**Graduate Training Opportunity!**

**Max Planck-UW Graduate Training Program in Demography & Sociology**

The [University of Washington (UW) Department of Sociology](https://soc.washington.edu/), the UW [Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology](https://csde.washington.edu/) (CSDE), and the [Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research](https://www.demogr.mpg.de/en) (MPIDR), jointly offer the opportunity for admitted graduate students to pursue a PhD in Sociology at the University of Washington, while also studying demography with CSDE and MPIDR in Germany. Students in the program would take advantage of the expertise, resources, and strengths of a top US graduate education program and one of Europe’s premier research organizations.

The program is open to PhD students applying for admission for an Autumn 2024 start ([applications](https://soc.washington.edu/admissions) are due December 1, 2023). Among students admitted by the Department of Sociology, those with demonstrated potential for creative research in demography, and an ability and interest in establishing a global presence as leading population scientists, will be jointly considered by CSDE and MPIDR.

Selected students agreeing to participate in the program would receive joint supervision from faculty at the University of Washington, CSDE, and MPIDR. These students would work towards a PhD in Sociology at UW and receive funding to spend extended periods of time at MPIDR with the opportunity to earn a certificate for training from the Max Planck School of Population, Health, and Data Science.

**During the first two years of the program**, admitted students reside at the University of Washington where they:

* Complete required graduate coursework in Sociology;
* Complete the requirements for the [CSDE Graduate Certificate in Demographic Methods](https://csde.washington.edu/training/demographic-certificate/);
* Participate in a research visit to MPIDR during the summer after their first academic year at UW;
* Plan for a second research visit, contingent on adequate academic progress and, in consultation with advisors at the end of the second academic year, choose one of three options for the remainder of their PhD training:
	+ Become a joint UW-MPIDR PhD student and enroll in the [International Max Planck Research School on Population, Health and Data Science](https://www.imprs-phds.mpg.de/) (IMPRS-PHDS) as a core student. Students choosing this option would spend approximately half of their remaining time in the PhD program at UW and half at MPIDR. While at UW, they would receive financial support and travel/research funding according to the regulations of their department. While at MPIDR, they would receive financial support and travel/research support according to the MPIDR regulations.
	+ Enroll in the [International Max Planck Research School on Population, Health and Data Science](https://www.imprs-phds.mpg.de/) (IMPRS-PHDS) as an affiliate student. Presence at the MPIDR would be limited to key events, like the annual academy and graduate workshops, and one research stay of up to three months. Students choosing this option would have limited residency at MPIDR and would continue to receive financial support from UW in accordance with the original funding package offered at admission to the UW Sociology program.
	+ Leave the UW-MPIDR joint program. In this case, the student would continue their PhD program in UW Sociology with support in accordance with the original funding package offered at admission to UW.

**Partnering Institutions**

The **Department of Sociology** at the University of Washington offers a highly ranked graduate program with a long and distinguished tradition of producing leading scholars and teachers who make important contributions to the discipline of sociology and to our collective understanding of social processes. Our graduate training emphasizes (1) understanding and critically evaluating social theory and empirical research, (2) conducting theoretically guided research that explores, assesses, and further develops explanatory theories, and (3) developing communication skills (with emphasis on scholarly writing and teaching) that transmit sociological knowledge. Together, graduate students and faculty form a vibrant and collaborative scholarly community, regularly interacting in courses, colloquia, departmental seminars, and joint research projects. Graduate students are actively involved in all aspects of academic life: teaching, conducting research, presenting their findings at national conferences and publishing in the field's leading journals. The program fosters innovative research through courses in advanced methodology, research design, theory, and core substantive areas, and through strong collaborations with other units on campus, including the Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences, the eScience Institute, the Center for Demography and Ecology, and many other academic departments and colleges.

The **Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology** (CSDE) provides UW graduate students with advanced, interdisciplinary training in population science. The training program offers advanced training in biophysical, social, and statistical demography, alongside training in population health. Partnerships with leading departments and schools enrich the program offerings and include opportunities for interdisciplinary cross training in anthropology, economics, epidemiology, geography, public health, public policy, and social work. The curricular program is enhanced with intensive professional development investments and mentoring through a dynamic research seminar series, conference support, and working groups and lab opportunities for research development.

The **Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR)** is of the world’s leading demographic research centers. Institute scientists advance fundamental research in areas related to fertility, mortality and migration, and study issues of policy relevance, such as demographic change, aging, health, intergenerational transfers, as well as the digitalization of life. Methodologically, they use novel data sources and advanced statistical and computational methods for understanding demographic dynamics. The MPIDR is part of the Max Planck Society, a network of currently 85 institutes that form Germany’s premier basic-research organization. Max Planck Institutes have an established record of world-class, foundational research in the sciences, technology, social sciences and the humanities. They offer a unique environment that combines the best aspects of an academic setting and a research laboratory.

**Equal Opportunity Statement**

The University of Washington, as an institution established and maintained by the people of the state, is committed to providing equality of opportunity and an environment that fosters respect for all members of the University community. Our policies have the goal of promoting an environment that is free of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. The UW ensures equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment and study without regard to race, color, religion, sex, and national origin, and to advance opportunities for individuals with disabilities and protected veterans.