

SOEPCampus

Active User Support at DIW Berlin and Universities

Active user support

The SOEP dataset contains over 250 data files covering more than 20 years of micro data at household, individual and event levels. To help users deal with this complex data structure, the SOEP Department has been providing training courses since the early nineties.

- introductory courses for German users at DIW Berlin (each year)
- courses for international users at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York (bi-annual)

SOEPCampus

- is a larger program of training activities, summer schools, etc.
- was established in 2007 in addition to the already-existing training courses
- is targeted at (graduate) students and young researchers
- is aimed to satisfy the increased user demand especially by intensifying the cooperation with universities
- can be carried out on site for specific user groups who have a special interest in targeted courses

Contents

SOEPCampus activities are held by SOEP staff but also by other experienced users of SOEP data and lecturers from the cooperating universities. Taken from different disciplines (such as sociology, psychology, and economics) the activities include:

- hands-on introduction to SOEP data
- an overview of techniques of panel data analysis (e.g., panel regression, sequence analysis)
- and discussions of young researchers' SOEP-based empirical work

Outline of SOEPCampus Workshops

University of Mannheim 2008

Three-day workshop in cooperation with the Graduate School of Economics and Social Science (Prof. Dr. Josef Brüderl), ~35 participants

Introduction to SOEP

- general overview and SOEP innovations
- samples and weighting
- hands-on SOEP data preparation sessions

Panel data analysis

- multilevel analysis with panel data
- propensity score matching
- event history analysis with repeated events



University of Duisburg-Essen 2007

Five-day workshop in cooperation with Prof. Dr. Stefan Liebig, Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Andreß, Prof. Dr. Martin Diewald, ~80 participants

Introduction to SOEP

- general overview and SOEP innovations
- hands-on SOEP data preparation sessions
- Introduction to PanelWhiz (tool for panel data analysis)

Panel data analysis

- panel regression
- event history analysis
- propensity score matching
- structural equation modeling

Presentations of empirical studies

- presentation of SOEP-related research papers by doctoral students
- use of SOEP data in applied research and as basis for political advice (invited lecture)

DIW Berlin 2009

Two-day workshop in cooperation with Technical University Berlin, ~35 participants

Introduction to SOEP

- general overview
- samples and weighting

Hands-on sessions (mostly in groups of three participants each)

- data preparation
- discussion of participants' research questions



Selected Workshops since 2007

2007

- SOEP User Workshop, DIW Berlin, February 26–27
- 3rd International Young Scholars German Socio-Economic Panel Symposium, Delmenhorst, March 5–6
- International Research Workshop "Methods for Ph.D.", Sandelmark near Flensburg, September 2–7 (organised by the University of Flensburg)
- International SOEP User Workshop, Ithaca/New York (Cornell University), September 7–8
- SOEPCampus@Universität Duisburg-Essen, Duisburg, October 8–12

2008

- 4th International Young Scholars SOEP Symposium, Delmenhorst, March 1–2
- SOEP User Workshop, DIW Berlin, March 10–11
- SOEPCampus@Universität Mannheim, June 23–25

- SOEPCampus@Universität Duisburg-Essen, Duisburg, September 22 – 26
- International Research Workshop "Methods for Ph.D.", Sandelmark near Flensburg, October 5–10 (organised by Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg)
- SOEPCampus@Universität Bremen, Bremen, October 13–14

2009

- User Workshop for Psychologists, DIW Berlin, February 19–20 (in cooperation with Institute of Psychogerontology, University Erlangen-Nürnberg / Max-Planck Institute for Human Development Berlin)
- SOEP User Workshop, DIW Berlin, March 2–3
- 5th International Young Scholar SOEP Symposium, Delmenhorst, March 27 –28

forthcoming in 2009:

- SOEPCampus@Universität Mannheim, Mannheim, June 22 –24
- International SOEP User Workshop, Ithaca/New York, September 10–12 (Cornell University)
- SOEPCampus@Universität Bielefeld, September 28 – October 2
- SOEPCampus@Universität Bremen, Bremen, October 12–13
- International Research Workshop "Methods for Ph.D.", Sandelmark near Flensburg, October 4–9 (organised by Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg)