Contents

	List of illustrations	vii
	List of examples	viii
	List of abbreviations	VIII X
	Acknowledgements	xiii
	Introduction	XIII
PA	RT I	
Lo	ngitudinal research	1
1	What is longitudinal research?	3
	The development of longitudinal research: an historical	
	overview 11	
2	Longitudinal data: characteristics and	
	analytic advantages	24
	Repeated cross-sectional surveys 27	
	Panel design 30	
	Event oriented design (event history data) 42	
	'Qualitative' longitudinal sources 47	
3	The issues of data collection and	
	comparability within longitudinal research:	
	some examples	55
	Prospective studies – an example of good practices: the British Household Panel Study (BHPS) 55	
	Retrospective studies – how to develop a life-course	
	study 'quantitatively': the German Life History Study (GLHS) 59	
	The issue of comparability within longitudinal research 62	

vi	Contents

4 Some problems connected with	
longitudinal research	70
The limitations of repeated cross-sectional design 70	
Problems connected with panel design 71	
Retrospective design and its drawbacks 96	
Costs and timing of longitudinal research 100	
PART II	
Longitudinal analysis	105
5 An overview of the major techniques	
needed to perform longitudinal analysis	107
Time series analysis for repeated cross-sectional data 10.	7
Structural equation models 110	
Log-linear analysis and Markov models of categorical longitudinal data 113	
Multilevel analysis 120	
Event history analysis 123	
Sequence analysis 128	
Conclusions	135
Appendix 1: List of longitudinal studies mentioned in	
the book	138
Appendix 2: Longitudinal datasets available in Europe,	
Russia and North America	145
Bibliography	184
Index	201