WERA Workshop at ECER 2015, Budapest

Innovative Methodologies for International Research on Adolescents

Course Director: Barbara Schneider, Michigan State University

Abstract

Today the opportunities to study the lives of adolescents have increased substantially. This workshop will explore new methodologies for obtaining information and provide some examples of analyses. One of the key aspects of this workshop will be examples of how to merge datasets from multiple sources. Participants will leave the workshop with information on how to access smartphone technology, merging information into computerized surveys such as qualtrics, securing participant confidentiality and data sites, and codes for analyzing data in multiple computer languages.

Participants are encouraged to bring their computers for obtaining additional information through various websites and a unique data site constructed for this workshop. At the workshop participants will receive actual hands on smart phones to learn how to conduct experience sampling methods--a form of time diary, photographs of student work, and GPS location information. Instructors will also discuss some of the new tools used to obtain biological information such as salvia samples, heart rate information, and eye trackers.

It is important to underscore that while the session will cover new methodologies some time will be devoted to why it is important to study the social context of adolescents, their networks, and what indicators we have overlooked.