

Longitudinal Studies Centre - Scotland

Home of the Scottish Longitudinal Study



Launching the Scottish Longitudinal Study: A New Resource for Research in Scotland

Lower College Hall, University of St Andrews

Monday 26th March 2007

An Introductory Training Workshop for the Scottish Longitudinal Study

University of St Andrews

Tuesday 27 - Wednesday 28 March 2007

Introduction

The Longitudinal Studies Centre – Scotland (LSCS) was established in 2001 and the major goal has been to create, maintain and support an ambitious new dataset – the Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS). This study links together routinely collected administrative data for a 5.3% representative sample of the Scottish population (about 270,000 people). It includes a wealth of information from the censuses (1991 and 2001), vital events, cancer registry and hospital episodes.

The size and scope of the SLS make it an unparalleled resource for analysing a range of socio-economic, demographic and health questions, including those which are based on reasonably rare events. The longitudinal nature of the SLS is particularly valuable, allowing us to explore causality in a way that cross-sectional data collected at a single point in time do not. It will provide insights into the health and social status of the Scottish population and, crucially, how it changes over time.



This launch event will introduce the SLS, as well as drawing attention to the similarities between it and the England and Wales Longitudinal Study (LS) upon which it is modelled. Speakers will also draw attention to some of the exciting types of research that can be conducted using the SLS.





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PROGRAMME

Chair: Peter Goldblatt, Office for National Statistics

10.00 – 10.45 Coffee and Registration

10.45 – 11.00 **Professor Paul Boyle, University of St Andrews**

Introducing the day

11.00 – 11.30 **Professor Peter Elias, University of Warwick & ESRC**

The longitudinal 'jewels in the crown'

11.30 – 12.00 **Professor John Fox, UCL**

The historical development of the Office for National Statistics Longitudinal Study

12.00 – 12.30 **Professor Emily Grundy, LSHTM**

Academic research using the Office for National Statistics Longitudinal Study:
themes and highlights in the past five years

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 14.00 **Professor Mel Bartley & Professor David Blane, Imperial & UCL**

Health research using the Office for National Statistics Longitudinal Study

14.00 – 15.00 **Professor Paul Boyle, University of St Andrews**

Introducing the Scottish Longitudinal Study

15.00 – 15.30 Coffee

15.30 – 16.00 **Dr Dermot O'Reilly, Queen's University**

The Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study

16.00 – 16.30 **Duncan Macniven, Registrar General, Scotland**

The Scottish policy context

16.30 – 17.30 Wine Reception

An Introductory Training Workshop for the Scottish Longitudinal Study

The **Longitudinal Studies Centre – Scotland (LSCS)** will provide regular training sessions for the Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS). These are open to academics, non-academics and students and are designed to provide a detailed introduction to the data that are available and how they may be used. The course is introductory and no prior knowledge of the SLS is anticipated.

TRAINING COURSE DETAILS

The training course will begin at 10.00 am on Tuesday 27th March and finish at 4.00 pm on Wednesday 28th March, 2007.

Delegates will be informed of the venue within the University of St Andrews at a later date.

Course content will include:

- A broad introduction to the SLS, including a detailed discussion of the main data sources that are linked
- A comparison between the SLS and other longitudinal data sources available in the UK, especially the England and Wales Longitudinal Study (LS)
- Detailed information about how to access the SLS
- Discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of the SLS
- An introduction to the on-line Data Dictionary
- Examples of the types of studies that could be undertaken using the SLS

Most of the workshop will be lecture based, although there will be an opportunity to explore the SLS Data Dictionary with support staff. We are also happy to discuss draft research proposals.

The course is heavily subsidized, but there is a charge for registering. Travel and accommodation costs need to be met by the participants.

Places are limited and early registration is encouraged

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

- Fees** There is a small charge for both events as shown below on the registration form. The fees do **not** include accommodation costs.
- Accommodation** If you require accommodation you can book this at: www.stayinstandrews.co.uk. We recommend the Rusacks Hotel (mention this event to get a slightly improved rate) or one of the guest houses on Murray Park, St Andrews.
- Registration** To register for either or both the launch and the training events, please complete the registration form below, detach and return it as soon as possible.
Places are limited and early registration is encouraged.

Please send completed registration forms and a cheque made payable to the **University of St Andrews** to:



Candice Mitchell,
Longitudinal Studies Centre - Scotland,
University of St Andrews, St Andrews KY16 9AL,
Tel 01334 462212, Fax 01334 462535



REGISTRATION FORM

PERSONAL DETAILS *(please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS)*

Title First name Surname

Institution/Organization

Address

..... Postcode

Daytime tel: Email.....

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Dietary requirements: Vegetarian Other, please specify.....

Please tick this box if you would like to be updated about future LSCS/SLS activities.
If so, your name will be added to our mailing list.

Please indicate if attending one or both of the events

Scottish Longitudinal Study Launch (Monday 26 March 2007) **£15.00**

Price includes registration, coffee/tea, lunch and wine reception.

SLS Introductory Training Workshop (Tuesday 27 - Wednesday 28 March 2007) **£30.00**

Price includes registration, coffee/tea, two lunches and one dinner.

Total Fee Enclosed

*Cheque made payable to the
University of St Andrews*

Scottish Longitudinal Study Launch & Introductory Training Workshop