

Life Course Development: Theories and Methods

4 Day Short Course

22–25 March 2010

Course Tutor: Kathryn Duckworth

Course Code: RMRESR_AS1

The course will be delivered by a team of experts on life course development:

Ingrid Schoon
Dick Wiggins
Anna Vignoles
Lorraine Dearden
Jane Elliott
Kathryn Duckworth
Leslie Gutman
Alice Sullivan
Julie Ashby
Dylan Kneale

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The course aims to:

- introduce key theoretical principles and approaches in life course research (targeted at analysts, researchers and students with little or no prior knowledge of life course research)
- give an overview of major national and international longitudinal data sources, and their suitability for the study of human development
- apply the evidence from life course studies to policy issues.

Life Course Development: Theories and Methods

Who is it for?

Analysts, researchers, and students interested in the study of life course development and longitudinal data analysis. The course is of particular relevance to those who are aiming to use longitudinal data sources available in the UK and abroad.

The course is designed to enable you to appreciate different theoretical approaches and methods in the study of human development across the life course. In particular it aims to:

- equip you with knowledge and understanding of the multiple influences shaping life course development
- enable you to critically appraise concepts, definitions and measures of life course development
- provide you with the capacity to evaluate the relevance of major longitudinal data sources and their usefulness for addressing specific policy questions.

Credit Value = 30

Assessment = 5,000 words essay

Fees: As Freestanding module without assessment £500; with assessment £688.
[Subject to a minimum number of participants]

For more information, please contact:

Wendy Robins
Administrator
DoQSS
Institute of Education
20 Bedford Way
London WC1H 0AL

Tel 020 7612 6654
Email w.robins@ioe.ac.uk

Closing date
1st March 2010

To apply:
<http://www.ioe.ac.uk/study/23.html> then 'applying for a masters module'
QUOTE : RMRESR_AS1

Day one: *Introduction and overview (research and theory)*

- Theories of life course research and examples of key studies
- Available data sources: national and international longitudinal studies
- Methods and approaches

Day two: *Social structure and human capital acquisition*

- Social structuring of the life course
- The role of education and learning
- The economics of life course transitions

Day three: *Individual agency and the unfolding of the life course*

- Self and identity (including a session on aspirations and motivation)
- Aged trajectory analysis: Timing and sequencing of transitions
- Linking life course and life history

Day four: *Implications and Potential*

- Evidence based policy and practice
- International comparative approaches and interlinkages
- Reflections: Achievement and potential of life course theory