



LIVES Writing retreat

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2-5 February 2026
LIVES Call for a Writing Retreat

Goals of the call

The Swiss Centre of Expertise in Life Course Research LIVES organizes a 4-day writing retreat in February 2026, from Monday 2 to Thursday 5, at the [Hostellerie am Schwarzsee](#) near Fribourg to support the writing of articles (or proposals) on the life course and vulnerability and to foster exchange among its members.

Eligibility

All LIVES members are entitled to apply. The idea is that **all your data collection and data analyses are behind you, and you are eager to write!** You can be an individual or a group. Groups can delegate one or several members. Please specify this aspect in your application. Non-members may also be included as part of a collaborative writing project (see financial conditions below). Priority will be given to **interdisciplinary and/or collaborative writing projects**, but we expect to have rooms also for individuals: do not restrain yourself. Whatever the writing project, **(a) the focus has to be on the life course and/or vulnerability, and (b) you must have a well-defined output.** A maximum of 25 researchers will be selected to participate in the retreat.

Finances

The total cost of the retreat per person is 923 CHF. The LIVES Centre will cover these costs for its members (junior and senior researchers) with a work contract at the University of Geneva or Lausanne that extends

beyond the end of the retreat. Affiliated LIVES members from other institutions are asked to contribute 450 CHF. The LIVES Centre offers a limited number of grants to researchers with lower financial means. Non-members may be included as part of a collaborative writing project with LIVES members under the same conditions as affiliated members (i.e. contribution of 450 CHF). Participation includes 3 hotel nights from Monday to Thursday, lunches, coffee breaks and dinners. **Participants are expected to stay for the whole duration of the retreat** (from February 2 at 10:00 to February 5 at 15:15).

Submission of application

Applications can be submitted until **September 15, 2025** to laure.sandoz@unil.ch. Please submit one proposal per writing project (individual or group applications) of max. 1 page (in English, formatting: min. 1.5 spacing, 12 pts) stating :

- The topic and objectives of the writing project
- The expected output
- The authors' names, affiliations, and positions: please specify which authors are planning to participate in the writing retreat
- Whether you would you be willing to share a room if needed. If so, with whom ?

Please confirm in your submission that you are a LIVES member and indicate whether you participated in the Writing Retreat last year.

Applicants will be informed about the decision **by September 30, 2025.**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME	2 February		3 February		4 February		5 February	
	10:00-10:15	Arrival of participants and welcome coffee	08:30-09:00	(Optional) warm-up (body and brain)	08:30-09:00	(Optional) warm-up (body and brain)	08:30-09:00	(Optional) warm-up (body and brain)
	10:15-11:00	Opening & flash presentations of writing projects by the participants	09:00-12:30	Writing session	09:00-12:30	Writing session	09:00-12:30	Writing session
			12:30-13:30	Lunch	12:30-13:30	Lunch	12:30-13:30	Lunch
			13:30-15:00	(Optional) hiking (level: easy)	13:30-16:00	(Optional) hiking (level: advance)	13:30-14:45	Writing session
	11:00-12:30	Writing session	14:00-18:00	Writing session	14:00-18:00	Writing session	14:45-15:15	Closing words & feedback from the participants
	12:30-13:30	Lunch	18:00-19:30	Time for relaxing and socializing	18:00-19:30	Time for relaxing and socializing		
	14:00-18:00	Writing session	19:30-21:30	Dinner	19:30-21:30	Dinner		
	18:00-19:30	Time for relaxing and socializing						
	19:30-21:30	Dinner						