

Richard Nennstiel, PD Dr. phil

CURRICULUM VITAE (08/2026)

Personal Information

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Academic Positions

Since 02/2026	SNSF Postdoctoral Researcher in the EQUALOPP project, Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
09/2021–07/2026	Research Associate, Department of Sociology of Education, Institute of Educational Science, University of Bern, Switzerland
09/2017–08/2021	Research Assistant, Department of Sociology of Education, Institute of Educational Science, University of Bern, Switzerland
10/2012–08/2017	Student Research Assistant / Tutor at various institutes (Sociology, Educational Science, Political Science), University of Leipzig, Germany

Further Affiliations

Since 04/2024	Fellow at the College for Interdisciplinary Education Research (CIDER)
10/2023–04/2026	Member of the Educational Inequality across the Life Span – An Interdisciplinary Network of Research-Practice-Partnerships (EQUAL-NET)

Qualifications

Since 06/2024	Certificate of Advanced Studies (15 ECTS) in Teaching in Higher Education University of Bern
04/2026	Habilitation in Sociology of Education, Faculty of Human Sciences, University of Bern Title of habilitation thesis: “Persistence and Change: How Social Origin, Gender, and Migration Background Continue to Shape Educational Inequalities.”
08/2021	Doctorate (Dr. phil., <i>summa cum laude</i>), Institute of Educational Science, University of Bern Doctoral thesis: “Educational and social structural analyses from Germany and Switzerland” Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Rolf Becker Second examiner: Prof. Dr. Ben Jann
10/2010–09/2017	Studies in Sociology and Political Science at the University of Leipzig Master’s degree in Sociology (09/2017, grade: 1.1) Bachelor’s degree in Political Science (03/2015, grade: 1.1) Bachelor’s degree in Sociology (07/2014, grade: 1.1)
06/2010	Abitur (German university entrance qualification), Magnus-Gottfried-Lichtwer-Gymnasium, Wurzen

Publications

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8551-2747>

Total number: 22 (6 sole-authored and 11 first-authored)

Peer-reviewed articles: 17 (5 sole-authored and 9 first-authored)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

17) Nennstiel, Richard and König, Christian. (2026). The thermostat of opportunity: Home air conditioning, its social gradient, and educational consequences. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 138, 104785.

16) Aczel, Balazs, Szaszi, Barnabas, Clelland, Harry T., ..., Nennstiel, Richard, ..., and Nosek, Brian A (494 authors) (2026). Investigating the analytical robustness of the social and behavioural sciences. *Nature*, 652.

15) Nennstiel, Richard and Ullrich, Riccarda. (2026). The Goldilocks dilemma: gendered patterns of social media usage and adolescent life satisfaction across OECD countries. *Large-Scale Assessments in Education*, 14, 11.

14) Nennstiel, Richard and Hudde, Ansgar. (2025). Is there a growing gender divide among young adults in regard to ideological left–right self-placement? Evidence from 32 European countries. *European Sociological Review*, jcaf021.

13) Nennstiel, Richard and Möser, Sara. (2025). Does “No” Always Mean No? Gender Differences in Consent Perceptions across the EU. *Socius* (11): 23780231251351676.

12) Nennstiel, Richard and Becker, Rolf. (2025). Equal educational qualifications but unequal labor market outcomes: An exploration of gender disparities in occupational status and their mechanisms, over five decades. *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* (98): 101070.

11) Nennstiel, Richard and Becker, Rolf. (2025). Longitudinal analysis of occupational prestige in Switzerland, 1946–2023: navigating economic modernization and changing labor market conditions. *Frontiers in Sociology* (10). In: *Exploring Social Stratification Dynamics: Insights from Longitudinal Survey Data*. Eds. Robin Tillmann, Florence Lebert, Ursina Kuhn and Monica Budowski.

10) Gutfleisch, Tamara and **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2025). Bridging the gap: gender-specific preferences in STEM occupations in vocational education and training. *Empirical Research in Vocational Education and Training* (17): 12.

9) Nennstiel, Richard and Gilgen, Sandra. (2024). Does chubby Can get lower grades than skinny Sophie? Using an intersectional approach to uncover grading bias in German secondary schools, *PLoS ONE* 19(7): e0305703.

8) Nennstiel, Richard and Brosy, Zoé. (2023). Lower student dropout, higher change of study subject: evidence from Swiss administrative data, 1975–2018, *European Education* 55(1): 44–59.

- 7) Busse, Robin, Michaelis, Christian and **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2023). To what extent do secondary effects shape migrants' educational trajectories after lower-secondary education? *Empirical Research in Vocational Education and Training* (15): 3.
- 6) **Nennstiel, Richard** and Becker, Rolf. (2023). Gendered intergenerational educational mobility patterns converge in the cohort sequence: evidence from Switzerland using administrative data, *Frontiers in Sociology* (8). In: *Gender-Specific Inequalities in the Education System and the Labor Market*. Eds. Pia Blossfeld, Magdalena Pratter and Wilfred Uunk.
- 5) **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2022). Positive Ethnic Choice Effects are Persistent Over Time but not Across Minority Generations: Evidence from Switzerland, *Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie* 74(4): 499–524.
- 4) **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2022). No Matthew effects and stable SES gaps in math and language achievement growth throughout schooling: evidence from Germany, *European Sociological Review* 39(5): 724–740.
- 3) **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2022). Explaining ethnic differences in access to VET in German-speaking Switzerland: the effects of application behavior and resources, *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* 50(5): 396–414.
- 2) **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2021). Do more demanding lower secondary school certificates for minority students pay off? A comparison of VET access between Germany and German-speaking Switzerland, *Soziale Welt* 72(3): 313–342.
- 1) **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2021). On the way to becoming a society of downward mobility? Intergenerational occupational mobility in seven West German birth cohorts (1944–1978), *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* (73): 100609.

Other Publications

- 5) **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2026). How Ethnic Achievement Gaps Vary Across European Countries. In *Educational Integration of Refugees and Newly Arrived Immigrants*. Eds. Oliver Winkler and Melanie Olczyk. 173–192. Cham: Springer.
- 4) Blossfeld, Pia and **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2025). Längsschnittliche Bildungsforschung: Theoretische Grundlagen, Konstrukte und Instrumente, statistische Verfahren und Datensätze. In *Bildungsungleichheit als Gegenstand der Bildungsforschung: Perspektiven, Erträge und Aussichten*. Eds. Tilman Drope, Sabine Reh and Kai Maaz. 199–235. Münster: Waxmann Verlag.
- 3) Becker, Rolf and **Nennstiel, Richard**. (2024) Struktur und Dynamik der Bildungsverläufe von Frauen und Männern in der Schweiz seit 1945. In *Bildsamkeit – Komplexität – Werteorientierung. Beiträge zur erziehungswissenschaftlichen Grundlagenforschung*. Eds. Kira Ammann, Fion Emmenegger, Robin Gerstgrasser, Omar Ibrahim, Thomas Rucker and Gaudenz Welti, 31–47. Bad Heilbrunn: Verlag Julius Klinkhardt.

2) Nennstiel, Richard and Becker, Rolf. ([2023](#)). Bildungsmobilität von Frauen und Männern in der Schweiz / Mobilité éducative des femmes et des hommes en Suisse. *Social Change in Switzerland*, N°35.

1) Nennstiel, Richard and Becker, Rolf. ([2020](#)). Hängen die ECTS-Punkte von Lehrveranstaltungen mit dem studentischen ‚workload‘ zusammen? In *Studentischer Workload – Definition, Messung und Einflüsse*. Eds. Tobias Wolbring, Christin Engel, Daniel Großmann, and Justus Junkermann, 273–292. Wiesbaden: Springer.

Teaching Record

Total number of courses taught: 36 (Bachelor's-level courses: 19, Master's-level seminars: 17)

Bachelor's Level ("Proseminar")

- 7) Evaluation of Education Systems
(Spring 2026)
- 6) Social Science Research at a Crossroads? The Replication Crisis and Possible Solutions
(Autumn 2025, Autumn 2024, Autumn 2022, Autumn 2021, Autumn 2020)
- 5) Classics of the Sociology of Education
(Spring 2024, Spring 2022, Spring 2020, Spring 2018)
- 4) Family, School, and Work: Social Inequalities in Education and Employment
(Autumn 2025, Autumn 2023)
- 3) Educational Attainment and Returns to Education
(Spring 2025, Spring 2023, Spring 2021, Spring 2019)
- 2) Empirical Educational Research
(Autumn 2019, Autumn 2018)
- 1) Sociological Theories of Education
(Autumn 2017)

Master's Level ("Seminar")

- 8) Social Inequalities over the Life Course
(Spring 2026)
- 7) Replications in the Sociology of Education
(Autumn 2025)
- 6) Ethnic Inequalities in Education and Employment
(Autumn 2024, Autumn 2022, Autumn 2020, Autumn 2018)
- 5) From Cradle to Grave – Social Inequalities over the Life Course
(Spring 2024, Spring 2022, Spring 2020)
- 4) Social Mobility in Modern Societies
(Autumn 2023, Autumn 2021, Autumn 2019)
- 3) Life Course Research and Event History Analysis
(Spring 2023, Spring 2021, Spring 2019)
- 2) Social Inequality in Educational Opportunities over the Life Course
(Spring 2018)
- 1) Education, Work, and Social Development
(Autumn 2017)

Thesis Supervision

Total number of supervised theses: 21 (Bachelor's theses: 12, Master's theses: 9)

Bachelor's Theses

- 12) Selena Cvijetic: Educational Decisions of First- and Continuing-Generation University Students
- 11) Elena Zobrist: Teachers' Experiences of Discrimination in Everyday School Life
- 10) Sofia Rodriguez: Social Origin and the Transition to an Academic-Track Upper Secondary School
- 9) Anojan Sivaselvam: Meritocracy in Space: Formal Equality and Spatially Restricted Educational Opportunities in the Transition to an Academic-Track Upper Secondary School in Bern
- 8) Julia Thekkenin: How Does Educational Expansion Affect Equality of Opportunity in Switzerland, Particularly Access to University Bachelor's and Master's Degrees?
- 7) Sarah Redha: What Explains the Phenomenon of Immigrant Optimism? Assessing the Relevance of Three Potential Explanations
- 6) Sherrin Chaletu: The Power of Classmates: How Peers Influence Competence Development
- 5) Ianaarthan Veluppillai: Preschool Education for Children with a Migration Background as a Solution to Initial Disadvantages in the Education System?
- 4) Pakeeran Thillaiyampalam: A Secondary Analysis as an Explanation for Migrants' High Educational Aspirations
- 3) Andrea Zangger: The Effects of Selection on the Transition to Upper Secondary Education: A Replication and Extension of Scharenberg et al. (2017)
- 2) Gowranga Thambimuthu: The Effect of Education on Partner Choice in Switzerland
- 1) Zoé Broisy: Changing Study Programmes over Time: Effects of the Bologna Reform on Changes in Swiss University Students' Study Programmes

Master's Theses

- 9) Nayana Chakkalakal: ongoing
- 8) Jessica Di Meo: (Early) Language Support for Children with a Migration Background: Short- and Long-Term Effects of Language Education and Evaluated Language-Support Programmes in Germany
- 7) Sergio Spagnuolo: Capitals, Aspirations, and Institutional Differentiation in the Educational Transitions of Migrant Children in Switzerland: Educational Transitions and Social Inequality – SEU Mechanisms in the Swiss Context
- 6) Viktoria Murgovska: From Policy to Practice: Investigating How Inclusion Reforms Influence Teachers' Employment Levels
- 5) Sophia Bernard: The Phenomenon of Online Dating and Its Effects on Society
- 4) Andrea Zangger: Failure to Enter a Certified Education or Training Programme Directly after Compulsory Schooling
- 3) Silvano Jost: Education-Specific Distinctions in Political Interest, Political (Self-)Efficacy, and Informal Political Participation
- 2) Jana Sohm: Migration-Specific Inequalities in the Transition to Upper Secondary Education by Generation Status and Migration Cluster: An Empirical Analysis of Switzerland
- 1) Lea Schnyder: Changes of Field of Study over Time: Analyses of Changes at Swiss Universities, with Particular Attention to the Bologna Reform

Conference Presentations

Presentations at Academic Conferences and Workshops (total: 48)

2026

- 48) *International Conference on Environment and Society, Konstanz*. The Thermostat of Opportunity: Linking Cooling Access to Educational Outcomes. June.
- 47) *ECSR Conference, Dublin*. Sibling Similarity in Education across 27 EU Countries: Trends, Variation, and the Great Gatsby Curve. June.
- 46) *LIVES Day 2026, Geneva*. Sibling Similarity in Education across 27 EU Countries: Trends, Variation, and the Great Gatsby Curve. June.
- 45) *ISA RC28 Spring Meeting, Seville*. Sibling Similarity in Education across 27 EU Countries: Trends, Variation, and the Great Gatsby Curve. May.
- 44) *CIDER Spring Workshop, Mannheim*. The Thermostat of Opportunity: Linking Cooling Access to Educational Outcomes. April.
- 43) *GEBF, Mannheim*. The Goldilocks Dilemma: Gendered Patterns of Social Media Usage and Adolescent Life Satisfaction Across OECD Countries. March.
- 42) *LIVES comes alive, Lausanne*. Global Gender Gaps in Math Achievement, 2000-2022. February.

2025

- 41) *Analytical Sociology: Theory and Empirical Applications, Venice*. Whose Climate Crisis? The Polarization of Climate Change Perception over Time and across European Societies. November.
- 40) *Analytical Sociology: Theory and Empirical Applications, Venice*. Generational Gaps in Gender Violence Stereotypes: Young Men as a New Risk Group? November.
- 39) *CIDER-LERN Conference 2025, Bamberg*. The Goldilocks Dilemma: Gendered Patterns of Social Media Usage and Adolescent Life Satisfaction Across OECD Countries. November
- 38) *Academy of Sociology Conference, Mainz*. Making sense of climate change perceptions in the last two decades. Evidence from 28 European countries. October.
- 37) *ECSR Conference, Cologne*. Making sense of climate change perceptions in the last two decades. Evidence from 28 European countries. September.
- 36) *ASA Conference, Chicago*. Making sense of climate change perceptions in the last two decades. Evidence from 28 European countries. August.
- 35) *ISA RC28 Summer Meeting, Los Angeles*. Equal Degrees but Unequal Labor Market Outcomes: An Exploration of Gender Disparities in Occupational Status and their Mechanisms over Five Decades. August.
- 34) *Joint Conference of TREE and SHP, Lausanne*. Longitudinal analysis of occupational prestige in Switzerland, 1946-2023: Navigating economic modernization and changing labor market conditions. June.

33) **GEBF, Mannheim.** Exploring the Impact of Teacher-Student Similarity on Academic Outcomes: Evidence from Germany. January.

2024

32) **International NEPS Conference, Bamberg.** Persistent Gender Inequalities in the Swiss Labor Market: A Study of Educational Credentials and Their Returns. December.

31) **Analytical Sociology: Theory and Empirical Applications, Venice.** The subjective structure of social class in Europe. November.

30) **DGS Section "Social Inequality and Social Structure Analysis", Cologne.** Persistent Gender Inequalities in the Swiss Labor Market: A Study of Educational Credentials and Their Returns. November.

29) **ECSR Conference, Barcelona.** Exploring Gender Gaps in Math Achievement Across Time and Countries: A Quantile Regression Analysis of PISA Data from 76 Countries (2003-2022). September.

28) **ESA Conference, Porto.** Exploring the Impact of Teacher-Student Similarity on Academic Outcomes: Evidence from Germany. August

27) **ISA RC28 Summer Meeting, Providence.** Exploring Gender Gaps in Math Achievement Across Time and Countries: A Quantile Regression Analysis of PISA Data from 85 Countries (2000-2022). August.

2023

26) **Analytical Sociology: Theory and Empirical Applications, Venice.** Riding the Learning Curve: An Exploration of Achievement and SES Disparities within the German Educational Tracking System. November.

25) **LIVES International Conference, Lausanne.** When analyzing intergenerational mobility, be cautious about the timing of the measurement of children's occupational position. November.

24) **SLLS Annual Meeting, Munich.** When analyzing intergenerational mobility, be cautious about the timing of the measurement of children's occupational position. October.

23) **ECSR conference, Prague.** Challenges in estimating SES effects in cross-country comparisons: Comparing apples and oranges? September.

22) **Academy of Sociology conference, Bern.** How does tracking affect achievement and SES inequalities: Evidence from Germany. August.

21) **Academy of Sociology conference, Bern.** Assessing the Impact of Socioeconomic Status on Educational Inequality: A Cross-Country Comparison using Machine Learning Techniques. August.

2022

20) **International NEPS Conference, online.** Does chubby Can get lower grades than skinny Sophie? December.

19) **Analytical Sociology: Theory and Empirical Applications, Venice.** Do not miss the forest for the trees. November.

18) **ECSR conference, Amsterdam.** Does chubby Ali get lower grades than skinny Sophie? July.

17) ISA RC28 Spring Meeting, London. When analyzing intergenerational mobility, be cautious about the timing of the measurement of children's occupational position. April.

2021

16) Sociology Research Colloquium, University of Bern. Does chubby Ali get lower grades than skinny Sophie? December.

15) Analytical Sociology: Theory and Empirical Applications, Venice. Does chubby Ali get lower grades than skinny Sophie? November.

14) CILS4EU User Conference, online. Do more demanding lower secondary school certificates for minority students pay off? A comparison of VET access between Germany and German-speaking Switzerland. September.

13) REHES Workshop, Winterthur. Lower Student Dropout, Higher Change of Study Subject: Evidence from Swiss Administrative Data, 1975–2018. September.

12) Annual Workshop of the European Research Network on Transitions in Youth, online. Do more demanding lower secondary school certificates for minority students pay off? A comparison of VET access between Germany and German-speaking Switzerland. September.

11) Conference of Panel Data Users in Switzerland, online. Do more demanding lower secondary school certificates for minority students pay off? A comparison of VET access between Germany and German-speaking Switzerland. June.

2020

10) International NEPS Conference, online. No Matthew effects in competence growth over the school time, but the social origin achievement gap widens: A Bayesian multilevel approach using three German student cohorts. December.

9) Analytical Sociology: Theory and Empirical Applications, online. No Matthew effects in competence growth over the school time, but the social origin achievement gap widens: A Bayesian multilevel approach using three German student cohorts. November.

8) SOCEDUC conference, Bern. Lower secondary school track; worse competence development? Evidence from Germany using Bayesian multilevel models. November.

7) ECSR 2020 Online Conference for Early Career Researchers. Lower secondary school track; worse competence development? Evidence from Germany using Bayesian multilevel models. July.

2019

6) International NEPS Conference, Bamberg. School to work transitions in German-speaking Switzerland: ethnic penalties on the VET-market. November.

5) Analytical Sociology: Theory and Empirical Applications, Venice. On the way to the society of downward mobility? Intergenerational status maintenance in four West German birth cohorts (1945-1984). November.

4) CHESS Workshop, Bern. Are ECTS Credits Assigned to Courses Related to Students' Workload? September.

3) ECSR conference, Lausanne. Towards a society of downward mobility? Intergenerational status preservation over four West German birth cohorts (1945-1988). September.

2018

2) *International NEPS Conference, Bamberg.* Downward Mobility? Intergenerational status preservation over four West German birth cohorts (1945-1984). November.

1) *SSS Education Social Network conference, Lausanne.* Emerging female optimism? A comparison of two cohorts in German-speaking Switzerland. November.

Awards, Scholarships, and Internal Funding

03/2026	SAGW Travel Grant. CHF 500. Grant supporting participation in the GEBF Conference at the Technical University of Munich, Germany.
11/2024	SAGW Travel Grant. CHF 500. Grant supporting participation in a conference at VIU in Venice, Italy.
01/2023	Faculty funding. Faculty of Human Sciences, University of Bern. CHF 500. Grant supporting participation in the GESIS Spring Seminar in Cologne, Germany.
05/2022	Faculty funding. Faculty of Human Sciences, University of Bern. Approx. CHF 6,500. Funding for the employment of a student research assistant for early-career researchers.
12/2018	SAGW Travel Grant. CHF 500. Grant supporting participation in the NEPS Conference in Bamberg, Germany.
10/2012–09/2013	Deutschlandstipendium, University of Leipzig. €3,600.

Academic Service: Peer Review

Reviews for Academic Journals

Acta Sociologica, American Educational Research Journal, American Sociological Review, British Journal of Political Science, Child Indicators Research, European Journal of Politics and Gender, European Societies, European Sociological Review, Frontiers in Education, Frontiers in Psychology, Health Science Reports, Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie, Nature, Nature Human Behaviour, Research in Social Stratification and Mobility, Social Inclusion, Studies in Educational Evaluation, Studies in Higher Education, Swiss Journal of Sociology, West European Politics, Zeitschrift für Erziehungswissenschaft, Zeitschrift für Soziologie

Reviews for Funding Organisations

Austrian Academy of Sciences

Memberships

American Sociological Association
German Sociological Association
Academy of Sociology
European Sociological Association
International Sociological Association – RC28 Social Stratification

Committee Work and Academic Self-Governance

2015–2016	Elected member of the Sociology Student Council, University of Leipzig
2011–2014	Elected member of the Political Science Student Council, University of Leipzig

Other Roles and Engagement

09/2017–01/2026	Occupational Health and Safety Contact Person at the Institute of Educational Science, University of Bern
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Further Training and Workshops

04/2025	Science Communication Workshop <i>College for Interdisciplinary Education Research (2 days)</i>
03/2024	Behavioural Genetics Workshop <i>TwinLife online course (2 days)</i>
03/2023	Decomposition Methods in the Social Sciences. <i>GESIS Spring Seminar (5 days)</i>
06/2022	Comparative Research with Confirmatory Factor Analysis/SEM. <i>GESIS workshop (2 days)</i>
01/2022	Sequence Data Analysis.

Richard Nennstiel (08/2026)

	<i>PhD workshop, University of Bern (2.5 days)</i>
09/2021	Creating Advanced Vector Graphics in Adobe Illustrator CC and Posters. <i>(Post)Doc Programme, Transferable Skills, University of Bern (2 days)</i>
09–12/2020	Scientific Communication for Graduate School Students (C1) <i>Academic English Service, University of Bern (1 semester)</i>
01/2020	Introduction to Machine Learning for the Social Sciences <i>GESIS workshop (2 days)</i>
01/2020	Introduction to Python for non-programmers <i>Digital Skills Training, University of Bern (1 day)</i>
12/2019	Applied Panel Data Analysis <i>PhD workshop, University of Bern (2.5 days)</i>
09–12/2019	Writing at Doctoral Level in the Social Sciences and Humanities (B2–C1) <i>Academic English Service, University of Bern (1 semester)</i>
09–10/2019	Writing and Peer Reviewing for Publication in the Humanities and Social Sciences <i>(Post)Doc Programme, Transferable Skills, University of Bern (4 days)</i>
09/2019	Best Practices for Creating Scientific Presentations and Posters <i>(Post)Doc Programme, Transferable Skills, University of Bern (2 days)</i>
03/2019	Bayesian Multilevel Modelling <i>GESIS Spring Seminar (5 days)</i>
06/2019	Preparing Papers for Publication <i>Academic English Service, University of Bern (3 days)</i>
02–05/2019	Advanced English Speaking (C1) <i>Academic English Service, University of Bern (1 semester)</i>
01/2019	Data Management, Advanced Programming and Automation Using Stata <i>GESIS workshop (2 days)</i>
02–05/2018	English for University Studies 3 (Advanced) (C1) <i>Academic English Service, University of Bern (1 semester)</i>
03/2018	Multiple Imputation of Missing Data: Theory and Application <i>GESIS workshop (2 days)</i>
02/2017	Introduction to the Logic of Bayesian Statistics for the Social Sciences <i>GESIS workshop (2 days)</i>
10/2015	Introduction to Methods of Modern Causal Analysis <i>GESIS workshop (2 days)</i>