

# Workshop on Sibling Fixed Effects Models at the University of Turku, October 12 and 14 2021

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## Description:

This workshop provides an introduction to fixed effects models with a focus on sibling fixed effects. In these models, one sibling serves as the control for another sibling. By these means, sibling fixed effects models control for unobserved variables that are shared among siblings. The workshop is structured into three parts. The first part discusses the central ideas motivating sibling fixed effects models and how they relate to individual fixed effects models. This introduction requires no prior knowledge of fixed effects models. The second part of the workshop provides practical exercises using Stata, allowing participants to implement and interpret these (sibling and other) fixed effects models themselves. The third and final part of the workshop uses some published studies using sibling fixed effects models as examples of how the approach can actually be implemented. This part also discusses the assumptions underlying sibling fixed effects models, their limitations, and the critiques which have emerged against them.

## Program:

Tuesday, October 12, 11.30–13.00

*Part I: An Introduction to Fixed Effects and Sibling Fixed Effects Models*

Tuesday, October 12, 15.30–17.00

*Part II: Practical Exercises using Stata*

Thursday, October 14, 10.00–13.00

*Part III: Examples of Sibling Fixed Effects Studies, their Assumptions, Limitations, and Critiques*

## Some preliminary readings (examples of sibling fixed effects models):

- Barclay, Kieron J., and M. Myrskylä. 2016. "Advanced Maternal Age and Offspring Outcomes: Reproductive Aging and Counterbalancing Period Trends." *Population and Development Review* 42:69–94.
- Duncan, Greg J., W. Jean Yeung, Jeanne Brooks-Gunn, and Judith R. Smith. 1998. "How Much Does Childhood Poverty Affect the Life Chances of Children?" *American Sociological Review* 63:406–23.
- Elstad, Jon I., and Anders Bakken. 2015. "The Effects of Parental Income on Norwegian Adolescents' School Grades: A Sibling Analysis." *Acta Sociologica* 58:265–82.
- Grätz, Michael. 2018. "Competition in the Family: Inequality between Siblings and the Intergenerational Transmission of Educational Advantage." *Sociological Science* 5:246–69.

### **Biography of the Instructor**

Michael Grätz is a lecturer (Maître assistant Ambizione) in sociology at the University of Lausanne where he conducts a research project financed by an Ambizione grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation. The project estimates the effects of demographic behavior on the intergenerational transmission of advantage. He is also an associate professor (docent) at the Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI), Stockholm University. He received my PhD in Political and Social Sciences from the European University Institute (EUI) in 2015. His research interests are in the fields of child development, social stratification, and social demography. His research aims at contributing to our understanding of the intergenerational transmission of advantage.