

29th Summer School in Social Sciences Methods

Lugano
7–22
August 2025



Schedule

Preliminary workshop / 07-09 August

Introduction to R and RStudio (Gruber) / online
Statistics with SPSS for Social Scientists (Horber) / online
Introduction to STATA (Lipps/Kuhn) / online
Visual Thinking for PhD Researchers (Kernbach)

Week 1 / 11-15 August

Conducting a Grounded Theory Study (Balachandran Nair)
Ethnographic Methods (Conway)
Mastering Case-Study Research Designs: Before, During and After Qualitative Data Collection (Gibbert)
Discourse Theory and Analysis (Mottier)
Introduction to Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) (Davidov / Schmidt)
Causal Analysis with Observational Data (Grätz)
Using Social Network Analysis to Understand Data (Hills)
Multivariate Methods for Social Researchers (Horber)
Introduction to Machine Learning (Steenbergen)
Web Scraping and Data Mining in R (Walasek)
Mixed Methods (Bergman)
Design Thinking for Research (Kernbach)
Exploring Causal Complexity with Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) (Mello)

Week 2 / 18-22 August

Integrating AI in the Qualitative Research Workflow Appropriately (Silver)
Qualitative Analysis of Interview Data (Drzewiecka)
Large Language Models for Social Science Research (Colavizza)
Content Analysis and Natural Language Processing (Hills)
Longitudinal Analysis with Panel Data (Lipps / Kuhn)
An Introduction to Bayesian Methods for the Social Sciences (Mira / Denti)
Survey Design and Implementation (Ochsner / Pollien / Stähli)
Creating Groups from Data. Cluster Analysis and Latent Class Analysis (Samuel)
Designing Experiments in the Social Sciences (Kittel)
Using Methods to Improve your Theoretical Arguments – Bridging Theory and Methods with Case Studies and Comparative Research to Develop More Interesting Theories (Beach)
How to Forge Arguments in Writing (Social Sciences) Scientific Paper (Lepori / Rocci)



The Summer School is aimed at doctoral, early career as well as more senior researchers. Participation is free for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers from USI.

For more information
usi.ch/methodssummerschool

Contact
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