

# A step-by-step approach for designing and using questionnaires

## Facilitators

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## Description

Questionnaires are common tools for collecting empirical data from a target population in health-related research fields such as epidemiology, social sciences, and economics, as well as for evaluating health-related programs and interventions. The response rate and validity of findings based on questionnaire data depend heavily on the planning of the project, the development, selection and validation of the questions, the design of the questionnaire as well as the administration of the questionnaire. This introductory course is intended to familiarize the students with the basic terminology and concepts of designing, evaluating, and validating electronic and paper administered questionnaires, including cross-languages reliability and ethical considerations.

## Objectives

After the 3-day course, the students will be able to:

- Identify the usefulness of collecting data with questionnaires in various contexts
- Evaluate the quality and validity of a questionnaire and its results in terms of research/evaluation question, questionnaire development and validation, and data collection mode
- Identify the implications of questionnaire design and types of questions on data entry, data management, data analysis and data interpretation (qualitative vs quantitative data)
- Apply the methodological knowledge and practical skills acquired during the course to conceive and plan an original health-related project using a questionnaire in various health settings

- Identify and address the methodological, technical, and ethical issues of questionnaire data collection method in research and evaluation contexts

**Dates** 7 – 9 February 2024

**Eligibility** Open to SSPH+ PhD students, other students, health professionals, and researchers in the health field

**Course Structure** The course will consist in lectures, presentations, group exercises, and group discussions. Throughout the course, we will illustrate our lectures and base the group exercises on various examples of questionnaires used in health-related fields, covering a wide range of topics (e.g., self-reported health outcomes, satisfaction, program evaluation) and populations (e.g., aging population, vulnerable population, adolescents).

**Assessment** Completion of an individual assignment before the course; active participation during the course; active participation to group exercises; peer evaluation of group work; and feedback by course leaders on group work.

**Credits** 1 ECTS

Preparation work: 5h; Contact time: 22h

(1 ECTS corresponds to appr. 25-30 hours workload)

**Location** Biopôle campus, Lausanne, room tba

**Course Fees**

	<b>1 ECTS</b>
SSPH+IGC Students	30 CHF
Postdocs from SSPH+ partner institutes	30 CHF
External PhD students and MD students	300 CHF
Others	800 CHF

**Registration** <https://www.conftool.com/ssph-phd-courses2024/>

**Deadline for Registration** 7 January 2024