University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2016

Ref: #51 UoMQStep 2016 UoM CMIst Dyadic Analysis

For enquiries contact Dr Jackie Carter, jackie.carter@manchester.ac.uk or Dr Mark Brown, mark.brown@manchester.ac.uk, Q-Step Co-directors

Organisation Name: The University of Manchester

Team / Department: Cathie Marsh Institute for Social Research, School of Social Sciences

Address: Humanities Bridgeford Street Building

Provisional title for project: A Dyadic Analysis of Sexuality, Health and Wellbeing in Older Couples

100 word abstract of what the project would probably undertake, and any data to be used:

Little is known about how specific aspects of later-life sexuality interrelate within a coupled relationship to produce positive or negative outcomes for members of the dyad. Relevant data are available from the Sexual Relationships and Activities questionnaire (SRA-Q) included in wave 6 of the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. In this project, dyadic analysis approaches will be used to examine how different patterns of sexual behaviours and relationship satisfaction are cross-sectionally linked with health outcomes and subjective wellbeing in ~2000 married or cohabiting couples aged 50 and over. The central hypothesis is that positive sexual interactions would have tangible benefits in relation to indicators of successful ageing. These analyses could also examine gendered patterns of actor and partner effects within couples.

Key words (up to 12):

Sexual activity; health, quality of life; wellbeing; ageing, couples; later life, ELSA

Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:

Essential:
Working knowledge of statistical software (SPSS or Stata); familiarity with dataset management; basic understanding/willingness to learn key regression-based statistical methodologies.

Desirable:
Willingness to gain experience of using more advanced modelling approached to dealing with dyadic data (basic multilevel models, structural equation modelling).

Where the work would be carried out:

Cathie Marsh Institute for Social Research

Preferred selection method (interview or other meeting):

Interview

Support and training offered by the organisation:

Resources available to provide training in usage of statistical software (Stata or SPSS).

Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved:

None

Supporting information:

Elements of this project will certainly be published as a journal article and/or conference proceedings. Research contribution will be fully acknowledged, i.e., co-authorship etc.

Financial assistance offered by the organisation:

None