

Please join us on Wednesday, September 6, 2023

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM via Zoom

Speaker: Dr. Justin Jager



The changing transition to adulthood: Historical variation in developmental pathways of alcohol use.

It is widely recognized that the transition to adulthood has changed such that it is now, on average, more protracted, more individualized, and less linear than it was in the past. These pronounced and pervasive historical shifts raise questions about whether the course of health and well-being during the transition to adulthood has changed in concert with these historical shifts. Focusing on alcohol use, an important index of health and well-being across the transition to adulthood, I apply a historical-developmental approach that disentangles historical and developmental time and captures their interplay in order to document how and why the normative developmental progression of young adult alcohol use has varied historically. To do so I utilize longitudinal panel data from the Monitoring the Future Study that span more than three decades. As part of this presentation, I will summarize and integrate some of my more recent work that collectively documents how the nature and even direction of historical variation in young adult alcohol use differs by age, pinpoints the specific ages at which historical variation is most evident, links these trends to historical variation to other aspects of young adulthood, including social roles, attitudes, and beliefs, and forecasts the implications of these trends for future young adults. I will conclude by discussing implications for young adult health as well as the broader importance of applying a historically sensitive lens to the study of development.

Link to Zoom session:

<https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/>

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**If you have any questions,
please email julia.yan@utk.edu**