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Postdoctoral course Structural Equation Modeling

12-13 February 2007

Instructor: Anne Boomsma, University of Groningen

Dates: Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 February 2007.

Location and how to get there: The course will be given at Leiden University. Room numbers and other details will follow.

Short description of the course:

The course offers a theoretical and practical introduction to the analysis of covariance structures, or structural equation modeling as it is called. For the description and analysis of theory-based directed relationships between several variables simultaneously, models can be constructed that can be visualized as path diagrams. Key model features are the use of latent variables (hypothetical constructs) and the incorporation of measurement error; observed variables serve as indicators of latent variables and they may be subject to error. Social scientists use these types of models quite frequently, whether justified from a theoretical and statistical point of view or not. In the course, practical and statistical matters are emphasized: the interpretation of results (often an abundance of output), robustness against violations of assumptions, choice of estimation method, sample size and measurement considerations, pitfalls that need to be avoided at all costs, and similar issues.

Target group:

Those who want to get acquainted with basic theoretical and practical issues of structural equation modeling, and appreciate to gain some practical experience with this type of modeling using LISREL software in a short period of time.

Method of working: Lectures combined with practical exercises using the LISREL program.

Language: English.

Prerequisites:

Basic statistics primarily, the linear regression model and some factor analysis is fine, some matrix algebra is great but not necessary.

Literature (books, readers), price: Lecture sheets, and some recommendable prior readings [Euro 35]

Minimum/maximum number of participants: 15/25.

Certificate: yes.

Number of European credit points: ECT's: 1

Indication of course fees

IOPS PhD students	Free
IOPS staff members, and IOPS alumni	€ 200 and € 25 registration fees; additional costs for course materials
Participants appointed as PhD students at a university	€ 200 and € 25 registration fees; additional costs for course mate
Other participants	€ 600 and € 25 registration fees; additional costs for course materials

Information and registration

Lidy van Everdingen (IOPS courses administration)
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Cancellation

No refund is made for cancellations after the final registration date.