Latent Transition/Latent Markov Modeling in Health and Evaluation Studies

Call for papers to appear in the Special Issue of Evaluation & The Health Professions (Sage Publications), Guest Editors Brian P. Flaherty and Lawrence M. Scheier.

Publication Timeline:

December 15th, 2019 (abstracts **must** be submitted to receive preliminary feedback for manuscripts to be considered for review)

January 15th 2020 (potential authors notified whether their full paper would be considered for review)

May 15th, 2020 submission deadline

July 15th, 2020 first stage peer review decision letters

September 15th, 2020 revisions due

October 15th, 2020 final decisions

Prospective authors should submit a brief (1-2 page) pre-proposal that details their contribution's emphasis on modeling discrete dynamic processes, study design and research methods, a brief outline of analytic strategy, and the substantive implications of their work.

Pre-proposals and any inquiries regarding topic or scope for the special issue can be sent to the Guest Editors: Lawrence M. Scheier (scheier@larsri.org) and Brian P. Flaherty (bxf4@uw.edu). Deadline for pre-proposals is (1 month from receipt of this email announcement). Shortly after this deadline, the editors will invite full submissions for the Special Issue, with a target submission deadline ~six months later).

Manuscripts should be no longer than 30 pages including tables, figures, and references. This helps to meet the journal page length and publication criteria.

Call for Special Issue Submissions: Latent Transition/Latent Markov Modeling in Health and Evaluation Studies

The journal *Evaluation & The Health Professions* (Steven Y. Sussman, Editor) invites manuscripts for a Special Issue on modeling discrete, dynamic processes in health and evaluation research. The issue focuses on models of discrete behavior change, for example latent transition and latent Markov models, hidden Markov models, and extensions. We are particularly interested in innovative applications of these models in health, prevention, and evaluation research.

The proposed Special Issue will contain 7-8 articles that address substantive treatment of modeling behavior change that reflects population heterogeneity in terms of discrete typologies or subgroups. The Special Issue will also address fundamental analytic issues that arise when using longitudinal models of discrete change. These can include sample size, power, model selection, missing data, model estimation, and measurement invariance, to name a few.

The Special Issue would like to push the event horizon and consider the various nuances that occur when applying these models to study change over time. This is a broad mandate and includes studying longitudinal change as it affects all aspects of human development, particularly emphasizing the benefits of using discrete and class-based strategies to advance our understanding of health and its applications to evaluation techniques in prevention science.

We encourage submissions that can integrate multiple perspectives and we especially encourage submissions from geographical regions outside the United States.

All submitted manuscripts will undergo the journal's regular peer review process. An initial screening will be conducted by the two Guest Editors, and manuscripts that dovetail with the central themes of the Special Issue will be sent out for blind peer review. An invitation to submit a full manuscript is thus not a guarantee of acceptance or publication.

Potential contributors wishing to learn more about the journal and its multidisciplinary perspective should consult the online submission portal at Sage Publications: https://journals.sagepub.com/home/ehp.