SSPH+ INTER-UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CAMPUS SWISS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

in collaboration with

unisanté Centre universitaire de médecine générale et santé publique · Lausanne

Designing and Using Questionnaires for Research: Practical Insights and Challenges

Facilitators

- **PD Dr. Chantal Arditi, PhD**
- **PD Dr. Yara Barrense-Dias, PhD**
- **Prof. Dr. Isabelle Peytremann-Bridevaux , MD PhD**

Department of Epidemiology and Health Systems (DESS), Unisanté, Center for Primary Care and Public Health, University of Lausanne

Description

Questionnaires are common tools for collecting empirical data from a target population in health-related research fields such as epidemiology, social sciences, and economics, as well as for evaluating health-related programs and interventions. The response rate and validity of findings based on questionnaire data depend heavily on the development, selection and validation of the questions, the design of the questionnaire as well as the administration of the questionnaire and participant recruitment. This introductory course is intended to familiarize the students with the basic terminology and concepts related to electronic and paper administered questionnaires, providing practical insights and highlighting key challenges.

Objectives

After the 3-day course, the students will be able to:

- Identify the usefulness of collecting data with questionnaires in various contexts
- Evaluate the quality and validity of a questionnaire and its results in terms of questionnaire development and validation, and data collection mode
- Identify the implications of questionnaire design and types of questions on data entry, data management, data analysis and data interpretation (qualitative vs quantitative data)
- Apply the methodological knowledge and practical skills acquired during the course to conceive and plan an original health-related project using a questionnaire
- Identify and address the methodological, technical, and ethical issues of questionnaire data collection method in research

Date

18 – 20 January 2027

Ann Walser
Graduate Campus Manager
awalser@ssphplus.ch
https://ssphplus.ch/en/graduate-campus

SSPH+ INTER-UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CAMPUS SWISS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

in collaboration with

unisanté Centre universitaire de médecine générale et santé publique • Lausanne

Eligibility	Open to SSPH+ PhD and MD students, other students, health professionals, and researchers in the health field
Course Structure	The course will consist of lectures, presentations, group exercises, and group discussions. Throughout the course, we will illustrate our lectures and base the group exercises on various examples of questionnaires used in health-related fields, covering a wide range of topics and populations.
Assessment	Completion of an individual assignment before the course; active participation during the course; active participation to group exercises; peer evaluation of group work; and feedback by course leaders on group work.
Credits	1 ECTS Preparation work: 5h; Contact time: 22h (1 ECTS corresponds to appr. 25-30 hours workload)
Location	Biopôle campus, Lausanne, room Mont Cheseau

Course Fees

	1 ECTS
SSPH+ IGC PhD and MD Students	30 CHF
Postdocs from SSPH+ partner institutes with a SSPH+ Faculty Member as line manager	30 CHF
External PhD students, external MD Students, postdocs from SSPH+ partner institutes without a SSPH+ Faculty Member as line manager and Swiss Public Health Doctors in training	300 CHF
Others	800 CHF

Registration	**https://www.conftool.com/ssph-phd-courses2027/**
Deadline for Registration	**18 December 2026**

Ann Walser
Graduate Campus Manager
awalser@ssphplus.ch
https://ssphplus.ch/en/graduate-campus