

A PhD Researcher Scholarship (4 years, full time) at the Sociodemography Research Group (DEMOSOC), Department of Political and Social Sciences, Pompeu Fabra University

Job description

The PhD researcher will work in the project funded by the Spanish Research Agency (Agencia Estatal de Investigación) *Socio-Demographic Consequences of the Great Recession: Altered Class and Gender Relations?* (CSO2016-80484-R)

The PhD will write a dissertation based on a set of research articles publishable in international refereed journals. The dissertation should focus on one topic included in the research projects (see below for a summary; further details on request). The PhD researcher will be supervised by one of the members of the project. He/she will have to apply to be admitted to the PhD program in Political and Social Sciences of the Pompeu Fabra University. The PhD researcher will be a member of the Sociodemography Research Group, and will get the opportunity to participate in the Department's training program for PhD students and will draw up a personal training and supervision plan.

Qualifications

We are looking for a candidate with:

- * a Master degree in sociology, demography, human geography, economics, or another relevant social science;
- * excellent study results and CV;
- * excellent quantitative research skills and proven experience in multivariate statistical analyses of large survey or register data sets;
- * good writing skills and fluency in written and spoken English; experience in academic writing in English;
- * a great curiosity and enthusiasm for scientific research.

Procedure

After being admitted to the PhD program in Political and Social Sciences of the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, the candidate should apply to the call for doctoral researchers by the Spanish Research Agency (Agencia Estatal de Investigación, AEI). This call is expected for September 2017.

The AEI will shortlist a number of applicants with the minimum required qualification (master degree level), among which the members of the DEMOSOC selection committee will make the final decision.

The appointment of the PhD researcher is at the University Pompeu Fabra, according to the conditions of employment stipulated by the AEI.

Those interested are invited to send their CV and a motivation letter to Meritxell Canals (sociodemo@upf.edu). Please indicate in the e-mail subject: PhD position DEMOSOC.

Project summary:

Socio-Demographic Consequences of the Great Recession: Altered Class and Gender Relations?

Our project aims to understand the role played by the economic crises in producing and reproducing gender and social class inequalities. We shall address key socio-demographic dimensions such as income and employment, health, gender relations, and family outcomes. We strongly emphasize the interrelationship between these domains and adopt the framework of a long-run perspective of social change. The main aims of the project include, first, to assess the extent to which job polarization has increased in Europe during the Great Recession. We will pay specific attention to its effects on income distribution and health inequalities. A second aim is to investigate the consequences of the economic recession on parents' transmission of advantage/disadvantage to children. Third, we aim to identify whether and to what extent the crisis years have exacerbated the longer run trend towards polarization in family life; and fourth, we aim to explore to what degree such a trend simultaneously contributes to a reinforcement of income inequalities across households.

We tackle these issues with two general hypotheses: a) the long duration of the recession has exacerbated long term trends existing in advanced societies involving social and demographic polarization and increased intra- and inter-generational inequalities; and b) social contexts play a key role in mediating the negative impact of the crises in individual life courses. We will focus in particular on policies in the domains of income protection, labor market, and family.

To identify the net effects of the economic crisis on social and demographic outcomes, we opt for a design which allows us to measure conditions and distributions pre- and post- crisis. Since the perspective of our analysis is mainly comparative we rely on three distinct international data sources. Firstly, the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions surveys (EU-SILC); secondly Generations and Gender Surveys (GGS); thirdly European Survey of Working Conditions (ESWC) and the harmonized Labour Force Surveys for the EU countries; finally for a select number of countries we can additionally exploit national panel data sources to answer more specific questions. To identify how context influences individual behavior, we will use individual/micro longitudinal data and apply several types of multivariate analysis (event history techniques, multilevel techniques, etc.). We also intend to explicitly model the role of selection, at the individual and at the country level.

Principal investigators: Pau Baizan (pau.baizan@upf.edu) & Clara Cortina (clara.cortina@upf.edu)