Aims and objectives

After the classical anthropological studies on rites de passage, transitions in the life course have been constantly on the research agenda since the 1980s. Flexibilisation of work, limitations of welfare states, changes of family structures and gender roles as well as longer life have contributed to a destandardisation of the institutionalised life course. In consequence, transitions between life stages have become more uncertain and risky. For a long time, primarily transitions between youth and adulthood have been addressed. Increasingly, however, transitions from early childhood to very old age and with regard to diverse situations, institutions and spheres of life are in the focus.

Transition research has developed and diversified across different disciplines, epistemological interests and approaches as well as research methodologies. These developments have resulted in a research scenery which is difficult to be overlooked while there seems to be a theoretical deficit. Research seems to operate with different understandings of transitions which are rarely made explicit. In fact, the meaning of transitions seems to be so self-evident that theoretical clarification appears to be dispensable.

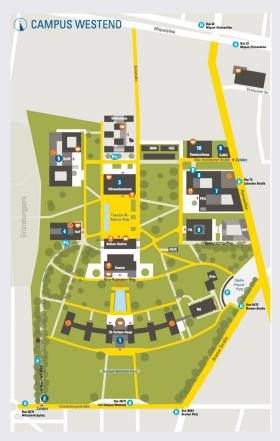
The aim of this conference is taking stock of concepts and controversies, findings and insights, perspectives and paradigms of transition research across the life course in the last three decades and to find common ground for theorising transitions. Key notes reflect on and present experiences from life course research, biographical analysis, developmental studies and from different disciplines, especially sociology, psychology and educational science. Cross-cutting to these overarching perspectives, recent research agendas on transitions in the distinct life stages childhood, youth, adulthood and old age will be reviewed and discussed.

The conference is part of the programme of the Research Training Group "Doing Transitions' funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG; see www.doingtransitions.org). It focusses on the question how transitions in the life course emerge from social practices of formation and production on the levels of discourse, institutions and individuals. With this international conference, "Doing Transitions' goes public. It invites researchers from different disciplines and gives young researchers the opportunity to build networks in the field.

Contact

Address of conference venue:

Goethe University Frankfurt am Main Campus Westend, Building PA, Foyer (no. 6 on the map) Theodor-W.-Adorno-Platz 1 60323 Frankfurt am Main



Contact:

Prof. Dr. Andreas Walther Email: doingtransitions@uni-frankfurt.de

Registration:

Due to limited places, please register until 20th of February 2017 under www.doingtransitions.org/ events (operative from 1st of January 2017)

DOING TRANSITIONS DOING TRANSITIONS DOING TRANSITIONS

Collaborative DFG-funded Research Training Group on Forms of the Formation of Transitions in the Life Course

International Conference

TRANSITIONS IN THE LIFE COURSE

What do we know and what does it mean?

Goethe University Frankfurt am Main 26th–28th of April 2017









Programme

Wednesday, 26th of April

	Wednesday, 26" of April
	Welcome
14:00	Enrico Schleiff Vice President, Goethe University Frankfurt Isabelle Diehm Dean of Faculty of Education
	Introduction
14:20	Barbara Stauber, <i>University of Tübingen</i> Andreas Walther, <i>Goethe University Frankfurt</i>
	Keynotes 1 & 2
15:00	Richard A. Settersten, <i>State University Oregon:</i> Flux: What science tells us about making transitions across the life course?
16:00	Coffee break
16:30	Karen Evans, <i>Institute of Education, London:</i> Researching youth and working life transitions In changing social landscapes
18:00	City walk and dinner for invited speakers
	Thursday, 27 th of April
	Keynote 3
9:00	Bettina Dausien, University of Vienna:

'Biography' as a theoretical and

research

Coffee break

10:00

methodological perspective in transition

10:30 Parallel forums

Forum 1: Transitions in Childhood

Pia Schober, *University of Tübingen:* Transitions into kindergarten

Nadia Kutscher, *University of Vechta:* Transitions into primary school

Chaired by Sabine Andresen & Birgit Becker, Goethe University Frankfurt

Forum 2: Transitions in Adulthood

Daniela Grunow, *Goethe University Frankfurt:* Family transitions

John Field, *University of Stirling:* Transitions in adult learning biographies

Chaired by Christiane Hof, *Goethe University* Frankfurt, Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha, *University* of Tübingen

12:30 Lunch break

Keynote 4

14:00 Daniela Jopp, *University of Lausanne:*Developmental continuities and discontinuities across the life span

15:00 Coffee break

15:30 Parallel forums

Forum 3: Transitions in Youth and Young Adulthood

Nora Gaupp, *German Youth Institute Munich:* Young people facing school-to-work-transitions

Barbara Stauber, *University of Tübingen*, Barbara Friebertshäuser, *Goethe University Frankfurt:* Youth transitions - rituals and practices in youth cultures

Chaired by Andreas Walther, *Goethe University* Frankfurt

Forum 4: Transitions in Old Age

Ines Himmelsbach, Catholic University of Applied Sciences Freiburg: Transitions of health and (in)dependent living

Nan Stevens, *VU University Amsterdam:* Partnership, Friendship and Ioneliness in transitions in later life

Chaired by Frank Oswald and Insa Fooken, Goethe University Frankfurt

Poster Session

17:30 Phd and postdoc projects in 'Doing Transitions' - with drinks and snacks

20:00 Conference dinner for all participants

Friday, 28th of April

Keynote 5

9:00 Ingrid Schoon, *Institute of Education, London:*Conceptualising transitions within a life-course framework. The role of structure, agency, and time

10:00 Coffee break

10:30

Panel Discussion

questions of and for 'Doing Transitions'
 Ingrid Schoon, Institute of Education, London,
 Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha, University of Tübingen, Birgit Becker, Frank Oswald,
 Andreas Walther, Goethe University Frankfurt

Lessons of transitions research

Chaired by Barbara Stauber, *University of Tübingen*, Sabine Andresen, *Goethe University Frankfurt*

Wrap-Up and Looking Ahead

12:30 Petra Bauer, Markus Rieger-Ladich, *University of Tübingen*