

# Ph.D. in “Life Course Research” – Socio-demographic curriculum

Academic Year 2024-2025

## Ageing and intergenerational relations

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### Objectives

The aim of the course is to familiarise the students with the analysis of the intergenerational transfers in an ageing society with a macro/micro perspective. The demographic context of intergenerational exchanges will be firstly analysed showing its changes over time and space. Subsequently, indicators and data sources will be considered to prepare the students to formulate appropriate research hypotheses and to test them empirically through statistical applications. Standard methods are presented and discussed through a worked example to provide students with the basic tools to apply quantitative methods to answer socio-demographic research questions. National and international data sources will be considered.

### Program

*Monday morning* (Instructor: C. Tomassini):

- Introduction to intergenerational exchanges: theories and indicators.
- Definition of the analytical sample, operationalization, and description of variables.

*Tuesday morning* (Instructor: B.Arpinio):

- Intergenerational exchanges and health in later life.
- Intergenerational relationships in a digitalised society. Theory, data and methods

### Suggested lectures

National Research Council Preparing for an Aging World The Case for Cross-National Research (2001) Chapter 5

<https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/10120/preparing-for-an-aging-world-the-case-for-cross-national>

Di Gessa G., Glaser K., and Tinker A. (2016). The impact of Caring for Grandchildren on the Health of Grandparents in Europe: a lifecourse approach. *Social Science & Medicine*, 152, 166–175. DOI: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2016.01.041

Arpinio, B., Meli, E., Pasqualini, M., Tomassini, C., and Cisotto, E. (2022). Determinants of grandparents-grandchildren digital contact in Italy. *Genus*, 78, 20.

Peng, S., Silverstein, M., Suiitor, J. J., Gilligan, M., Hwang, W., Nam, S., & Routh, B. (2018). Use of communication technology to maintain intergenerational contact: Toward an understanding of ‘digital solidarity’. In *Connecting Families?* (pp. 159-180). Policy Press.

**Requirements** None