

Tenth Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis and Collection

Session 1: 15th July to 29th July 1977

Session 2: 30th July to 12th August 1977

Session 3: 13th August to 26th August 1977

The European Consortium for Political Research will be sponsoring the tenth school, to be held at the University of Essex in three continuous but independent sessions from 15th July to 26th August. Special emphasis will be on introductory courses for participants who lack any training in statistics or computing. The Introductory level courses include "Absolute Beginners Course," "Introduction to Data Analysis (SPSS-Based)," and "Mathematics for Social Scientists." Intermediate level courses include regression theory and applications, basic scaling, computer-based simulation, cluster analysis, factor analysis, and content analysis. Advanced level courses include multi-dimensional scaling, network analysis, analysis of nominal-level data, analysis of social processes, and analysis of systems and hierarchies.

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Two courses will be offered in survey design and analysis. This special module is organized in conjunction with the SSRC Survey Archive and runs parallel with the other courses. It is primarily designed for introductory and intermediate level students. Instruction will particularly emphasize the application of these techniques to data collections held by the School. Full supporting interactive computer facilities will be available.

Financial support may be available to participants from their own institutions or National Research Councils. The organizations wish to encourage attendance by graduate students, research assistants and junior staff.

Interested persons should write to: The Organizing Secretary, Tenth Essex Summer School, Department of Government, University of Essex, Colchester CO4 3SQ, England.

**DATA NEEDS**Center for the Study of Youth Development at Boys Town

The Center for the Study of Youth Development at Boys Town, Omaha, Nebraska, is a nonprofit organization conducting social science research on youth and youth development.

Ed Meyers writes to ask IASSIST members' assistance in locating information about data collections (catalogued or uncatalogued) which focus on youth, adolescents, and youth development.

Center researchers have asked for longitudinal and cross-sectional data relating to the development of educational and occupational aspirations and attainments and to the antecedents and consequences of age at first marriage. In addition, there is interest in locating data on socialization and diffusion

of the law. These include items which ask respondents about their attitudes toward and knowledge of the law, including legal norms and the legal system, and items which tap the relationship between the respondent's values and the law, in surveys of adults and youth under 18 years of age which have been conducted within the past 10 years in the United States and Europe. Researchers are also interested in United States national survey samples of youth (18 years and under) conducted during the past 10 years which deal with drug, alcohol, and tobacco use.

If you have any information about data of this sort, please write to Dr. Edmund Meyers, Jr., Director, Research Computing Division, Center for the Study on Youth Development, The Boys Town, 11414 West Center Road, Suite 210, Omaha, Nebraska 68144 USA.

#### Handbook of American Resources for African Studies

The Archives-Libraries Committee of the African Studies Association is now preparing a revision of the Handbook of American Resources for African Studies, by Peter Duignan (Stanford, 1967).

In their request for assistance in updating this Handbook, the African Studies Association notes that

"as the study of African societies assumes an increasingly quantitative character and its recorded data provide much of the raw material for social science research on Africa, information about and access to such data become increasingly important. At this time no centralized data bank on Africa exists, and since data archives are unconventional information sources, it is difficult to identify what data sets on Africa are available and where."

The revised Handbook plans to include sources of information on the Africa-related holdings of data collections in the United States and information on their access policies and services. A questionnaire has been disseminated by the Archives-Libraries Committee, but if members of IASSIST who know about African data sources have not yet received or completed one, write to Ms. Jean E. Meeh Gosebrink, Librarian for African Studies, Indiana University Library, Bloomington, Indiana 47401 USA. This will be a resource to which data archivists will no doubt turn. It would be helpful if all of us were to contribute.