

Please join the **Graduate Student Group Discussion**  
with  
CSDE Seminar Series Speaker **Dylan Connor, PhD (Arizona State University)**

**WHEN:** Friday, April 15, 2022, 1:30 pm – 2:10 pm

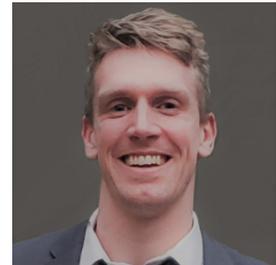
**WHERE:** Hans Rosling Center (HRC) 101 OR <https://washington.zoom.us/j/94988956775>

**RSVP:** Please email David Coomes ([dcoomes@uw.edu](mailto:dcoomes@uw.edu))



At the CSDE seminar on April 9th, [Dr. Dylan Connor](#) will present “[Community poverty reduces social mobility for rural children](#).” Rural America is often portrayed as a distressed place, where the outlooks for communities and rural children are stagnant. This view is supported by the fact that, since 1980, almost one in three rural communities have seen increases in poverty of 50 percent or more. But, are such worsening conditions a typical feature of rural communities? And, what do these dynamics mean for the life chances of rural children? Dr. Connor’s talk addresses these questions by developing a sequence-based analytic framework that examines the impact of the last four decades of rural community change on intergenerational mobility outcomes. They find that rural America’s fortunes are not a monolith but, instead, reveal 11 distinct community trajectories of rural economic-demographic change. They document particularly harmful effects of chronic or worsening community poverty on the life chances of children growing up in low-income rural households and its potential broad and lasting effects on US social mobility. After the seminar, CSDE Trainee David Coomes will facilitate a graduate student discussion with Dr. Connor. Students will have the opportunity to discuss research collaborations, professional development, academic publishing, and interdisciplinary research, among other topics.

**Dylan Connor, PhD**, is an Assistant Professor in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at Arizona State University. He uses big data to study the role of geographic forces in shaping human behavior, migration, social mobility and inequality over long periods of time. Dr. Connor is a social scientist and population geographer, and his work examines the geography of inequality and human behavior. He studies the long-term causes and consequences of these conditions in an effort to better understand how we got here and where we are going. His main expertise is applying powerful statistical and social science methods to large population datasets. Dr. Connor’s preferred data sources either capture the spatial dimensions of populations or how they change over long periods of time (sometimes both). His findings have been published in leading academic outlets including the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Demography*, *Science Advances*, *Journal of Economic History* and the *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*. His work has even been featured by Ireland's national broadcaster RTE, Business Insider, and on prime-time radio.



**David Coomes**, the moderator of the graduate student group discussion pre-seminar meeting, is a 3<sup>rd</sup>-year PhD student in the Department of Epidemiology at the UW School of Public Health and a CSDE Trainee with an emphasis in social determinants of health. His research interests include public health interventions and the impact of policy on rural populations, as well as using “big data” and spatial epidemiology to inform public health. David holds an MPA and MPH, and in a previous life he was involved in research on penguins in Argentina.