



Prof. Dr. Timo Mandler, NEOMA Business School

Prof. Dr. Karen Gedenk, University of Hamburg Business School

PhD Course

Survey Research

Winter Term 2026/27

Dates

Part I: Design & execution of surveys (Timo Mandler)

Day 1: November 30, 2026, 9 am – 4 pm

Day 2: December 14, 2026, 9 am – 4 pm

Part II: Analysis of survey data (Karen Gedenk)

Day 3: January 18, 2027, 9 am – 4 pm

Day 4: February 8, 2027, 9 am – 4 pm

Location

On campus (University of Hamburg), Moorweidenstr. 18, room 0005.1.

Objectives

This course is designed to lay the foundations of good survey-based research in different areas of Business Administration. It aims at (1) familiarizing students with key issues in designing surveys and equipping them with the necessary practical skills to implement and execute surveys efficiently, and (2) teaching them how to address various challenges related to the analysis of survey data. The course provides students with an overview of the survey research “tool box”.

The course will take the form of four all-day workshops, with an emphasis on student participation. Presentations on key issues related to the design, implementation, and execution of surveys as well as to the analysis of survey data will be accompanied by practical demonstrations, in-class exercises, and assignments.

Credits

The course is worth 5 LP (Leistungspunkte/credit points). To pass the course, participants are required to participate actively on all four days, and to hand in two assignments. Each assignment will be reviewed by an instructor and a peer. Selected assignments will be discussed in class.

- The first assignment involves the design and implementation of a survey on a topic of choice. It is due on December 9, and will be discussed in class on Day 2.



- The second assignment involves the analysis of data, using at least one method that participants would like to familiarize themselves with. Participants can either analyze their own datasets or use a training dataset provided by the instructors. The second assignment is due on February 3, and will be discussed in class on Day 4.

Further details on the assignments will be provided in class. Please reserve a sufficient amount of time in the weeks after Day 1 and Day 3 for the assignments.

Students who participate only in part I or part II of the course, and successfully complete the respective assignment, receive 2.5 LP.

Prerequisites

Students need access to a survey platform (e.g., Qualtrics, LimeSurvey) and to a statistics software package (e.g., Stata, R). Students should be familiar with the basics of multivariate data analysis.

Contents

Part I: Design & execution of surveys

Day 1: Introduction to survey design

- Selecting the right sample
- Adopting and adapting measurement instruments
- Designing questionnaires that engage respondents
- Safeguarding validity
- Enhancing response rates
- Navigating Qualtrics efficiently
- Constructing dynamic questionnaires
- Pretesting surveys effectively

Day 2: Applied survey design & execution

Part A: Peer-review of surveys (assignment 1)

Part B: Data collection & treatment

- Choosing a panel provider
- Documenting the data collection
- Cleaning and preparing data for analysis

Part II: Analysis of survey data

Day 3: Introduction to survey data analysis

- Testing for biases: non-response bias, common method bias
- Validating measurement models
- Analyzing simple relationships: multicollinearity, non-linear effects



- Analyzing complex relationships: moderation & mediation, interaction terms, structural equation models
- Choice models

Day 4: Advanced problems in survey data analysis & applications

Part A: Advanced topics:

- Heterogeneity
- Endogeneity

Part B: Student analyses (assignment 2)

Instructors

Timo Mandler is (Incoming) Professor of Marketing at NEOMA Business School, France. His research addresses contemporary marketing challenges in the context of globalization and digitalization and has been published in leading journals like the *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*, *Journal of Product Innovation Management*, *Journal of International Business Studies*, and *Journal of International Marketing*.

Karen Gedenk is Professor of Marketing at the University of Hamburg. Her research focuses on pricing and promotions. She studies the effects of these marketing instruments empirically, using market data and surveys. Her work has been published in major journals like *Marketing Science*, *Journal of Marketing Research*, *Journal of Marketing*, and *International Journal of Research in Marketing*.

Registration

Students who want to attend this course need to register via STiNE (<https://www.stine.uni-hamburg.de>) until November 1, 2026. For students from outside the University of Hamburg, please register via email to Elke Thoma (elke.thoma@uni-hamburg.de) and provide the following information:

- your name
- your email address
- the supervisor of your doctoral thesis and its topic
- your background in statistics and empirical research.

Co-ordination/Contact

Prof. Dr. Karen Gedenk (karen.gedenk@uni-hamburg.de)

For all organizational issues, please contact Elke Thoma (elke.thoma@uni-hamburg.de)