change. Changes can occur at any time. If necessary, please inform yourself directly about the latest versions of the Examination and Study Regulations (PStO)⁷.

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