The Life Course (IEHC0030)

Description

‘The Life Course’ is a module which brings together expertise in Child Health, Ageing and Cohort Methodology to cover a variety of topics. First, you will be introduced to life course theories, concepts, and models, followed by an introduction to life course study designs, looking at birth cohorts, historical cohorts, and family-based studies. There will be an introduction to the UK birth cohorts specifically and their contribution to understanding the life course. You will then apply the life course perspective to understand life course trajectories using child development, life course obesity and physical activity, ageing population, mental health, and wellbeing as case studies. Finally, you will be using the life course approach to evaluate policy. Overall, the module aims for you to develop a deeper understanding of the life course approach in contemporary population health research, and to develop critical arguments around key topics and challenges in life course research.

At the end of the module, you will be able to:

1. Explain the theories and concepts in life course research and apply these to practical examples
2. Access and use a wide range of data resources appropriate for life course research
3. Present and interpret research evidence in written form

This is an intermediate module open to Year 2 students on the BSc Population Health module. There is availability for UCL elective students from other departments. However, spaces are limited to 28 and are allocated on a ‘first come, first served’ basis on Portico, with preference given to BSc Population Health students.

You will attend weekly lectures and seminars taking place in Term 1.

The module is assessed by an unseen two-hour written exam (100% of your final mark for this module).

Selected Reading List

Disclaimer: All information correct as of March 2020. Please note that aspects of the module may be subject to change. UCL will make best efforts to inform applicants of major changes.
