

	OIE	NIE
<i>Markets are...</i>	Cultural	Natural.
<i>Humans are...</i>	Pack animals who follow social rules that range from ceremonial to instrumental.	Roughly rational and greedy, though ideology plays a major role in determining behavior.
<i>Institutions exist because, they act to, and they change when...</i>	Humans are social animals who must rely on learned behavior to know how to act. They act to give humans guidelines for “acceptable” behavior. They change when powerful agents are able to enact change.	Humans have incomplete information and limited mental capacity by which to process information. They act to reduce uncertainty in human exchange. They change when there are changes in relative prices.
<i>Neoclassical economics is...</i>	Based on the unwarranted premises that humans are rational and capitalism is natural.	The starting point of analysis, but not the ending point.
<i>Wildly different worldviews across time and space are...</i>	Possible.	Possible.
<i>Equilibrium modeling is...</i>	Useful only in limited contexts; in fact, institutions evolve and are path dependent.	Useful only in limited contexts; in fact, institutions evolve and are path dependent.

NIE view drawn from Douglass C. North, “The New Institutional Economics and Development,” <http://www.econ.iastate.edu/tesfatsi/NewInstE.North.pdf>