



28 August 2023

Dear CDE & CDHA Students,

We are looking forward to the coming year in the Demography Training Program, jointly organized by the Center for Demography and Ecology (CDE) and Center for Demography of Health and Aging (CDHA)! We're writing to introduce ourselves and to share with you some orienting information to assist you in planning for the year ahead.

We are [Katherine Curtis](#), the associate director for training in CDE, and [Christine Schwartz](#), the associate director for training in CDHA. We work closely with [Jenna Nobles](#), director of CDE, [Michal Engelman](#), director of CDHA, and [Max Besbris](#), who will be directing professional development training for the Centers. Both Centers are supported by invaluable [staff](#).

Now marks the time for you to submit brief applications to participate as predoctoral affiliates of CDE/CDHA for the 2022-2023 year. These applications help clarify the opportunities and expectations of the Demography Training Program. Moreover, the information you provide enables Center Faculty to remain aware of and best support your progress and research plans as you advance your demographic training.

What do demography trainees receive?

1. Training via the weekly Tuesday [Demography Seminar](#) ('DemSem,' Soc/Econ 997) and Wednesday [Demography Training Seminar](#) (Soc 995), in addition to the Summer DemSem workshop and cross-center collaborative DemSemX.
2. Work space in one of the CDE/CDHA student rooms within the Social Science Building.
3. Support to attend the [Population Association of America](#) annual meetings.
4. Priority for RA/PA positions with CDE/CDHA faculty.
5. Advising by CDE/CDHA faculty, including individualized mentoring and an annual review of student progress.

What does CDE/CDHA expect of you?

For all students, regardless of department:

1. Enroll in and attend DemSem (Soc/Econ 997) **and** the Demography Training Seminar (Soc 995). You are expected to register for at least 1 credit each in Soc 997 and Soc 995. Please be in touch with us if your funding or class schedule precludes enrollment.

2. Complete an annual Individual Development Plan (IDP) each fall semester. Stay tuned for an email with more information early in the semester.
3. Remain in good standing in your department's PhD program (i.e., stay on schedule).
4. Take or audit Advanced Demographic Techniques (Soc 756), next taught by Jenna Nobles in Fall 2023.
5. Actively work on research throughout the year.
6. We strongly encourage you to take Soc 971. In past years, Michal Engelman taught the two-seminar graduate seminar sequence in parts (part one covering fertility, mortality, and migration; and part two covering substantive topics including health across the life course, spatial and environmental demography, and biodemography). The sequence will reconvene in fall 2025. However, we encourage trainees who need to complete the series (have already taken Pop & Soc I) to take Ted Gerber's seminar (Soc 971) on migration this fall, 2023.

Sociology PhD students are also expected to:

7. Take the demography course sequence – Sociology 674 and 756 and 971 two-seminar sequence. Students with previous demography training may be able to take 756 before 674.
8. Take the demography prelim offered in January and August of each year.

As we prepare for the new academic year, we invite you to **apply to the Demography Training Program by completing the application [here](https://forms.gle/AEHP9WzDSU6HWnSX9) (or <https://forms.gle/AEHP9WzDSU6HWnSX9>) and submitting your current CV** as directed on the application by **Friday, 8 September**. We also welcome any UW graduate students with demographic interests who are not already part of CDE/CDHA to apply, so feel free to mention the program to your peers who are not already participating (or pass their names on to us)!

Finally, we welcome you to share with us your questions and suggestions about the demography training program. This might include suggestions for content in our Wednesday training seminar, speakers for our Tuesday seminar, or other ideas you have to enhance our commitment to excellent training.

We look forward to working with you in the coming year!

Sincerely,



Katherine Curtis
CDE Training Director
Professor of Community & Environmental
Sociology



Christine Schwartz
CDHA Training Director
Professor of Sociology