PROF. DR. FRANK OSWALD

Short Curriculum Vitae (September 2026)

Professor for Interdisciplinary Ageing Research (IAW), Chair of the Frankfurt Forum for interdisciplinary Ageing Research (FFIA) at the Goethe University, Director of the Center AGING for Early Career Researcher at the Goethe Graduate Academy (GRADE)

ACADEMIC EDUCATION

2009	Professor for Interdisciplinary Ageing Research	Goethe-Universität Frankfurt / Main
2008	Adjunct Professor for Psychology	University of Heidelberg
2005	Habilitation (postdoc lecture qualification) in Psychology	University of Heidelberg
1996	Dr. phil. in Psychology (equivalent to Ph.D.)	University of Heidelberg
1990	Diploma in Psychology (equivalent to M.A.)	University of Heidelberg

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Since 2014	Permanent Professorship for Interdisciplinary Ageing Research, Faculty of Educational Sciences and Chair of the Frankfurt Forum for Interdisciplinary Ageing Research (FFIA), Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany
2009 - 2014	Endowed Professorship for Interdisciplinary Ageing Research, Faculty of Educational Sciences, Goethe University Frankfurt (BHF-BANK Foundation)
2006 - 2009	Senior Research Scientist and Deputy Chair of the Department of Psychological Ageing Research, Institute of Psychology, University of Heidelberg, Germany
1996 - 2005	Senior Research Scientist and Deputy Chair of the Department of Social and Environmental Gerontology at the German Centre for Research on Ageing
1994 - 1996	Scholarship holder from the University of Heidelberg and Doctoral Student
1990 - 1994	Research Assistant at the Institute of Gerontology, University of Heidelberg, Germany

ACADEMIC HONOURS

- Co-editor of the German Journal of Gerontology and Geriatrics (Zeitschrift für Gerontologie und Geriatrie, ZGG) (since 2014), of the journal "ProAlter" (since 2021), of the "Journal of Gerontopsychology and Geriatric Psychiatry" (GeroPsych) (since 2023)
- Member of the editorial boards of the "Journal of Aging and Environment" formerly "Journal of Housing for the Elderly" (since 2001), of the "Journal of Architectural and Planning Research" (JAPR) (since 2004), of the journal "Educational Gerontology" (since 2021)
- Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) (since 2007)

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- PI / Co-PI of several national and international research projects, funded by the European Commission (e.g., 5th Framework, HORIZON 2020, Joint Programme Initiative „More Years Better Lives", Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network), the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (FORTE), the German Research Foundation (DFG), federal German Ministries, private research foundations (e.g., VW, Carl Zeiss, Robert Bosch), as well as cities and communities (e.g., Darmstadt, Heidelberg, Frankfurt)

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- Continuous academic exchange with several working groups, e.g., Susanne Iwarsson et al., Centre for Ageing and Supportive Environments (CASE), Dept. of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Lund University, Lund, Schweden; Habib Chaudhury & Atiya Mahmood, Dept. of Gerontology / Gerontology Research Center, Simon Fraser University (SFU), Vancouver, Canada; Johannes Doll et al., Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), Porto Alegre, Brasil; Kieran Walsh et al., Irish Centre for Social Gerontology (ICSG), University of Galway, Ireland

SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

- Supervised doctoral theses and habilitation (second doctoral thesis) since 2012: 10 theses as first supervisor, 22 as second supervisor

SELECTED SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Oswald, F., Wanka, A., & Bischoff, L. (in press). Studying Later Life Transitions: Toward a Relational and Reflexive Approach. In A. Wanka, B. Stauber, A. Walther, R.A. Sattersten Jr. (Eds.). *Handbook of Life Course and Transition.* Northampton, MA: Edward Elger Publ.

Oswald, F. (2026). Altern und Raum als Thema der ökologischen Alternsforschung – Ein historischer Blick auf drei Generationen von Modellen und was uns das heute in der Praxis bringt. [Ageing and space as a topic of ecological ageing research – a historical look at three generations of models and what this means for us in practice today.] *ProAlter 01*(26), 4-8.

Stuckenschneider, T., Oswald, F., Grenz, A., Himmelmann, L., Schmidt, N. M., Speckmann, E.-M., Zieschang, T., & Boerner, K. (2026). *Neighbourhood-level age-friendliness in urban environments: Associations with functional independence and physical activity in older adults after a fall*. *Frontiers in Public Health – Aging and Public Health, 14,* https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2026.1839024

Andresen, S., Oswald, F., & Schmidt-Hertha, B. (Hrsg.). (2025). *Übergänge in der Lebensspanne. Empirische und theoretische Perspektiven auf die Gestaltung in und zwischen den Lebensphasen.* [*Transitions across the life span. Empirical and theoretical perspectives on shaping life phases and the transitions between them.*] Reflexive Übergangsforschung – Doing Transitions (Band 2). Opladen: Barbara Budrich. https://shop.budrich.de/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/9783847414940.pdf

Freutel-Funke, T., Müller, H., Nägler, D., Wanka, A., & Oswald, F. (2025). Linking Ages. Reflexive transition research in childhood and later life through interpretations with change of sign. In A. Wanka, T. Freutel-Funke, S. Andresen, & F. Oswald (Eds.). *Linking Ages – A Dialogue between Childhood and Ageing Research* (chapter 6) (pp. 92-103). London, UK: Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group). https://www.routledge.com/9781032551692

Konopik, N., Pfeiffer, K., & Oswald, F. (2025). Protection from violence in home care settings for older adults and lessons learned from child protection. In A. Wanka, T. Freutel-Funke, S. Andresen, & F. Oswald (Eds.). *Linking Ages – A Dialogue between Childhood and Ageing Research* (chapter 17) (pp. 247-259). London, UK: Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group). https://www.routledge.com/9781032551692

Oswald, F., Wahl, H.-W., & Becker, C. (2025). Alter und Klimawandel. Editorial. [Age and climate change. Editorial.] *Zeitschrift für Gerontologie und Geriatrie, 58*(4), 251–253. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00391-025-02461-1

Wanka, A., Freutel-Funke, T., Andresen, S., & Oswald, F. (Eds.). (2025). *Linking Ages – A Dialogue between Childhood and Ageing Research.* London, UK: Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group). https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003429340

Florack, J., Penger, S., Oswald, F., & Haberstroh, J. (2024). Adapting the Meaning of Home questionnaire for people with dementia: Initial empirical testing of practicability and psychometric properties. *Journal of Aging and Environment*, 1-20, https://doi.org/10.1080/26892618.2024.2400651

Konopik, N., Pfeiffer, K., & Oswald, F. (2024). Schutz vor Gewalt bei häuslicher Pflege. [Protection against violence in home care.] In J. Bauer, M. Denkinger, C. Becker, & R. Wirth (Hrsg.), *Geriatrie* (S. 720-726). Stuttgart: Kohlhammer.

Oswald, F., Wahl, H.-W., Wanka, A., & Chaudhury, H. (2024). Theorizing place and aging: Enduring and novel issues in Environmental Gerontology. In M. P. Cutchin & G. D. Rowles (Eds.). *Handbook of Aging and Place* (pp. 37-60). London, UK: Edward Elgar Publ.

Oswald, F. (2024). Theories of place and aging: An Environmental Gerontology perspective. In National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (Eds.), *Aging in Place with Dementia: Proceedings of a Workshop, chapter 2 'Frameworks for Aging in Place'* (pp. 7-11). Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. https://doi.org/10.17226/27420

Leontowitsch, M., Putnina, A., Andersson, M., Niemistö, C., Werny, R., Sjögren, H., Mileiko, I., Lakševics, K., Pokšāns, A., Neikena, M., Orste, L., Malm, C., Oswald, F., Hearn, J., & Krekula, C. (2024). Participatory action research on webs of caring in the digital age across four European countries. *Quality in Ageing and Older Adults, 25*(1), 21–32. https://doi.org/10.1108/QAOA-03-2023-0020

Niedoba, S., & Oswald, F. (2024). Person-environment exchange processes in transition into dementia: A Scoping Review. *The Gerontologist*, 64, 1-13. https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnad034

Wanka, A., Schmidt, S. M., Iwarsson, S., Oswald, F., Wazinski, K., Slaug, B., & Kylén, M. (2024). Moving in together in later life: Making spaces into places as a joint endeavor. *Journal of Aging Studies, 68*, 101191, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaging.2023.101191

Adams, A-K., Oswald, F., & Pantel, J. (Hrsg.) (2022). *Museumsangebote für Menschen mit Demenz. Ein Praxishandbuch zur Förderung kultureller und sozialer Teilhabe.* [Museum programs for people with dementia. A handbook to foster cultural and social participation.] Stuttgart: Kohlhammer.

Eriksson, E., Wazinski, K., Wanka, A., Kylén, M., Oswald, F., Slaug, B., Iwarsson, S., & Schmidt, S.M. (2022). Perceived housing in relation to retirement and relocation: A qualitative interview study among older adults. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 19*, 13314, https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192013314

Freutel-Funke, T., Müller, H., Nägler, D., Wanka, A., & Oswald, F. (2022). Linking Ages – Reflexive Übergangsforschung in Kindheit und höherem Erwachsenenalter durch Interpretationen unter anderen Vorzeichen. [Linking Ages – Reflexive transitional research in childhood and later life by means of interpretation under different conditions.] *Zeitschrift für Pädagogik [Journal of Padagogy], 68*(Beiheft), 98-114. https://doi.org/10.3262/ZPB2201098

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Oswald, F. (2022). Leben mit Demenz aus ökogerontologischer Perspektive. [Life with dementia from an environmental gerontology perspective.] In A-K. Adams, F. Oswald, & J. Pantel (Hrsg.). *Museumsangebote für Menschen mit Demenz. Ein Praxishandbuch zur Förderung kultureller und sozialer Teilhabe.* [Museum programs for people with dementia. A handbook to foster cultural and social participation.] (S. 31-38). Stuttgart: Kohlhammer.

Konopik, N., Kaspar, R., Penger, S., Oswald, F., & Himmelsbach, I. (2021). Advancing Health Literacy measurement in old and very old age. *Health Promotion International,* daaa137, https://doi.org/10.1093/heapro/daaa137

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Oswald, F. (2020). Zum Verhältnis von Person und Wohnumwelt in Zeiten von Corona - Anmerkungen aus der Perspektive einer ökologischen Gerontologie. [On the relationship between Person and home environments in times of Corona – Remarks from an environmental gerontology perspective.] *ProAlter 03*(20), 15-18.

Oswald, F., & Wanka, A. (2020). Zum Dialog von Psychologie und reflexiver Übergangsforschung – Beiträge aus der Psychologie der Lebensspanne und der Ökologischen Psychologie. [On the dialoge between psychology and reflexive transition research - Contributions from a lifespan and environmental psychology.] In A. Walther, B. Stauber, M. Rieger-Ladich, & A. Wanka (Hrsg.), *Reflexive Übergangsforschung: Theoretische Grundlagen und methodologische Herausforderungen [Reflexive transition research: Theoretical foundations and methodological challenges.]* (pp. 81-102). Opladen: Barbara Budrich.

Wanka, A., Urbaniak, A., Walsh, K., & Oswald, F. (2020). The relationship between housing, life-course transitions, and old age social exclusion: A cross-country analysis. *Innovation in Aging*, *4*(Suppl 1), 596. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igaa057.2002

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Granbom, M., Slaug, B., Löfqvist, C., Oswald, F., & Iwarsson, S. (2016). Community relocation in very old age: Changes in housing accessibility. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy, 70(2),* 7002270020p1-p9. https://doi.org/10.5014/ajot.2016.016147

Iwarsson, S., Löfqvist, C., Oswald, F., Slaug, B., Schmidt, S., Wahl, H.-W., Tomsone, S., Himmelsbach, I., & Haak, M. (2016). Synthesizing ENABLE-AGE research findings to suggest evidence-based home and health interventions. *Journal of Housing for the Elderly, 30*(3), 330-343, https://doi.org/10.1080/02763893.2016.1198742

Schlicht, W., Oswald, F., & Reyer, M. (2016). Die altersfreundliche Stadt. [The age-friendly city.] *Public Health Forum*, *24*(4), 301-3.

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Haak, M., Slaug, B., Oswald, F., Schmidt, S. M., Rimland, J., Tomsone, S., Ladö, T., Svensson, T., & Iwarsson, S. (2015). Cross-national user priorities for housing provision and accessibility - Findings from the European innovAge Project. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 12*(3), 2670-2686. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph120302670

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Kaspar, R., Oswald, F., & Hebsaker, J. (2015). *Perceived Social Capital in self-defined urban neighborhoods as a resource for healthy aging.* In F. Nyqvist & A. K. Forsman (Eds.), *Social capital and health resource in later life: the relevance of context.* Springer Series International Perspectives on Aging, Vol. 11 (pp. 109-125). New York: Springer.

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Oswald, F., & Kaspar, R. (2012). *On the quantitative assessment of perceived housing in later life*. In R. Scheidt & B. Schwarz (Eds.) *Environmental Gerontology: What Now?* New York: Routledge / Taylor & Francis.

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