



Course Information

Prefix & number	Title
EDST 512	Transitions and Access across the Life Course
Instructor	Prerequisites or restrictions (if any)
Dr. Lesley Andres	

Focus or Content

In this course, we will adopt a life course perspective to examine transitions and access of individuals through and among the societal institutions of education, work, and the family. Particular emphasis will be placed on issues of inequality, access, the structure of the educational system and other societal institutions, and individuals as purposive agents. Part I will focus on the major theoretical and ideological perspectives in the study of the life course. In Part II, we will assess the usefulness and limitations of these perspectives in relation to the individual and institutional constraints and possibilities in the elementary and secondary educational system. Part III will focus on issues of access to post-secondary education, participation, retention, transfer and completion, and attrition from the system. In Part IV, we will examine the relationship between education and labour force entry and participation, occupational attainment and status, and other life spheres including family and children. Part V will focus on methodological and analytical techniques that are conducive to life course research. My 33-year longitudinal research project entitled the *Paths on Life's Way* project (<https://blogs.ubc.ca/paths/>) will feature prominently in this course.

Goals, Objectives or Learning Outcomes

1. to become familiar with the key theoretical theoretical and ideological perspectives in the study of the life course.
2. to employ concepts such as biological time, social time, historical time, transitions and trajectory, status passages, gender, and cultural variations to understand the life courses of individuals.
3. to be able to apply life course theory and concepts to real life situations.
4. to gain familiarity with methodological and analytical approaches to the life course.

Assignments or Assessment Process

Students will be assessed based on a variety of assignments.

Notes/Other

This course is offered in a hybrid format. All students will be required to attend on-campus in-person sessions.