



Winter University Programme – Course Outline

Social Sciences Module: Between Poverty and Conservation: Socio-economics of Smallholder Farming in the Tropics

CLASS HOURS

Consult programme schedule

PROFESSORS

Academic Directors

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1) INFORMATION ON THE COURSE CONTENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The conversion of forests and grasslands to intensively used agricultural land causes a substantial share of the global loss of plant and animal species. Much of the land conversion takes place in low-income countries in the tropics where the rural population struggles to overcome severe poverty. Even protected areas such as national parks are frequently under conversion pressure as small farming households ("smallholders") encroach upon protected areas. In this course, we investigate land use dynamics at several biodiversity "hotspots" using micro-level data on farming economics as well as analyses of local and regional institutional frameworks. Specifically, livelihood choices of smallholder farmers living at the edge of national parks in countries such as Indonesia, Madagascar, or Chile are studied. Insights are applied to assess policy options.

The course includes lectures, seminars/lab exercises and an excursion.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Based on real-world research data, students learn to integrate social science, micro-, institutional and welfare economics concepts and methodology. Concepts and methodologies include the monetary and non-monetary assessment of livelihood and of local policy options.

COURSE MATERIALS

- Barkmann, J.; Burkard, G.; Faust, H.; Fremerey, M.; Koch, S.; Lanini, A. (2010a) Land tenure rights, village institutions, and rainforest conversion in Central Sulawesi (Indonesia). In: Tschardtke, T.; Leuschner, C.; Veldkamp, E.; Faust, H.; Guhardja, E.; Bidin, A. (Eds.) Tropical Rainforests and Agroforests under Global Change. Ecological and Socio-Economic Valuations. Springer, Berlin/Heidelberg 2010. 141-160.
- Barkmann, J.; Glenk, K.; Keil, A.; Leemhuis, C.; Dietrich, N.; Gerold, G.; Marggraf, R. (2008a) Confronting unfamiliarity with ecosystem functions: The case for an ecosystem service approach to environmental valuation with stated preference methods. *Ecological Economics* 65:48-62.
- Clough, Y.; Barkmann, J.; Juhbandt, J.; Kessler, M.; Wanger, T.C.; Anshary, A.; Buchori, D.; Cicuzza, D.; Darras, K.; Putra, D.D.; Erasmi, S.; Pitopang, R.; Schmidt, C.; Schulze, C.H.; Seidel, D.; Steffan-Dewenter, I.; Stenchly, K.; Vidal, S.; Weista, M.; Wielgoss, A.C.; Tschardtke, T. (2011) Combining high biodiversity with high yields in tropical agroforests. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)* 108(20):8311-8316.
- Diafas, I.; Barkmann, J.; Mburo, J. (2017) Measurement of Bequest Value Using a Non-monetary Payment in a Choice Experiment - The Case of Improving Forest Ecosystem Services for the Benefit of Local Communities in Rural Kenya. *Ecological Economics* 140:157-165.
- Hänke, H.; Barkmann, J.; Coral, C.; Enfors Kaustky, E.; Marggraf, R. (2017) Social-ecological traps hinder rural development in southwestern Madagascar. *Ecology and Society* 22(1):42.
- Huenchuleo, C.; Barkmann, J.; Villalobos, P. (2012) Social psychology predictors for the adoption of soil conservation measures in Central Chile. *Soil Degradation and Development* 23(5):483-495.

- Knoke, T.; Weber, M.; Barkmann, J.; Pohle, P.; Calvas, B.; Medina, C.; Aguirre, N.; Günter, S.; Stimm, B.; Mosandl, R.; von Walter, F.; Maza, B.; Gerique, A. (2009) Effectiveness and Distributional Impacts of Payments for Reduced Carbon Emissions from Deforestation. *Erdkunde* 63(4):365–384.
- Mehring, M.; Seeberg-Elverfeldt, C.; Koch, S.; Barkmann, J.; Schwarze, S.; Stoll-Kleemann, S. (2011) Local Institutions: Regulation and Valuation of Forest Use – Evidence from Central Sulawesi, Indonesia. *Land Use Policy* 28(4):736–747.
- Motzke, I.; Wanger, T.C.; Zanre, E.; Tschardtke, T.; Barkmann, J. (2012) Socio-economic Context of Forest Biodiversity Use along a Town–Forest Gradient in Cambodia. *The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology (Supplement)* 25:29–45.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

To be announced later.

2) INFORMATION ON CLASS PARTICIPATION, ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

ASSIGNMENTS

Presentation on poverty-biodiversity links in a particular location (see course material)

EXAMS

Written exam on course material, 90 minutes, mix of multiple choice and open questions

PRACTICE MATERIALS

Manuscripts to be prepared and distributed among the participants

Laptop with SPSS or share-ware PSPP installed.

PROFESSIONALISM & CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend the classes and dedicate 1-2 hours a day for preparation through reading and self-study.

The participation and self-study will enable the students to answer questions, lead discussions and to contribute with own ideas and opinions.

MISSED CLASSES

No more than 10% of the contact hours can be missed for successful completion of the course module. If students miss a lecture or workshop it is their own responsibility to obtain information on the topics.

In the event of sickness a medical certificate must be presented to the Winter University Programme coordinator.

3) INFORMATION ON GRADING AND ECTS

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Upon successful completion, 4 ECTS will be awarded for the class.

According to the rules of ECTS, one credit is equivalent to 25-30 hours student workload.

GRADING SCALE

Percentage	Grade		Description
90-100%	15 points	1.0	very good: an outstanding achievement
	14 points		
	13 points	1.3	
80-90%	12 points	1.7	good: an achievement substantially above average requirements
	11 points	2.0	
	10 points	2.3	
70-80%	9 points	2.7	satisfactory: an achievement which corresponds to average requirements
	8 points	3.0	
	7 points	3.3	
60-70%	6 points	3.7	sufficient: an achievement which barely meets the requirements
	5 points	4.0	
0-60%	4 points	5.0	not sufficient / failed: an achievement which does not meet the requirements
	3 points		
	2 points		
	1 point		
	0 points		

This course description was issued on June 8, 2018. The program is subject to change.