RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

Supervisor:	Kristin Makszin
Title of clinic:	Statistics in the real world
Number of students:	Maximum 2 students
Major *(if applicable and approved by the Major Convener)*:	
(Pre)requisites *(if applicable)*:	Introduction to Statistics

Research context

This research clinic will contribute to the process of updating an existing textbook that is an introduction to statistics for social scientists with the publisher SAGE (at the level of the first year course at LUC). The goal is to update and diversify the examples and exercises in the textbook. We will be aiming to use data to produce examples across a diverse range of contexts and disciplines within social science. Together we will think through examples, find data, and generate examples that emphasize the usefulness of statistics in the real world in a way that helps students learn concepts. We will also review the textbook together to identify points that require further clarification. The clinic will involve regular meetings and extensive collaborative work with the supervisor.

Through the experience, participants will gain stronger data management, data visualization, and research design skills. The clinic will focus on deepening understanding of the basics of statistics, which can provide a more solid foundation for future statistics training. This could also be included in participants' future CV as research assistance for statistics textbook editing.

Students' tasks and activities

Please specify the tasks and activities, timeline, the learning aims and how they are assessed, i.e. what the deliverables will be.

The participants in the research clinic will:

- Read and identify sections of the textbook that may be unclear to first year statistics students
- Find datasets for use in textbook examples and exercises
- Conduct basic analyses and produce data visualizations
- Write up case studies and exercises collaboratively with supervisor

The research clinic will include trainings on efficient data cleaning and effective data visualization. A strong understanding of the first year statistics course is sufficient for the tasks. For any more advanced skills, training will be available. Participants will gain experience in finding, cleaning, and analyzing data with supervision. The timeline is somewhat flexible and we can set deadlines that complement the participants' course schedule.