CCI-1
RESOURCES AND WELL-BEING DYNAMICS ACROSS LIFE DOMAINS

27-28 September 2018

Place: Hôtel villa du lac, Divonne Les Bains (https://www.lavilladulac.com/)

Organisers: Prof. Laura Bernardi, Dr. Jean Marie Le Goff, Dre. Núria Sánchez Mira

Abstract: This module presents the LIVES Cross-Cutting Issue 1 (CCI-1) understanding of vulnerability as a multidimensional process over the life course. Under this framework, the life course is seen as a multidimensional pathway made of interdependent trajectories of, among others, education, family, employment, residence and health. CCI-1 analyses the interdependences and spillover effects across these different domains of the life course. This workshop will address the centrality of questions regarding the allocation of resources and well-being dynamics across life domains. It will provide participants with a better understanding of these by means of theoretical lectures, examples of empirical research, as well as methodological tools for the analysis of these issues.

Please register by sending an e-mail to Delphine Fagot as soon as possible: Delphine.Fagot@unige.ch

Invited speakers: Prof. Martin Diewald, Universität Bielefeld
Prof. Maike Luhmann, Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Prof. Paolo Ghisletta, University of Geneva
PROGRAMME

Thursday 27th of September
08:30-09:00  Reception of participants
09:00-09:45  Lecture: Interdependencies between life domains, by Martin Diewald
             Pause
10:00-10:45  Lecture: Interdependencies between life domains, by Martin Diewald
             Pause
11:00-11:45 Lecture: Multiple life events and subjective well-being, by Maike Luhmann
             Pause
12:00-12:45 Lecture: Multiple life events and subjective well-being, by Maike Luhmann
12:45-13:00  Participants’ questions for the two lecturers
13:00-14:30  Lunch
14:30-15:15 General discussion of the morning’s presentations
             Pause
15:30-17:00  Short presentations by doctoral students of their dissertation project and comments by both lecturers and organizers
17:00-17:30  Link between the theoretical and methodological sessions, by Jean-Marie Le Goff

Friday 28th of September
09:30-13:00  Use of Dynamic Structural Equation Models in Lifespan Research, by Paolo Ghisletta
             (with pauses)
             Lunch
14:30h-15:30 Use of Dynamic Structural Equation Models in Lifespan Research, by Paolo Ghisletta
             Pause
15:45-16:30  Questions from doctoral students regarding the methodological aspects of their research
16:30-17:00  Final synthesis and end of the workshop
PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS AND PRESENTER’S SHORT BIOS

Interdependencies between life domains, by Martin Diewald

Interdependencies between life domains, such as work and family life, are at the core of life course theory and empirical research. This is mostly done by investigating longitudinal correlations between life events and their interpretation as reinforcing or compensatory mechanisms, or spill-over of resources and strains. Mostly neglected but crucial for understanding are the following possible contributions to understanding interdependencies over the life course: (1) multi-level instead of only individual mechanisms of decision-making; (2) the complex interplay of individual agency and structural as well as institutional forces; and (3) the role of genetics and of biological forces interacting with social forces.

Martin Diewald is Professor of Sociology in the Faculty of Sociology at Bielefeld University (since 2004). He received his diploma in sociology at Mannheim University, his PhD at the Technische Universität Berlin and his Habilitation at Freie Universität Berlin. Before Bielefeld, his main career trajectories were a first professorship in Duisburg (2000-2004), the Max-Planck-Institute for Human Development (1992-2000), the WZB (1987-1990). From 1990-1992 he worked in the private sector. Main research interests are life course and human development, sociogenomics (DFG long-term project ‘TwinLife’), social inequalities and work-life interface (Collaborative Research Centre ‘From heterogeneities to inequalities’), and consequences of digitization in work and personal life.

Life events and subjective well-being, by Maike Luhmann

Most lay people believe that major life events such as getting married, getting fired, or relocating will have noticeable and lasting effects on their well-being. For decades, however, empirical researchers disagreed, claiming that the events of life events on subjective well-being are weak and short-lived. In this lecture, we review the current empirical evidence for this claim and discuss contemporary theoretical approaches that attempt to explain when and why subjective well-being may change after life events.

Maike Luhmann studied psychology in Landau and Brussels and received her Ph.D. from the Freie Universität Berlin in 2010 (advisors: Michael Eid and Rich Lucas). She has since held positions at the University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA, and University of Cologne, Germany. Since 2016, she is the professor of psychological methods at the Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. Her research focuses on the dynamic interplay between subjective well-being, loneliness, life events, and personality development.

Use of Dynamic Structural Equation Models in Lifespan Research, by Paolo Ghisletta

Structural equation models (SEM) have become a main analytical framework in various disciplines studying lifespan/life course phenomena (e.g., psychology, sociology, economics, public health). SEM allow formally testing the adequacy of models about the structure of a selected data set, both in an exploratory and a confirmatory fashion. In the context of repeated-measures (i.e., longitudinal) data, SEM can be specified, such that dynamic relationships about lead-lag / spill-over effects can be formalized and tested, as well as compared to alternative hypotheses. In this short workshop we will discuss the bases of SEM and SEM applied to longitudinal data, via illustrations from various disciplines. Implementations via dedicated statistical software (e.g., R-lavaan, AMOS, Mplus) will also be briefly shown.

Paolo Ghisletta studied psychology as well as mathematics at the University of Clarion (Pennsylvania, USA) and University Virginia (USA) and received his PhD from the University of Virginia (supervisors: John R. Nesselroade and John J. McArd) After a PostDoc at Max Planck Institute (Berlin, Germany), coordinated by Paul B. Baltes, he held several positions at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. Since 2015, he is professor of methodology and data analysis at the University of Geneva. Some of his research interests are multivariate methodology and analysis applied to the study of life-long change processes and management of psychological and contextual resources in adult and elderly individuals.