



Radboud Summer School



Historical Demography Summer Course

29 June -10 July 2015

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Radboud University Nijmegen





Historical Demography: Reconstructing Life Course Dynamics

29 June – 10 July 2015

Radboud Summer School, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Course information

Recent advances in historical demographic research have placed great emphasis on longitudinal micro-level approaches of all important aspects of demographic behaviour. This approach involves the complex handling of large amounts of dynamic individual-level data; as a result complicated database management techniques have become a crucial component of the tool kit of historical demographers. These skills are however not regularly taught in standard university courses.

This course provides two important features. First of all, during the morning sessions the course will offer a theoretical introduction into the life course approach, its central concepts, and to a limited number of substantial themes which can be usefully studied in this way. A provisional list includes: occupational and/or migration trajectories, women's reproductive life course patterns and changing household composition. The second and major component of the course however consists of a thorough training in the skills required to handle dynamic life course data from large historical databases, starting from the raw data contained in data entry files right up to the point at which the data are ready to be analysed by complex statistical analysis such as event history analysis. This will be done during sessions in the afternoon. In this way the course will assist students to build up their own data matrix ready for analysis. In addition, methodologies connected to the life course approach will be trained, such as the reconstruction of household dynamics, migration, career, and reproductive trajectories, calculation of transition rates, modelling of household composition, designing GIS maps and the coding of occupations. Students will make use of Dutch datasets for training purposes. Software to be used: ACCESS and R Studio.

This course is part of the programme of summer schools of the [European Historical Population Samples Network](#), an ESF Research Networking Programme. In terms of skill level this course is positioned in between the introductory course in Cluj, Rumania, and the more advanced courses in Lund and Umeå, Sweden. Software to be used: ACCESS and R Studio.

Scholarships

Scholarships covering lodging costs and travel grants (provided by EHPS-Net) are available for participants of ESF member organisation countries (<http://www.esf.org/esf-today/member-organisations.html>). In addition, scholarships covering the course fee (provided by the N.W. Posthumus Institute and the WOG) are available for everyone who applies. You can apply to these scholarships by sending your CV, a letter of motivation and an outline of your research plan to Tim Riswick, t.riswick@let.ru.nl.

Please note, however, that the number of scholarships is limited and will be appointed on the basis of registration date (first come, first served), motivation and research plans.

Target group:

This course is intended for MA and PhD students who are motivated to make use of life course data in their own research.

Course leaders

Prof. Dr. Jan Kok and Dr. Angélique Janssens
Chair group of Economic, Social and Demographic History
Faculty of Arts

Course fee: €600

10% discount for early bird applicants.

The early bird deadline is 1 April 2015.

15% discount for students and PhD candidates from Radboud University and partner universities.

Deadline Application: 15 May 2015



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