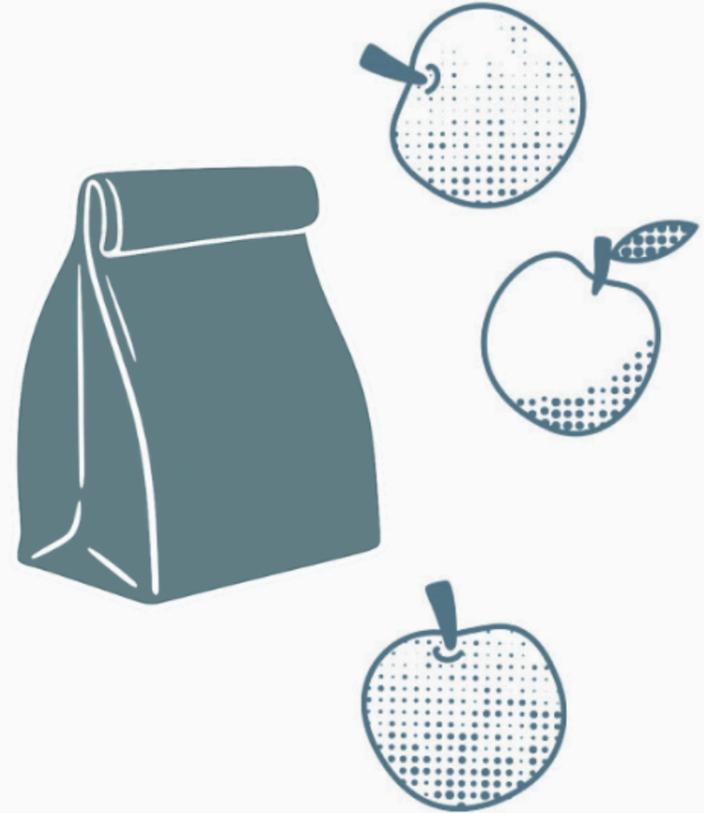


BROWN BAG SEMINARS



THURSDAY 22 JANUARY 2026

12:00-14:00

SALA POGGI, 1ST FLOOR

CUMULATIVE INEQUALITY AND ATTITUDE FORMATION: HOW EDUCATION BUFFERS AGAINST RISING CONCERNS ABOUT IMMIGRATION ACROSS THE LIFE COURSE

FABIAN KRATZ & LENA JOST | LMU MUNICH

DISCUSSANT: LEO AZZOLLINI

ABSTRACT:

This study examines the role of educational attainment in moderating age-related changes in attitudes toward immigration from a cumulative inequality perspective. Using multi-cohort panel data from the German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP), it analyzes how concerns about immigration evolve across the life course and how these trajectories differ by level of education. While prior research shows that higher education is associated with more liberal attitudes and that views can change in response to life events, the interaction between education, aging, and attitudinal change remains underexplored. The study proposes a life course polarization model, suggesting that education buffers against increasing anti-immigration attitudes with age.

Segreteria del dipartimento di Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale, Via Verdi, 26 -38122, Trento, Italy | eventi.srs@unitn.it | csis@unitn.it



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CSIS - Center for Social
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csis@unitn.it



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