

## Call for Papers

# Empirical Investigation of Social Space II

The objective of this international conference is to bring together social scientists interested in both traditional and modern methods for the construction of social space, in line with the work of Pierre Bourdieu. This event follows the spirit of a conference organized by Henry Rouanet (1931-2008), Brigitte Le Roux, and Jörg Blasius with Bourdieu's participation, in Cologne, Germany, in 1998.

The conference will take place at the University of Bonn, Germany, from

**October 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

A dozen years after his passing, Pierre Bourdieu has emerged as the sole twentieth-century sociologist who has entered the canon of social sciences. His impact is evidenced not only by the fact that he is the most quoted sociologist of our times: his work is cited, deployed, and elaborated across the disciplines that make up the social sciences and the humanities, as well as in the arts and many professional disciplines (architecture, business, nursing, accounting and forestry, for example). Scientists engage his central concepts, such as "capital", "field", "social space", "habitus" and "symbolic power". They also challenge and extend his empirical findings, for example those regarding the patterning of fields or the correspondences of lifestyles and social classes.

A core methodological element of Bourdieu's relationalism lies in geometric data analysis (*analyse des données*), with its underlying philosophy that, as stated by the mathematician Jean-Paul Benzécri, "the model should follow the data and not the reverse."

The purpose of this conference is to explicate and extend Bourdieu's relationalism in social analysis by elaborating his core concepts and amplifying the methodological precepts and techniques of their deployment. Special attention will be paid to the ways in which his habitus/field theory might be extended. Themes of the conference include (but are not limited to):

- Formal construction and empirical observation of habitus
- The formation, accumulation, differentiation of and conversion between different forms of capital
- The theory and methodology for the construction of "social spaces"
- The relation between various "fields" and "the field of power"

- Mechanisms of production and deployment of symbolic capital
- Concepts of causality in geometric data analysis
- What benefits do modern variants of geometric data analysis have for a Bourdieusian approach to social phenomena?
- Other methods for elaborating, extending and testing Bourdieu's theories, such as network analysis, content analysis, or discourse analysis; regression analysis, panel analysis, latent class analysis in the framework of geometric data analysis.
- We also call for contributions regarding particular applications of Bourdieu's methodology to traditional and new areas of research, such as the analysis of institutional, international and transnational fields, the workings of hybrid habitus, the variants of symbolic power, etc.

Deadline for abstract submission: 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 2015, notification of acceptance of conference paper: 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 2015

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### **Scientific committee**

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