

Emily R. Klancher Merchant

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Employment

- 2022 – Present:** Associate Professor (with tenure), Science and Technology Studies (STS); Affiliated Graduate Faculty, Sociology, University of California, Davis.
- 2016 – 2022:** Assistant Professor, STS, UC Davis.
- 2015 – 2017:** Postdoctoral Fellow, Neukom Institute for Computational Science and Department of History, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH.
- 2007 – 2015:** Research Area Specialist, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Education

- 2015:** Ph.D., History; Graduate Certificate in STS; Predoctoral Traineeship in Population Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dissertation — Prediction and Control: Global Population, Population Science, and Population Politics in the Twentieth Century.
- 2005:** M.A., History, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- 2001:** B.A., History, *summa cum laude*, Pomona College, Claremont, CA. Thesis — Imperial Women: British Women as the Borders of the “Imperial Race” in Britain and South Africa, 1899-1910.

Awards and Honors

- 2022:** Merle Curti Intellectual History Book Award (for *Building the Population Bomb*), Organization of American Historians; Otis Dudley Duncan Award (for *Building the Population Bomb*), American Sociological Association.
- 2021:** Membership, School of Social Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study; Research Fellowship, Consortium for History of Science, Technology, and Medicine; Faculty Research Award, Davis Humanities Institute (declined).
- 2020:** Hellman Fellowship, UC Davis; Faculty Development Award, UC Davis.
- 2019:** Aggie Hero, UC Davis.
- 2017:** James Madison Article Prize for “*La Raza*: Mexicans in the United States Census,” Society for History in the Federal Government.
- 2016:** Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society and British Academy.
- 2015:** Online dissertation supplement selected Editor’s Choice on *Digital Humanities Now*; Dissertation Finishing Fellowship, Doris G. Quinn Foundation.
- 2014:** Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan; Dissertation Fellowship, Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science (declined); Research Associateship in Feminist Science and Technology Studies, Five College Women’s Studies Research Center (declined).
- 2013:** Marshall Weinberg Research Fellowship, University of Michigan.
- 2012:** Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation; Library Research Fellowship, American Philosophical Society; Research Fellowship, Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science; Grant-in-Aid for Research, Rockefeller Archive Center; Dissertation Research Grant, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations; Population Studies Center Initiatives Grant, University of Michigan.
- 2011:** Passed preliminary exams with distinction.
- 2006:** SSRC International Dissertation Research Fellowship (declined).
- 2003:** Jacob Javits Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education.

Publications

Book

Emily Merchant. 2021. *Building the Population Bomb*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Edited Volumes and Special Issues

George C. Alter, Myron P. Gutmann, Susan H. Leonard, and **Emily Merchant**, eds. 2012. Fertility, Mortality, and Family Formation During the Demographic Transition ~ Special Issue of *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 42(4).

Myron P. Gutmann, Glenn D. Deane, **Emily Merchant**, and Kenneth M. Sylvester, eds. 2011. *Navigating Time and Space in Population Studies*. New York: Springer.

Journal Articles

Emily Merchant. 2022. Environmental Malthusianism and Demography. *Social Studies of Science* 52(4): 536-560.

Emily Merchant and Carrie S. Alexander. 2022. U.S. Demography in Transition. *Historical Methods: A Journal of Quantitative and Interdisciplinary History* DOI 10.1080/01615440.2022.2098216.

Emily Merchant. 2021. American Demographers and Global Population Policy in the Postwar World. *Modern American History* 4(3): 239-261.

Projit Bihari Mukharji, Myrna Perez Sheldon, Elise K. Burton, Sebastián Gil-Riaño, Terence Keel, **Emily Merchant**, Wangui Muigai, Ahmed Ragab, and Suman Seth. 2020. A Roundtable Discussion on Collecting Demographics Data. *Isis* 111(2): 310-353.

Myron P. Gutmann, **Emily Merchant**, and Evan Roberts. 2018. “Big Data” in Economic History. *The Journal of Economic History* 78(1): 268-299.

Joel Thurtell and **Emily Merchant.** 2018. Gender-Differentiated Tarascan Surnames in Michoacán. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 48(4): 465-483.

Emily Merchant. 2017. A Digital History of Anglophone Demography and Global Population Control, 1915-1984. *Population and Development Review* 43(1): 83-117.

Emily Merchant and George C. Alter. 2017. IDS Transposer: A User’s Guide. *Historical Life Course Studies* 4: 59-96.

Brian Gratton and **Emily Merchant.** 2016. *La Raza*: Mexicans in the United States Census. *Journal of Policy History* 28(4): 537-567.

Brian Gratton and **Emily Merchant.** 2015. An Immigrant’s Tale: The Mexican-American Southwest, 1850-1950. *Social Science History* 39(4): 521-550.

William J. Parton, Myron P. Gutman, Melannie D. Hartman, **Emily Merchant**, Paul R. Adler, Frederick M. McNeal, and Susan M. Lutz. 2015. Measuring and Mitigating Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Production in the United States, 1870-2000. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 112(34): E4681-E4688.

Kenneth M. Sylvester, Daniel G. Brown, Susan H. Leonard, **Emily Merchant**, and Meaghan Hutchins. 2014. Exploring Agent-Level Calculations of Risk and Returns in Relation to Observed Land-Use Changes in the U.S. Great Plains, 1870-1940. *Regional Environmental Change* 15(2): 301-315.

Brian Gratton and **Emily Merchant.** 2013. Immigration, Repatriation, and Deportation: The Mexican-Origin Population in the United States, 1920-1950. *International Migration Review* 47(4): 944-975.

Emily Merchant, Brian Gratton, and Myron P. Gutmann. 2012. A Sudden Transition: Household Changes for Middle-Aged Women in the Twentieth Century. *Population Research and Policy Review* 31(5): 703-726.

Myron Gutmann, Sara Pullum-Piñón, Kristine Witkowski, Glenn Deane and, **Emily Merchant**. 2012. Land Use and Family Formation in the Settlement of the U.S. Great Plains. *Social Science History* 36(3): 279-310.

Melannie D. Hartman, **Emily Merchant**, William J. Parton, Myron P. Gutmann, Susan M. Lutz, and Stephen A. Williams. 2011. Impact of Historical Land Use Changes on Greenhouse Gas Exchange in the U.S. Great Plains, 1883-2003. *Ecological Applications* 21(4): 1105-1119.

Book Chapters

Emily Merchant. 2021. Assessing the Demographic Consequences of the Covid-19 Pandemic. In *Covid-19 and the Global Demographic Research Agenda*, ed. Landis MacKellar and Rachel Friedman, 37-41. New York: Population Council.

Myron Gutmann and **Emily Merchant**. 2019. Historical Demography. In *Handbook of Population*, Second Edition, ed. Dudley L. Poston Jr., 669-695. Cham: Springer Nature.

Emily Merchant and J. David Hacker. 2016. Historical Demography in the United States. In *A Global History of Historical Demography: Half a Century of Interdisciplinarity*, ed. Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, S. Sogner, and I. Bolovan, 655-670. Bern: Peter Lang.

William J. Parton, Myron P. Gutmann, Melannie D. Hartman, **Emily Merchant**, Susan M. Lutz, and Stephen J. Del Grosso. 2013. Simulating Biogeochemical Impacts of Historical Land-Use Changes in the U.S. Great Plains from 1870 to 2003. In *Land Use and the Carbon Cycle: Advances in Integrated Science, Management, and Policy*, ed. Daniel G. Brown, Derek T. Robinson, Nancy H.F. French, and Bradley C. Reed, 287-304. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Book Reviews

2022: Review of *The Birth Certificate: An American History* by Susan Pearson in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 53(1): 164-165.

2021: Review of *Challenging Choices: Canada's Population Control in the 1970s* by Erika Dyck and Maureen Lux in *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 76(4): 481-483. Review of *America by the Numbers: Quantification, Democracy, and the Birth of National Statistics* by Emmanuel Didier in *Isis* 112(3): 627-628.

2019: Review of *Deportation in the Americas: Histories of Exclusion and Resistance*, ed. Kenyon Zimmer and Cristina Salinas in *Journal of American History* 196(2): 505.

2017: Comments on *How Societies and States Count* (Review of *The Antecedents of Censuses from Medieval to Nation States* and *Changes in Censuses from Imperialist to Welfare States* by Rebecca Jean Emigh, Dylan Riley, and Patricia Ahmed) in *Trajectories* 28(3): 32-36.

2014: Review of *Global Population: History, Geopolitics, and Life on Earth* by Alison Bashford in *Global Public Health* 10(1): 129-131.

Media and Blogs

2022: Hold Science to Higher Standards on Racism, STAT (<https://www.statnews.com/2022/06/20/hold-science-to-higher-standards-on-racism/>); interviewed by Nicole Bourbonnais for the **New Books Network** (<https://newbooksnetwork.com/building-the-population-bomb>).

2021: Why DNA Is No Key to Social Equality (co-authored with Brenna Henn, Anne O'Connor, and Tina Rulli), *Los Angeles Review of Books* (<https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/why-dna-is-no-key-to-social-equality-on-kathryn-paige-hardens-the-genetic-lottery/>); **There Never Was a "Population Bomb,"** *The Big Think* (<https://bigthink.com/the-present/building-population-bomb/>); interviewed by Babak Ashrafi for the **Perspectives Podcast** of the Consortium for History of Science, Technology, and Medicine (<https://www.chstm.org/video/130>); **Page 99 Test**

(<https://page99test.blogspot.com/2021/06/emily-klancher-merchants-building.html>); **Continuing the Open Conversation**, *History of Science Society*.

- 2020: Interviewed by Aviva Rutkin for **Your Guide to the 2020 Census Questionnaire**, *The Conversation* (<https://theconversation.com/your-guide-to-the-2020-census-questionnaire-136113>); interviewed by Louis Jacobson for **Could an Undercounted 2020 Census Afflict a Range of Federal Statistics?** *PolitiFact* (<https://www.politifact.com/article/2020/aug/26/could-undercounted-2020-census-afflict-range-feder/>); interviewed by Brenna Goth for **Census Deadline Forces Creativity in Hunt for the Most Elusive**, *Bloomberg Government* (https://bgov.com/core/news_articles/QGPLZVDWX2PZ).
- 2019: **Installing and Getting Started with R** (series of 8 videos – <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeOVpKuuxX5sdOmGd7P9zzw>); interviewed by Dawn Warfield for **Abolition Radio** on KDVS (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDft9QENd3E>).
- 2018: **Democracy is in Danger When the Census Undercounts Vulnerable Populations**, *The Conversation* (<https://theconversation.com/democracy-is-in-danger-when-the-census-undercounts-vulnerable-populations-93027> — republished at <https://www.newsweek.com/2020-census-citizenship-question-democracy-opinion-866404>); interviewed by Steph Yin for **When Did Americans Stop Marrying Their Cousins? Ask the World's Largest Family Tree**, *The New York Times* (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/01/science/cousins-marriage-family-tree.html>).
- 2017: **PAA History: Concerned Demography and the Concerned Demographers**, *PAA Affairs*.
- 2016: **New Census Race Classifications are About Civil Rights, Not Discrimination**, *Scatterplot* (<https://scatter.wordpress.com/2016/12/06/guest-post-new-census-race-classifications-are-about-civil-rights-not-discrimination/>); **How Foundations Got the U.S. Government Invested in International Population Control**, *HistPhil* (<https://histphil.org/2016/06/24/how-foundations-got-the-u-s-government-invested-in-international-population-control/>).
- 2014: **Digital Demography** (<https://ekmerchant.github.io/digdemog/>).

Presentations

Invited Talks

- Oral History and Structural Topic Modeling, **Princeton University**, Biosociology Lab, April 27, 2022.
- Demography in Transition, **Consortium for History of Science, Technology, and Medicine**, Digital History of Science Working Group (Zoom), April 6, 2022.
- Molecular Eugenics: The Long History of Sociogenomics, **Institute for Advanced Study School of Social Science Seminar**, Princeton, NJ, April 4, 2022.
- Margaret Sanger, Planned Parenthood, and the History of Birth Control and Abortion, **California State University, Sacramento**, Planned Parenthood Generation Action (Zoom), March 30, 2022.
- Why the History of Eugenics Still Matters, **ELSI Hub**, Columbia University (Zoom), January 14, 2022.
- Explaining Inequality: Nature and Nurture in the U.S. Social Sciences, **Consortium for History of Science, Technology, and Medicine**, Fellows' Seminar (Zoom), October 18, 2021.
- Demography as Diplomacy in the Cold War World, **University of Chicago Demography Workshop**, Chicago, IL, March 5, 2020.
- Beyond the Population Bomb: The Demography of Social Inequality, **Brown University Population Studies and Training Center**, Providence, RI, November 3, 2016.
- Building the Population Bomb: Manufacturing and Marketing Overpopulation After World War II, **University of Colorado Population Center**, Boulder, CO, April 17, 2014.

Campus Talks

- 2021: Margaret Sanger, Planned Parenthood, and the History of Birth Control and Abortion**, Students for Reproductive Freedom, UC Davis; **Teaching a Quarter at Aggie Square**, UC Davis Academic Technology Services (wheel.ucdavis.edu/news/april-dolce-2021-recording-now-available); **Feminist Data Visualization**, UC Love Data Week.
- 2020: Building the Population Bomb**, Center for Population Biology Seminar Series, UC Davis; **Reading Groups in Online Teaching** (video), Summer Institute on Teaching and Technology, UC Davis (wheel.ucdavis.edu/sitt2020/recordedevents/faculty-microtalk-1).
- 2019: Historical Mapping**, Maptime Davis, UC Davis; **A Place and Time in History**, Women in Data Science, UC Davis; **Demodystopia: The History of Future Population**, Futurity Factory, UC Davis; **Ethics of Genetic Counseling**, UC Davis Genetic Counseling Club.
- 2018: Demography as Diplomacy in the Cold War World**, STS 2, UC Davis; **Demographers in the Anthropocene**, Institute for Social Science, UC Davis.
- 2017: The U.S. Census: Past and Future**, Thought Project, Dartmouth College; **Visualizing History: An Approach to Using Data in the Social Sciences and Humanities Classroom**, Center for Advancement of Learning, Dartmouth College.
- 2013: Disciplining Demography Between the World Wars**, Historical Demography Workshop, University of Michigan.

Conference Papers

- 2021: The Eugenic Origins of Sociogenomics**, **Social Science History Association**, Philadelphia, PA; **Excavating the Origins of Sociogenomics**, **History of Science Society and Society for the History of Technology** (joint meeting, online due to Covid-19).
- 2020: The Quantitative, the Digital, and History**, **American Historical Association**, New York, NY; **Demography, Diversity, and the Transformation of the History of Science**, **History of Science Society** (online due to Covid-19).
- 2019: How Saliva Becomes Social Science Data**, **Social Science History Association**, Chicago, IL; **From Quantitative History to the Digital Humanities**, **American Historical Association**, Chicago, IL.
- 2018: Demography and the Environment**, **Social Science History Association**, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2017: Collaborative Digital History**, **American Historical Association**, Denver, CO.
- 2016: The Technopolitics of Population Control: The Population Council and Population Policy**, **Policy History Conference**, Nashville, TN; **Birth Control or Population Control: Systemic Contraceptive Technologies and Global Biopolitics After World War II**, **Organization of American Historians**, Providence, RI; **Toward a More “Useful” Model: Population Projection, 1920-1955**, **Population Association of America**, Washington, DC.
- 2015: Making a Case for Universal Expertise: Demographers in the British Empire After World War II and Making Global Population Data and Making Population Data Global After World War II**, **Social Science History Association**, Baltimore, MD.
- 2014: Knowing and Shaping Global Reproduction: U.S. and International Fertility Surveys, 1955-1975**, **Society for U.S. Intellectual History**, Indianapolis, IN; **Demography, Capitalism, and the Geopolitical Order After World War II**, **Society for Social Study of Science**, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2012: The Princeton European Fertility Project in the Postwar World**, **Social Science History Association**, Vancouver, BC.
- 2011: From Prediction to Control: The Logistic Law of Population Growth and the Cohort Component Population Model in the Interwar Period**, **Society for Social Study of Science**,

Cleveland, OH; Mexican Repatriation: New Estimates of Total and Excess Return in the 1930s, **Population Association of America**, Washington, DC.

2010: Living With, and Without, Her Children, Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL; A Sudden Transition: The Rise of the Empty Nest for Older Women, 1880-2000, **Population Association of America**, Dallas, TX.

2008: Race and Repatriation: Mexicans in the 1930 U.S. Census, **Social Science History Association**, Mimi, FL.

Additional Training

2022: Faculty Podcasting Institute, National Humanities Center; Oral History Institute, Center for Oral History, Science History Institute.

2020: Engaged Learning and Teaching Community, Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE), UC Davis; ACCELERATE fellowship for online teaching, CEE, UC Davis.

2019: Genomics for Social Scientists, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan.

2018: Undergraduate Data Science Pedagogy and Practice, UC Berkeley.

2015: Active Learning Institute, Center for Advancement of Learning, Dartmouth College.

2014: Anthropocene Campus, Anthropocene Project, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin; Topic Modeling, Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria; Network Analysis, Inter-university Consortium for Social and Political Research (ICPSR) Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, University of Michigan.

2013: Graduate Seminar in Pedagogy, Department of History, University of Michigan.

2009: Longitudinal Analysis of Historical Demographic Data, ICPSR Summer Program.

2008: Regression Analysis II and Categorical Analysis, ICPSR Summer Program.

2007: Statistics I and II, ICPSR Summer Program.

2002: Quantitative Historical Analysis, ICPSR Summer Program.

Courses Taught at UCD

STS 205: Algorithmic Reading: Computational Text Analysis

STS 205: Texts, Maps, Networks, and Numbers: Computational Approaches in the Humanities and Interpretive Social Sciences

STS 150: Gender and Science

STS 122: Health and Medical Technologies

STS 112: Visualizing Society with Data

FRS 004: Data Feminism (first-year seminar)

Service

On Campus

2020 – Present: Co-coordinator, DNA, Race, and Reproduction Transcollege Research Cluster; Convener, DNA in Society Reading Group; Judge, HackDavis.

2019 – Present: PI and faculty lead, Advancing Health Care Equity Quarter at Aggie Square

2019 – 2021: Co-convener, Data Feminism Working Group.

2019: Guest speaker, Digital Humanities Research Cluster; panelist, Ethics of Genetic Counseling; moderator, Undergraduate Research Symposium; co-organizer and facilitator, Analyzing Historical Data Workshop; research mentor, McNair Scholars Program; speaker, Women in Data Sacramento; member, Ad-Hoc Committee to Create Data Studies Minor; member, Ad-Hoc Committee to Assess Feasibility of STS Ph.D. Program.

2018: Co-facilitator, Grants Workshop, STS Retreat.

Off Campus

2021 – Present: Treasurer, Forum for the History of the Human Sciences.

2016 – Present: Member, History Committee, Population Association of America (PAA); Editor, *PAA Affairs* (quarterly newsletter).

2021: Chair, Article Prize Committee, Forum for the History of the Human Sciences.

2020: Member and panel organizer, Program Committee, PAA.

2016: Reviewer, Digging into Data international grant program.

Reviewer for: *Demographic Research, Historical Methods, Journal of Interdisciplinary History, History of the Family, Journal of the History of Biology, Modern American History, Explorations in Economic History, Population Studies, Information and Culture, American Sociological Review, Demography, History of the Human Sciences, International History Review, Social Forces, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters.*