OSC
A broad-based, comparative research center in sociology

26 PhDs  20 Researchers  6 Support Engineers

Founded in 1988 by Henri Mendras, and currently chaired by Marco Oberti, OSC research focuses on the overarching dynamics of contemporary societies. OSC scholars use both qualitative and quantitative methodologies, international comparisons, as well as diverse array of local and worldwide data collection strategies.

Main topics of research

- Social stratification, social mobility, middle classes
- Ethno-racial inequalities, discriminations
- Urban segregation, urban inequalities, housing
- Spatial mobilities, migrations, European integration
- Labour market, wages, financial industry
- Policies and inequalities in education, school choice, training of elites, tracks guidance
- Welfare state, social policies, social capital
- Lifestyles, norms, environment
- Cultural capital, cultural tastes and practices
- Reception of disability policies
- Digital divide, digital activism
- Gender inequalities, division of domestic duties
A strong doctoral program

The Observatoire sociologique du changement is one of the host research centers from Sciences Po’s Doctoral program in sociology. Doctoral students receive funding from the OSC and the Sciences Po doctoral program through grants, company partnership, etc. OSC researchers participate in both the undergraduate and graduate programs at Sciences Po. For 30 years, the OSC has aimed to train the best sociologists to analyze the transformations and evolutions of contemporary societies.

The sociologists trained with the OSC acquire a high level of theoretical, methodological and empirical knowledge. Graduates have gone on to teach at top universities, as well as pursue careers in the private and public sector, including NGOs. Their career follow-up is available online:

http://www.sciencespo.fr/osc/fr/content/suivi-des-docteurs

Recent PhD dissertations defences:
- Choosing Faith and Facing Race: White Converts to Islam in France and the United States (Juliette Galonnier)
- Immigrants’ spatial incorporation in France: patterns and determinants of neighborhood and housing attainment (Haley McAvay)
- Social inequalities in skills and organization of education system: comparative studies based on PISA 2000 to 2009 (Noémie Le Donné)
- The origins of academic inequalities: a contribution to the study of the academic trajectories of children of immigrants in France and England (Mathieu Ichou)

Latest publications (2018)

- Class, culture, and structure: Stratification and mechanisms of omnivorousness, Coline Ferrant, Sociology Compass.
- How Durable Are Ethnoracial Segregation and Spatial Disadvantage? Intergenerational Contextual Mobility in France, Haley McAvay, Demography.
- Is there really such thing as immigrant spatial assimilation in France? Desegregation trends and inequality along ethnoracial lines, M. Safi & Haley McAvay, Social Sciences Research.
- The Impact of Participation in Extracurricular Activities on School Achievement of French Middle School Students: Human Capital and Cultural Capital Revisited, P. Coulangeon, Social Forces.
- Nudging gender desegregation: a field experiment on the causal effect of information barriers on gender inequalities in higher education, C. Barone et al., European Societies.

Associate researchers

Louis Chauvel (Professor, University of Luxembourg) - Géraldine Farges (Lecturer, IREDU, University of Bourgogne, Dijon) - Mathieu Ichou (Research Fellow, INED) - Sonja Kosunen (University of Helsinki, Finland) - Noémie Le Donné (Analyst, OCDE Education & Skills) - Anne-Claudine Oller (Lecturer, LIRTES, University of Paris Est Créteil) - Camille Peugny (Lecturer, CRESPPA, University of Paris 8) - Xavier Pons (Lecturer, LIPHA, University of Paris Est Créteil) Thibaut de Saint Pol (Head of INJEP - Institut national de la jeunesse et de l’éducation populaire) Élise Tenret (Lecturer, IRISSO, University of Paris Dauphine)
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<tr>
<th>Researchers</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carlo Barone (Full Professor)</td>
<td>educational policies, higher education, social inequalities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alain Chenu (Full Professor Emeritus)</td>
<td>history of statistical sociology, uses of time, sociology of fame in printed media</td>
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<td>Philippe Coulangeon (Senior Research Fellow CNRS)</td>
<td>cultural practices and tastes, social distinction, lifestyles</td>
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<td>Marta Dominguez-Folgueras (Associate Professor)</td>
<td>gender inequalities, division of domestic duties, family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie Duru-Bellat (Full Professor Emeritus)</td>
<td>educational policies, gender, inequalities in education</td>
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<td>Emanuele Ferragina (Assistant Professor)</td>
<td>comparative social policy, social participation, inequality</td>
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<td>Denis Fouggere (Senior Research Fellow CNRS)</td>
<td>labour economics, economics of education, microeconometrics</td>
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<td>Olivier Godechot (Senior Research Fellow CNRS)</td>
<td>rationality in trading room, financial industry, wages</td>
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<td>Nicolas Herpin (Honorary Senior Research Fellow CNRS)</td>
<td>consumers practices, American sociology, lifestyles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sukriti Issar (Assistant Professor)</td>
<td>urban governance, policy &amp; institutional change, political economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hugues Lagrange (Senior Research Fellow Emeritus, CNRS)</td>
<td>urban segregation, socialisation, culture, statistical methods in anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laurent Lesnard (Senior Research Fellow CNRS)</td>
<td>sociology of time, gender, lifestyles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marco Oberti (Full Professor, Sciences Po, Head of OSC)</td>
<td>social class, urban &amp; educational segregation, inequalities, urban social mix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edmond Prêteceille (Senior Research Fellow Emeritus, CNRS)</td>
<td>urban inequalities &amp; segregation, globalization, school areas, gentrification</td>
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<td>Ettore Recchi (Full Professor)</td>
<td>mobilities, european integration, social stratification</td>
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<td>Anne Revillard (Associate Professor)</td>
<td>gender, disability, reception of public policies, qualitative methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mirna Safi (Sciences Po Senior Research Fellow)</td>
<td>immigration, ethno-racial stratification, discriminations</td>
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<td>Jen Schradie (Assistant Professor)</td>
<td>digital activism, digital divide, digital labour, political ideologies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louis-André Vallet (Senior Research Fellow CNRS)</td>
<td>social stratification and social mobility, sociology of education, quantitative methods, social statistics</td>
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<td>Agnès van Zanten (Senior Research Fellow CNRS)</td>
<td>sociology of education, educational policies, scholar inequalities</td>
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* Accreditation to supervise research (HDR)
Practical Information

OSC is located in Paris, 98 rue de l’Université, subway line 12 (Solférino station), RER line C (Mu-
see d’Orsay station), buses 63, 68, 73, 83, 84 et 94.

Contacts
• Marco Oberti, Full Professor, Sciences Po, Head of OSC
  ☎ 01.45.49.54.60, marco.oberti@sciencespo.fr
• Anne Revillard, Associate Professor, doctoral supervisor
  ☎ 01.45.49.53.76, anne.revillard@sciencespo.fr
• Marie Ferrazzini, General Secretary
  ☎ 01.45.49.54.85, marie.ferrazzini@sciencespo.fr

Observatoire sociologique du changement
27, rue Saint-Guillaume - 75337 Paris cedex 07
Office : 98, rue de l’Université - 75007 Paris
T. (33)1 45 49 54 50 - http://sciencespo.fr/osc
https://twitter.com/OSC_SciencesPo

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