

Call for Contributions / Invitation

Quantitative Research Methods in Social Work Education in Switzerland: Current State and Future Developments

11th Workshop of the Research Commission, Swiss Society for Social Work (SGSA-SSTS)

Friday, 17 September 2021 (9:15 – 16:45)

Bern University of Applied Sciences, Hallerstrasse 10, Bern

The 11th workshop of the Research Commission of the Swiss Society for Social Work (SGSA-SSTS) focuses on quantitative social research methods in social work education. The scope and content of quantitative research methods varies considerably between social work curriculums in Switzerland. This workshop aims to provide an overview on the current state of quantitative research methods in social work education in Switzerland, to explore the relevance of quantitative research methods in social work practice, to learn about current trends in teaching quantitative research methods in and beyond social work, and to sketch ideas for future developments concerning these matters.

Target audience: We welcome everyone who is interested in the topic of the workshop to participate (researchers, teachers, students, practitioners, and others). Being active in teaching quantitative research methods yourself is not a prerequisite. Contributing with a presentation is not a prerequisite either.

Call for contributions, workshop structure: The workshop consists of four parts. We are looking for contributions for the first three parts.

Part 1 (*current state of quantitative research methods in social work education*): Overview of the structure, content, objectives, challenges of courses on quantitative research methods in social work curriculums across Switzerland.

- We are looking for short presentations of approx. 10 minutes per curriculum for each school of social work, with room for questions, comments, and discussions after each presentation.

Part 2 (*the relevance of (knowledge of) quantitative research methods in social work practice*): An exploration of perspectives on how quantitative research methods and results could be relevant in social work practice and what knowledge professionals need to engage with research findings based on these methods (e. g., statistical literacy).

- We are looking for a presentation of approx. 15 to 20 minutes as an impetus for a workshop discussion.

Part 3 (*current trends in teaching quantitative research methods*): Insights into a selection of current trends and state of the art in teaching quantitative research methods in and beyond social work education.

- We are looking for a presentation of approx. 15 to 20 minutes as an impetus for a workshop discussion.

Part 4 (*synthesis and future developments*): A synthesis of the workshop's main findings and, based on this, a joint discussion of the following questions: What has proved to be successful, what should be changed, what can be changed, how can it be changed?

Workshop language: We hope to facilitate contributions and discussions with participants from all parts of Switzerland by asking them to consider the following recommendations:

- Presentation language: English.
- Discussion language: French, German, or English.

If you are interested in submitting a workshop contribution, please get in contact with Joel Gautschi (joel.gautschi@fhnw.ch) and Lukas Fellmann (lukas.fellmann@fhnw.ch) by 10 May 2021 with a brief description including your background (e. g., courses you are teaching, research you are doing), the idea of your contribution (2-3 sentences), and the part you would like to contribute to.

The workshop program will be published at the end of July 2021. Participation in the workshop is free of charge (participants are self-paying for lunch, coffee etc.).

Please register for the workshop by 31 August 2021 by sending an e-mail to joel.gautschi@fhnw.ch

Kind regards

Lukas Fellmann (FHNW), Joel Gautschi (FHNW), Sigrid Haunberger (ZHAW), Oliver Hümbelin (BFH), Dorian Kessler (BFH), Christian Maggiori (HETS-FR), Wim Nieuwenboom (FHNW)