Orientation, reorientation.
Methodological difficulties and empirical choices.
The example of the University of Geneva

Piera Dell'Ambrogio
Nicolas Carfora
Jean-François Stassen

(Observatoire de la vie étudiante, Université de Genève)

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• Counselling and (re)orientation
• Students trajectory and path
• Our specific limitations
  – Expectations of our interlocutors and privileged receptors
  – Time for modelling longitudinal studies
• Double problem of academic path representation
Double problem of path representation

**Complexity of parameters**
- Point of departure
- Duration
- Inflexion points
- Interruptions/perseverance
- Nature of changes (of faculty, of discipline – huge or weak...)
- Progression on the study course
- Complex representations -> difficult to handle (statistically)

**Subsuming variables**
- Still there – in another faculty or discipline – no more in university
- At time – delayed – stopped
- Starting bachelor obtained – other bachelor obtained – no bachelor obtained
- Variables easy handlable statistically but reducing the reality of the student path
In the starting bachelor

294
74.8%

In another bachelor

27

No longer at the University of Geneva

193

2nd year

47
13.6%

3rd year

70

Degrees obtained after 6 years

179
60.9%

17
5.8%

Transitions between year 1 & 2 and between year 2 & 3

16.0%
International Relations

- 410 (50.7%)
- 208 (47.8%)
- 56 (11.0%)
- 197 (191-46.8%)
- 146 (35.4%)
- 163 (35.6%)
- 50 (28-6.8%)
Management

- 233 (69.5%) → 162 (52.4%)
- 45 (16.7%) → 82
- 122
- 162 (6.9%) → 26
- 26 (6.9%) → 29
- 114 (48.9%)
Sciences of Education
Translation

94 -> 86.2% -> 91 -> 81 -> 77.7% -> 73

4 -> 4.3% -> 6

68-72.3%
Rate of "bachelorization" after reorientation according to the starting bachelor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>63.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>55.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>66.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>86.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences of education</td>
<td>83.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation</td>
<td>67.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Success rate of students still present in the beginning of the 3th year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>98.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>97.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>81.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>93.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences of education</td>
<td>98.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation</td>
<td>93.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Starting bachelor of reoriented students (all of them – students having obtained the degree)

- Medicine: Starting bachelor of reoriented students (74)
- International Relations: Starting bachelor of reoriented students (61)
- Law: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (20), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (35)
- Management: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (20), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (43)
- Literature: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (17), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (22)
- Psychology: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (12), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (17)
- Economics: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (8), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (17)
- Pharmacy: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (10), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (10)
- Biology: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (9), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (9)
- Physics: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (8), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (8)
- Geography and environment: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (3), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (3)
- Translation: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (4), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (7)
- Socioeconomics: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (6), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (6)
- Sciences of education: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (6), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (6)
- Mathematics and computing: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (4), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (4)
- Political science: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (5), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (5)
- Social and economical history: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (4), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (4)
- Movement sciences and sport: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (3), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (3)
- Sociology: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (3), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (3)
- Earth sciences and environment: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (3), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (3)
- Biochemistry: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (2), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (2)
- Computing: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (2), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (2)
- Odontatria: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (2), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (2)
- Mathematics: Starting bachelor of successfully reoriented (2), Starting bachelor of reoriented students (2)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Bachelor followed after reorientation</th>
<th>Degree obtained after reorientation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sciences of education</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political science</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odontatria</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and economical history</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theology</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography and environment</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information system (ICT)</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socioeconomics</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth sciences and environment</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement sciences and sport</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theology (distance training)</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Motivations towards higher studies

- Vocational choice
- Logical rest of study course
- Access to prestigious professions
- Interest for the discipline
- For the student life
- To fulfil a dream

## Attitudes towards studies

- Feeling to be well-prepared
- Conviction to have made the good choice
- Imagined well the studies content
- Satisfaction toward the training
- Attendance to courses

## Social-demographical background

- Paid job
- Necessity of paid job
- Assessment of life standards
- Place of secondary degree obtaining
- Age
- Sex

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### Among the respondants not having obtained the starting bachelor, the ones who are reoriented

- ++:
- ++
- --
- +

### Among the reoriented, the ones who obtain the new degree

- --:
- --
- --
- --
To conclude

• Orientation and reorientation: these two moments are critical
  – But the factors are not the same, the importance of the phenomena either
  – Something should be done for facilitating to good choice at the beginning (even if a lot of is happened before the entrying at the university)
  – Something should be done for make possible and desirable the opportunity to change (reind/rebuild a new interest and a new motivation)

Thank you for your attention !!!
Students registered in another discipline after two years according to the starting bachelor

Another degree obtained than the beginning one after six years according to the starting bachelor
Degree obtained or not, in the starting bachelor or elsewhere according to the starting discipline

- **Translation**: 22 no bachelor, 4 another bachelor, 68 starting bachelor
- **Sciences of education**: 24 no bachelor, 5 another bachelor, 111 starting bachelor
- **Psychology**: 51 no bachelor, 12 another bachelor, 114 starting bachelor
- **Management**: 103 no bachelor, 16 another bachelor, 114 starting bachelor
- **Literature**: 116 no bachelor, 18 another bachelor, 125 starting bachelor
- **Law**: 98 no bachelor, 17 another bachelor, 179 starting bachelor
- **Medicine**: 94 no bachelor, 49 another bachelor, 129 starting bachelor
- **International Relations**: 191 no bachelor, 28 another bachelor, 191 starting bachelor
Attrition rates after one year according to the starting bachelor

- International Relations: High rate
- Medicine: Medium rate
- Law: Medium rate
- Literature: High rate
- Management: Medium rate
- Psychology: Medium rate
- Sciences of education: Low rate
- Translation: Low rate
Attrition rates after two years according to the starting bachelor

- International Relations: 56%
- Medicine: 52%
- Law: 36%
- Literature: 39%
- Management: 48%
- Psychology: 33%
- Sciences of education: 21%
- Translation: 18%

Legend:
- No more in the starting bachelor
- No more in UNIGE
Rate of motivations for entering in higher studies according to reorientation

- To fulfil a dream: 30%
- For the student life: 30%
- Interest for the discipline: 60%
- Access to prestigious professions: 40%
- Logical rest of study course: 50%
- Vocational choice: 20%
Feeling to be well-prepared according to reorientation

- **is reoriented**
  - Excellent: 60%
  - Rather good: 40%

- **isn't reoriented**
  - Sufficient: 50%
  - Widely insufficient: 30%
Conviction to have made the good choice according to reorientation

is reoriented: [Diagram with bar lengths indicating percentage]

isn't reoriented: [Diagram with bar lengths indicating percentage]
Way the studies content was imagined before the beginning of the training according to reorientation

- **is reoriented**
  - Right: 0%
  - Rather accurate: 20%
  - Vague: 50%
  - No idea: 30%

- **isn't reoriented**
  - Right: 0%
  - Rather accurate: 20%
  - Vague: 50%
  - No idea: 30%
Global satisfaction about the training according to reorientation

- **is reoriented**
  - Enthusiastic: 5%
  - Satisfied: 45%
  - Indifferent: 40%
  - A little bit disappointed: 10%
  - Very disappointed: 0%

- **isn't reoriented**
  - Enthusiastic: 5%
  - Satisfied: 45%
  - Indifferent: 40%
  - A little bit disappointed: 10%
  - Very disappointed: 0%
Rate of reorientation according to attendance to courses

- **is reoriented**
  - every course: 60%
  - miss sometimes: 20%
  - miss often: 10%
  - attend not much: 10%

- **isn't reoriented**
  - every course: 60%
  - miss sometimes: 20%
  - miss often: 10%
  - attend not much: 10%
Rate of reorientation according to paid job

- Recurring: 50% isn't reoriented, 50% is reoriented
- Occasional: 60% isn't reoriented, 40% is reoriented
- Without: 40% isn't reoriented, 60% is reoriented
Rate of reorientation according to the necessity of paid job

- **not really**: 50% isn't reoriented, 50% is reoriented
- **more or less**: 50% isn't reoriented, 50% is reoriented
- **absolutely**: 60% isn't reoriented, 40% is reoriented
Rate of reorientation according to assessment of life standards

- Poor or difficult
- Acceptable
- Rather favorable
- Ideal

Bars show the percentage of individuals reoriented or not reoriented.
Rate of reorientation according to the place of secondary degree obtaining

other foreign country

FR

CH

- isn't reoriented
- is reoriented
Rate of reorientation according to age

- 22 year old or more: 50% isn’t reoriented, 50% is reoriented
- 21 year old: 30% isn’t reoriented, 70% is reoriented
- 20 year old: 20% isn’t reoriented, 80% is reoriented
- 19 year old: 10% isn’t reoriented, 90% is reoriented
- 18 year old or less: 0% isn’t reoriented, 100% is reoriented
Rate of reorientation according to gender

- Men: 50% isn't reoriented, 50% is reoriented
- Women: 50% isn't reoriented, 50% is reoriented
Rate of motivations for entering in higher studies according to obtaining new bachelor (after reorientation)

- To fulfil a dream
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- Interest for the discipline
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- Logical rest of study course
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- Access to prestigious professions
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- Vocational choice
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

For the student life
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- To fulfil a dream
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- Interest for the discipline
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- Logical rest of study course
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- Access to prestigious professions
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated

- Vocational choice
  - Will be certificated
  - Won't be certificated
Feeling to be well-prepared according to obtaining bachelor (after reorientation)

- Will be certificated:
  - Excellent: 20%
  - Rather good: 60%
  - Sufficient: 20%
  - Important gaps: 5%
  - Widely insufficient: 5%

- Won't be certificated:
  - Excellent: 20%
  - Rather good: 60%
  - Sufficient: 20%
  - Important gaps: 5%
  - Widely insufficient: 5%
Conviction to have made the good choice according to obtaining bachelor (after reorientation)

- Will be certificated:
  - Absolutely: 20%
  - More or less: 30%
  - Not really: 30%
  - Not at all: 20%
  - I'm wrong: 10%

- Won't be certificated:
  - Absolutely: 40%
  - More or less: 30%
  - Not really: 20%
  - Not at all: 10%
  - I'm wrong: 10%
Way the studies content was imagined before the beginning of the training according to obtaining bachelor (after reorientation)
Rate of reorientation according to global satisfaction about the training

- **will be certificated**
  - Enthusiastic: 10%
  - Satisfied: 50%
  - Indifferent: 20%
  - A little bit disappointed: 10%
  - Very disappointed: 10%

- **won't be certificated**
  - Enthusiastic: 20%
  - Satisfied: 40%
  - Indifferent: 20%
  - A little bit disappointed: 10%
  - Very disappointed: 10%
Attendance to courses according to obtaining bachelor (after reorientation)

will be certificated
- 60% every course
- 20% miss sometimes
- 10% miss often
- 10% attend not much

won't be certificated
- 50% every course
- 40% miss sometimes
- 10% miss often
- 0% attend not much
Paid job according to obtaining bachelor (after reorientation)

- Recurring
- Occasional
- Without

Legend:
- Light gray: won't be certificated
- Dark gray: will be certificated
Necessity of paid job according to obtaining bachelor (after reorientation)

- Not really
  - Won't be certificated: 20%
  - Will be certificated: 80%

- More or less
  - Won't be certificated: 40%
  - Will be certificated: 60%

- Absolutely
  - Won't be certificated: 30%
  - Will be certificated: 70%
Assessment of life standards according to obtaining bachelor (after reorientation)

- Poor or difficult: 50% will be certificated, 50% won't be certificated
- Acceptable: 50% will be certificated, 50% won't be certificated
- Rather favorable: 40% will be certificated, 60% won't be certificated
- Ideal: 100% will be certificated
Place of secondary degree obtaining according to obtaining bachelor (after reorientation)

- Other foreign country: 80% won't be certificated, 20% will be certificated
- FR: 40% won't be certificated, 60% will be certificated
- CH: 50% won't be certificated, 50% will be certificated
Rate of obtaining bachelor (after reorientation) according to age

22 year old or more

21 year old

20 year old

19 year old

18 year old or less

- won't be certificated
- will be certificated
Rate of obtaining bachelor (after reorientation) according to gender

- Men: 60% won't be certificated, 40% will be certificated
- Women: 40% won't be certificated, 60% will be certificated