

# Applied Welfare Economics and Agricultural Policy

MSc Course, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

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by  
Dieter Kirschke

in cooperation with  
Franz Heidhues and Jerzy Wilkin

supported by  
Nana Künkel

# Applied Welfare Economics and Agricultural Policy

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## Introduction

- 1 Principles of applied welfare economics
- 2 Price policy I
- 3 Price policy II
  
- 4 EU agricultural policy and international framework

# Applied Welfare Economics and Agricultural Policy

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- 5 Agricultural policy in transition countries (Wilkin)
- 6 EU enlargement and accession (Wilkin)
- 7 Rural finance in development (Heidhues)
- 8 Structural adjustment policies (Heidhues)
  
- 9 Structural policy
- 10 Multiobjective policy analysis

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## Introduction

# Who are the Teachers?

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**Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Dieter Kirschke**

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<http://www.agrar.hu-berlin.de/wisola/fg/apol>

# Who are the Teachers?

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# Who are the Teachers?

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# Who are the Teachers?

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# Who are the Students?

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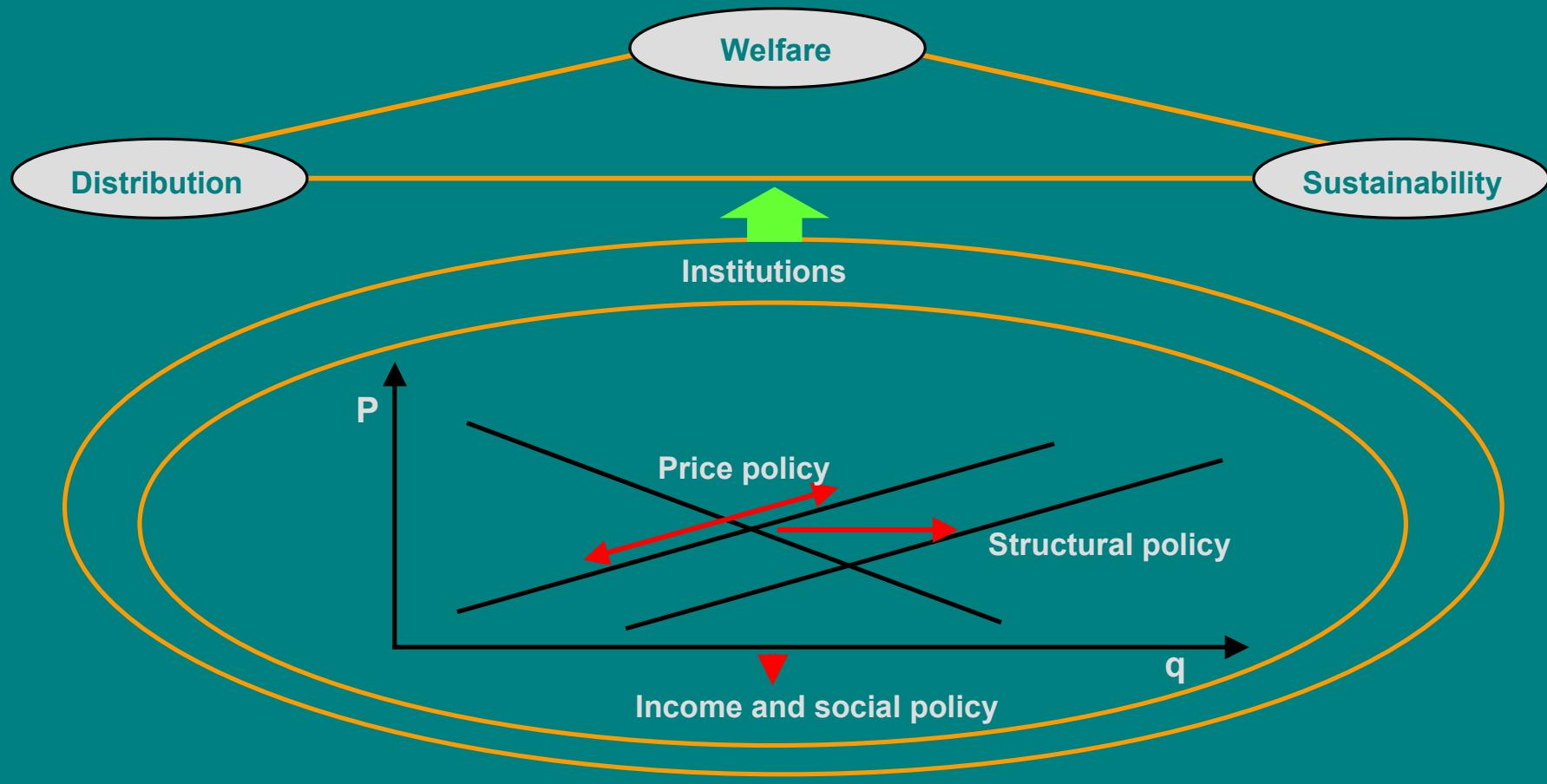
# What is the Course about?

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- Intervention of the state in the agricultural sector  
⇒ agricultural policies
- Evaluation of agricultural policies  
(Description, explanation, evaluation)
- International agricultural policy issues

# What is the Course about?

## Agricultural policy objectives and instruments



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# Course Organisation

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- Lecture, excercises
- Course material
  - Questions
  - Material
  - Literature and internet
  - Handout and internet  
(<http://www.agrar.hu-berlin.de/wisola/fg/apol/msc/policy.htm>)
- Examination

# What is Policy Evaluation?

- Objective, indicator, scale



# What is Policy Evaluation?

- **Terms**

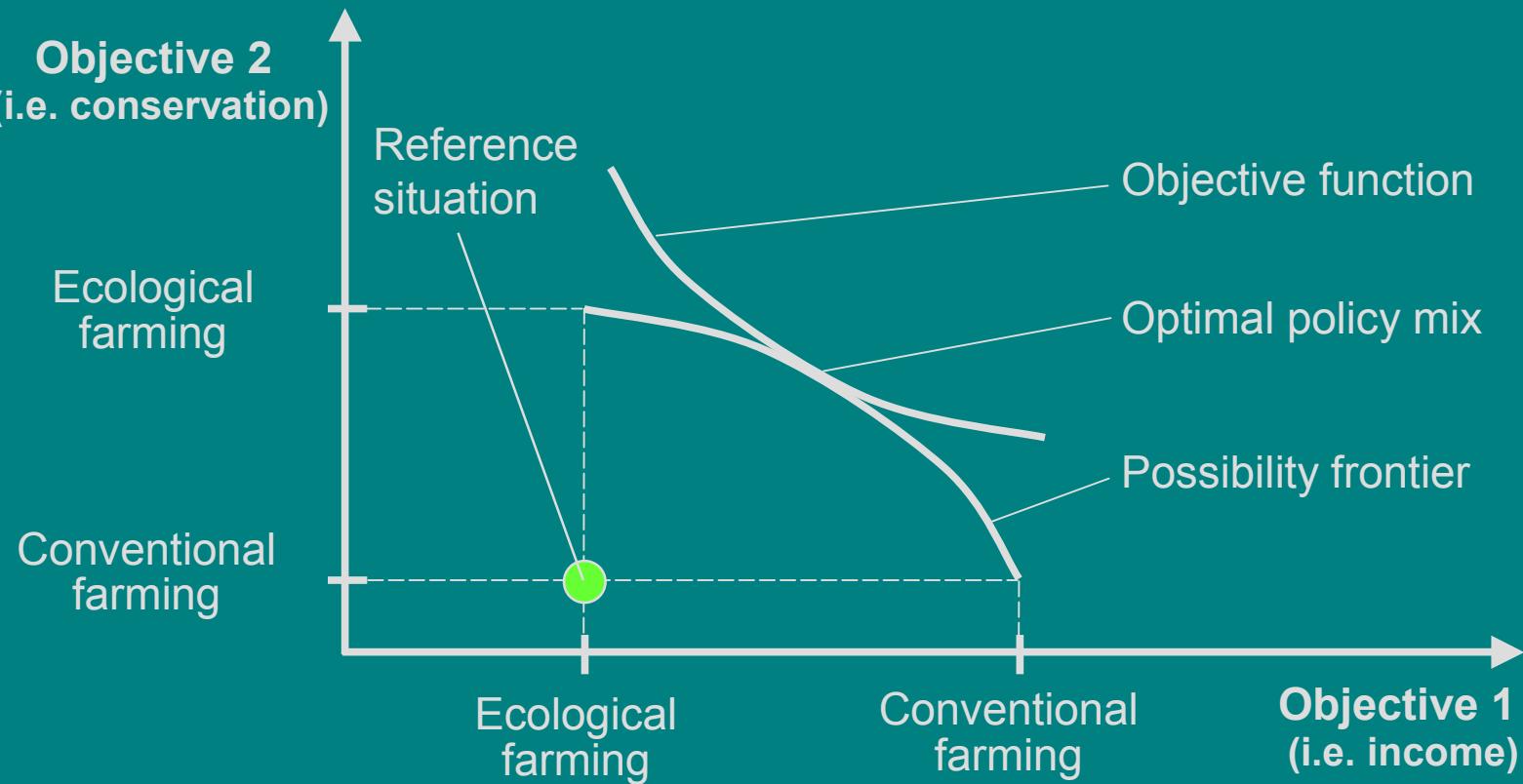
Benefit	= Goal achievement
Cost	= Goal achievement forgone
Planning	= Ex ante assessment
Evaluation	= Ex post assessment

# Consider: Should Ecological Farming be Preferred to Conventional Farming?

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1. What goals should be considered?
2. What indicators are relevant?
3. What is the impact of policies?
4. What is the reference situation?
5. How can we make choices?

# Consider: Should Ecological Farming be Preferred to Conventional Farming?



# Basic Literature

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**Just, R.E.; Hueth, D.L.; Schmitz, A. (2004): The Welfare Economics of Public Policy.** Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publ.

**Pindyck, R.S.; Rubinfeld, D.L. (2004): Microeconomics.** 6<sup>th</sup> ed. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall

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**Tangermann, S. (ed.) (2000): Agriculture in Germany.** Frankfurt a.M.: DLG-Verlag

**Baßeler, U.; Heinrich, J.; Utecht, B. (2002): Grundlagen und Probleme der Volkswirtschaftslehre.** 17<sup>th</sup> ed. Stuttgart: Schäffer-Poeschel

**Henrichsmeyer, W.; Witzke, H.P. (1991/1994): Agrarpolitik.** Vol. 1 and 2. Stuttgart: Ulmer (UTB)

**Kirschke, D.; Jechlitschka, K. (2002): Angewandte Mikroökonomie und Wirtschaftspolitik mit Excel.** München: Vahlen

# Questions

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1. How can policies be evaluated?
2. Explain the terms "benefit" and "cost". Give some examples!
3. Discuss: Should eco-farming be preferred to conventional farming?