

14-15 January - Workshop Series on SEM

The workshop is designed to provide scholars with a basic understanding of structural equation modeling (SEM). Special attention is given to the translation of theoretical expectations into SEM, the interpretation of results in SEM analyses and the general use and misuse of SEM in the social sciences. While the workshop is predominantly designed to give you the knowledge of SEM we start with a quick introduction of necessary foundations like correlations, covariances, regression and factor analysis. Applications will include path models, confirmatory factor analyses and structural equation models. The goal of the workshop is to offer a basic introduction and the foundation for scholars to start using and critically assessing SEM and also have the ability to independently discover and master advanced SEM statistical topics. Upon completion the participants will have a basic conceptual understanding of SEM and its statistical foundations. Participants will be able to critically assess the appropriateness of such techniques in their own and other people's research and conduct SEM modeling themselves to the highest academic standards.

Prerequisites for the workshop: The workshop aims at the level of researchers with prior statistical training. Anyone registering should be an experienced user of regression, know the basics of inferential statistics and should have heard of (exploratory) factor analysis, at least at the informed consumer level. It would be extremely helpful to have basic functional knowledge of R to get the most out of the session. At minimum you should know how to manage files in R, install and load packages, load data and run basic analytical commands. If you can install R and RStudio, know how to load data and run basic things like the `lm` command for linear regression, even if you do a google search before every line of code, you are ready for this workshop. If not, please get there before we begin. I have put together a little online workshop to help you. It is not much. You can do it.

https://levente.littvay.hu/Introduction_to_R.pdf

(In the session, no laptops are needed. You can bring them, but we will not necessarily need them. We will go through models together but we will not run them together. You can run them after hours based on the materials I will provide.)