

Avery Chahl

Visiting Scholar, Digital and Computational Demography, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research
Doctoral Candidate, Human Development and Family Studies, The Pennsylvania State University
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Education

The Pennsylvania State University <i>Ph. D. Student (Candidate)</i> Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) Concentration: Quantitative Methods Supervisors: Jennifer L. Maggs, Ph.D., & Kelly L. Rulison, Ph.D. Thesis: <i>Perceived peer norms and adolescent religious attitudes: Insights from the Kingdom of Bahrain.</i>	Expected 2026
The Pennsylvania State University <i>Master of Science</i> Human Development and Family Studies Certificate in Translational Science	2022
The University of Texas at Austin <i>Bachelor of Arts</i> Psychology with Special Honors Minor in Health Communications	2020

Visiting Appointments & Fellowships

<i>Visiting Scholar</i> , Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research Digital and Computational Demography, Germany Kinship Inequalities Research Group, PI: Diego Alburez-Gutiérrez, Ph.D.	Oct 2026 - Present
<i>Predoctoral Fellow</i> , The Prevention and Methodology NIDA T32 Training Program, Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center The Pennsylvania State University, USA	2023 - 2025
<i>Predoctoral Fellow</i> , Bennet Pierce Prevention Research Fellowship in Caring and Compassion, Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center The Pennsylvania State University, USA	2022 - 2023

Research Interests

Child and adolescent development, radicalization, network methods, digital trace data, peer influence, longitudinal methods

Funding and Honors

Funding

- European Association for Research on Adolescence International Summer School 2026
- Edward R. and Helen Skade Hintz Graduate Educational Enhancement Fellowship 2023
College of Health and Human Development, The Pennsylvania State University
- Bunton-Waller Graduate Assistantship 2020 - 2021
Council of College Multicultural Leadership, The Pennsylvania State University
Awarded to students who exhibit commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice

Awards

- Knoll Endowment Research & Professional Development Funds 2020 -2026
- Rapid Research Competition, College of Health and Human Development, 2nd place 2022

Publications

- Chahl, A.,** Bai, S., Rulison, K. L., & Fosco, G. M. (2024). Examining the association between school connectedness and use of self-regulation strategies in middle childhood. *Applied Developmental Science*, 29(2), 161–170.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10888691.2024.2305343>
- Rulison, K. L., **Chahl, A.,** & Hoebe, E. M. (2023). The role of parenting in shaping the friendship context of adolescent substance use. In M. E. Feinberg & D. W. Osgood (Eds.), *Teen friendship networks, development, and risky behavior* (pp. 190–210). Oxford University Press.

Preprints

- Chahl, A.,** Pojman, E. M., & Santos-Lozada, A. R. (n.d.). Evidence of place-based heterogeneity in self-reported health trends among Asians in the United States. SocArXiv, https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/6yh9t_v1.
- Chahl, A.** (2023, March 19). A Shiny app for teachers to track daily student wellbeing. PsyArXiv, <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/9r6cb>.

Papers in Progress

Under Review

- Chahl, A.,** Chen, L., Ngigi, K., Rist, J., Wang, D., Linden-Carmichael, A. Exploring adolescent strengths: Lasso regression and latent class analysis for healthy youth development.

In Progress

Chahl, A., Figueroa, C.I., Multi-informant childhood internalizing and externalizing symptoms and adolescent substance use.

Chahl, A., Coimbra Vieira, C. Algorithmic recommendation of hate speech content to adolescents: An age-stratified audit.

Dissertation: Perceived peer norms and adolescent religious attitudes: Insights from the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Chahl, A. Exploring perceived peer norms, religious intolerance, and religious open-mindedness in adolescence [dissertation empirical chapter one]

Chahl, A. Peer norms of religious intolerance and bullying in adolescence [dissertation empirical chapter two]

Chahl, A. The role of gender: Links between peer norms of religious intolerance and physical and relational bullying in adolescence [dissertation empirical chapter three]

Petrie, D. J., **Chahl, A.,** Santos-Lozada, A. Using R to explore interaction effects: a tutorial.

Presentations

Chahl, A.,* † & Coimbra Vieira, C.† (May, 2027). A developmental science approach to radicalization research: An age-graded bot audit of adolescents' exposure to hate content on German TikTok. Nordic Conference on Violent Extremism. [Submitted] Helsinki, Finland.

Chahl, A.,* † & Coimbra Vieira, C.† (May, 2027). Auditing a moving target: Challenges of adapting bot-audit methodology to adolescent radicalizing content exposure on TikTok. Nordic Conference on Violent Extremism. [Submitted] Helsinki, Finland.

Chahl, A.,* (November, 2026). Perceptions of religious intolerance in the peer group: Implications for relational and physical bullying. Workshop Aggression 2026: Ending Violence as a Global Challenge. [Upcoming Accepted Paper Presentation] Linz, Austria.

Chahl, A.,* (August, 2026). Perceived peer norms and adolescent religious attitudes: Insights from the Kingdom of Bahrain. European Association for Research in Adolescence International Summer School. Utrecht, NL.

Chahl, A.,* Figueroa, C. I. (August, 2026). Multi-informant childhood internalizing & externalizing and later adolescent substance use. European Association for Research in Adolescence. Utrecht, NL.

Chahl, A.* (2024, July). Peer relationships: My present and past work [Invited Talk to Wouter van den Bos' Lab, at the University of Amsterdam]. Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Chahl, A.* (2024, July). Peers' parents versus our own: Parental monitoring and differences in longitudinal drinking behaviors beginning in adolescence [Invited talk at the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement]. Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Chahl, A., Chen, L., Ngigi, K., Rist, J., Wang, D., Linden-Carmichael, A. (2024, May). Exploring adolescent strengths: lasso regression and latent class analysis for healthy youth development [Presentation in the SPR Cup Competition]. Society for Prevention Research, Washington, D.C.

Chahl, A.*, Bai, S., Rulison, K.L., Fosco, G.M. (2023, April). Coping with academic stress: Considering the complex and interdependent influences of relationships with peers, parents, and teachers [Paper Symposium]. Society for Research on Adolescence, San Diego, CA.

Chahl, A.* Introduction to piloting: A dashboard to track daily student wellbeing (2022, November) [Presentation to elementary school staff during dashboard pilot]

*presenting author | †co-first authors

Grant Writing Experience

Chahl, A., Bai, S., & Fosco, G. M. Student wellness dashboard to support social emotional learning in elementary school classrooms, Spencer Foundation (not awarded)

Research Experience

2026 – **Co-Principal Investigator**
Department of Digital and Computational Demography, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research
The Pennsylvania State University
Algorithmic Recommendation of Hate Speech Content to Adolescents
Co-PI: Carol Coimbra Vieira, Ph.D.

- Examines age-based differences hate content recommended to adolescent accounts on German TikTok and algorithmic amplification of hate content
- Co-designed a sock-puppet bot audit crossing three account ages (13, 16, and 18), two genders, and two behavior conditions (passive viewing and interacting with hate speech content), with three bots per condition (36 bots) to collect platform recommended data
- Customizing an LLM-based pipeline to classify hate content in recommended TikTok videos
- Currently collecting data

2020 – 2024 **Project Coordinator & Graduate Research Assistant**
The Pennsylvania State University
Student Wellness Study
PIs: Gregory M. Fosco, Ph.D., Sunhye Bai, Ph.D.

- Coordinated and lead baseline and daily diary data collection over 3 years with 300+

elementary school students, in a study of students' daily wellbeing and social emotional learning

- Built an R-Shiny dashboard that automated processing of daily diary data and returned student wellbeing feedback to teachers (pre-print: Chahl, 2023, PsyArXiv)
- Recruited and mentored an undergraduate data science student on dashboard development, training her to apply data science methods to social science research questions
- Trained and managed several graduate students to support data collection
- Served as primary researcher-to-school liaison, including presenting findings to school staff
- Managed project data cleaning and codebook development

2020 – 2024 **Graduate Research Assistant**

The Pennsylvania State University

Families Being Supportive Together Study

PI: Sunhye Bai, PhD.

- Coordinated multimodal data collection for 100-dyad intensive longitudinal study (EMA, passive Bluetooth sensing, video recordings)
- Conducted participant baseline interviews
- Initiated and led undergraduate RA professional development meetings
- Coordinated undergraduate RA tasks (data input, transcription) (N students = 20+)

Skills and Trainings

Software

Proficient in R, R Studio, R Shiny, Qualtrics, SPSS

Competent in SAS, STATA, Mplus, Excel Power Query

Familiar with Python

Methods

Computational methods

LLM-based text classification

Algorithm auditing (sock puppet bot audits) and platform data collection

Machine learning for prediction (LASSO regression) and latent class analysis

Interactive data applications and dashboards

Longitudinal methods

Multilevel Modeling (hierarchical linear modeling)

Longitudinal structural equation modeling (growth curve models, cross-lagged panel models)

Vector autoregressive modeling

Time varying effects modeling

Additional methods

Bayesian OLS

Social network analysis

Psychological network analysis (graphical VAR)

Languages

English (native), Hindi (limited working),
German (A1)

Selected Trainings

Dissertation International Summer School	2026
<i>Hosted by the European Association for Research on Adolescence</i>	
Psychological Networks Amsterdam Winter School	2024
<i>Workshop by University of Amsterdam Psychosystems Group</i>	

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant, HDFS Department

Fa 2026	Empirical Inquiry	Sp 2026	Sexual Identity Over the Life Span
Fa 2026	Adolescent Development	Fa 2025	Internship Preparation (Capstone)
Fa 2026	Internship Preparation (Capstone)	Sp 2023	Infant and Child Development
Su 2026	Internship Preparation (Capstone)	Fa 2022	Introduction to HDFS
Sp 2026	Advanced Child Development		

Guest Lectures

<i>Technical Writing</i>	Sp 2025
HDFS Quantitative Skills for Human Services	
<i>Overview of Research Design</i>	Fa 2024
HDFS Empirical Inquiry in Human Development	
<i>Correlational Methods and Regression</i>	Fa 2023
HDFS Empirical Inquiry in Human Development	
<i>Inferential Statistics</i>	Fa 2023
HDFS Lab for Empirical Inquiry in Human Development	
<i>Friendships in Childhood: Social Network Applications</i>	Sp 2023
HDFS Infant and Child Development	
<i>Peers, Cliques, and Crowds- Applications of Social Network Analysis</i>	Fa 2022
HDFS Adolescent Development	

Honors Student Mentorship

Caroline Horn	Fa 2022- Sp 2023
Undergraduate Honors Thesis	
<i>The Home-to-School Connection: Family Cohesion and How it Impacts Connection to School</i>	

Professional Affiliations

Prevention Science

EU Knowledge Hub on Prevention of Radicalisation
European Society for Prevention Research

Society for Prevention Research

- The Early Career Preventionist Network
- Awards Committee, Webpage Committee

Developmental Science

European Association for Research on Adolescence

Society for Research on Adolescence

Society for Research in Child Development

- Society for Research in Child Development Asian Caucus

Quantitative Methodology

International Network for Social Network Analysis

Service

University Service

College of Health and Human Development Graduate Equity Ambassador	2023 - 2025
Departmental Graduate Steering Committee	2024 -
Faculty Meeting Representative	2024 - 2025
Admissions Committee Representative	2023 - 2024
Co-Chair (President)	2022 - 2023
BIPOC Affinity Group Coordinator and Founder	2021 - 2022
Program, Planning, Development, and Evaluation Graduate Representative	2021 - 2022
Newsletter Subcommittee Representative	2021 - 2022

Additional Service

The Pennsylvania State University

Undergraduate Research Exhibition Judge	April 2025
Graduate Research Exhibition Judge	March 2024
Presentation Panel Member	June 2023
Academia Won't Break My Soul: Exploring Refusal and Resistance as We Prepare to Navigate Graduate School	
IMPACT Program Professional Development Program	
Presentation Panel Member	March 2023
Internships and Graduate School	
Hosted by HDFS Undergraduate Student Organization	

Center for the Performing Arts at The Pennsylvania State University

Community Presentation Panel Member	Feb 2022
The Frederick Douglass Project	