

KATHERINE H. DECOURCY

Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, University of Washington
kdeco4@uw.edu | www.linkedin.com/in/katherinedecourcy4

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Public Policy and Management 2025–Present

Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance
University of Washington
Seattle, WA

B.A., Economics and Government 2017–2021

Connecticut College
New London, CT

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & EMPLOYMENT

Graduate Research Assistant

U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) 6/2026–Present
PI: Michael Schultz, Ph.D.

- Translate work history methodology code from Stata to R
- Create a publicly available GitHub repository with R code for NLSY '79 and '97 data
- Co-author research products that apply work history methodology to STEM-skilled technical workforce

Data Scientist

7/2026–Present

University of Washington Elections Database (UWED)

Directors: Scott W. Allard, Ph.D., and Jake Grumbach, Ph.D.

- Perform data analysis and benchmarking for research products and presentations
- Co-author research products covering a variety of election-related topics
- Attended Washington State Senate State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections Committee meeting

Graduate Research Assistant

9/2025–6/2026

Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, University of Washington

Co-PIs: Heather Hill, Ph.D., and Avanti Adhia, Ph.D.

- Conducted, coded, and analyzed qualitative interviews
- Produced state-year-level demographic statistics using the American Community Survey
- Coded state-year policy variables on paid leave

Research Assistant

1/2022–8/2025

Economic Policy Institute, Washington, D.C.

Supervisors: Josh Bivens, Ph.D., Zane Mokhiber

- Authored and co-authored reports and blog posts
- Cleaned and analyzed large datasets using R, STATA, and Excel
- Executed coding, experimentation, and analysis to improve methodologies

Undergraduate Honors Thesis

9/2020–5/2021

Economics Department, Connecticut College

Advisor: Candace Howes, Ph.D.

- Developed idea and questions and performed regression analysis using STATA
- Discussed the ways that this research and study can aid and inform future wage policies

Undergraduate Research Assistant

12/2018–5/2020

Government Department, Connecticut College

Supervisor: Mara Suttman-Lea, Ph.D.

- Performed data entry involving legal fee expenditures for United States Senate elections
- Wrote annotated bibliographies regarding the changing role of poll workers over time

AWARDS AND HONORS

Provost's Ph.D. Fellowship

March 2025

Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, University of Washington

Cynthia Paul Walker '67 Prize

Spring 2021

Economics Department, Connecticut College

PUBLICATIONS

Reports

Gould, Elise, Katherine deCourcy, Joe Fast, and Ben Zipperer. *Strong Wage Growth for Low-Wage Workers Bucks the Historic Trend*. Economic Policy Institute, 2025. [LINK](#).

Mokhiber, Zane, Elise Gould, and Katherine deCourcy. *The Economic Policy Institute's Family Budget Calculator: Technical Documentation*. Economic Policy Institute, 2025. [LINK](#).

Gould, Elise, Zane Mokhiber, and Katherine deCourcy. *What Constitutes a Living Wage?: A Guide to Using EPI's Family Budget Calculator*. Economic Policy Institute, 2024. [LINK](#).

Gould, Elise, and Katherine deCourcy. *Fastest Wage Growth over the Last Four Years among Historically Disadvantaged Groups: Low-Wage Workers' Wages Surged after Decades of Slow Growth*. Economic Policy Institute, 2024. [LINK](#).

Gould, Elise, and Katherine deCourcy. *Low-Wage Workers Have Seen Historically Fast Real Wage Growth in the Pandemic Business Cycle: Policy Investments Translate into Better Opportunities for the Lowest-Paid Workers*. Economic Policy Institute, 2023. [LINK](#).

Schmitt, John, and Katherine deCourcy. *The Pandemic Has Exacerbated a Long-Standing National Shortage of Teachers*. Economic Policy Institute, 2022. [LINK](#).

Banerjee, Asha, Katherine deCourcy, Kyle K. Moore, and Julia Wolfe. *Domestic Workers Chartbook 2022: A Comprehensive Look at the Demographics, Wages, Benefits, and Poverty Rates of the Professionals Who Care for Our Family Members and Clean Our Homes*. Economic Policy Institute, 2022. [LINK](#).

Blog posts

Gould, Elise, and Katherine deCourcy. “Class of 2025: Young Workers Were Poised to Graduate into a Promising Labor Market, but Trump Policy Actions Could Unravel Progress.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, May 7, 2025. [LINK](#).

deCourcy, Katherine, and Elise Gould. “Equal Pay Day: Gender Pay Gap Hits Historic Low in 2024—but Remains Too Large.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, March 25, 2025. [LINK](#).

deCourcy, Katherine, and Elise Gould. “Child Care Is Unaffordable for Working Families across the Country—including in New Mexico.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, March 5, 2025. [LINK](#).

deCourcy, Katherine, and Elise Gould. “EPI’s Updated Family Budget Calculator Shows That States like Virginia Need a Higher Minimum Wage.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, February 6, 2025. [LINK](#).

deCourcy, Katherine, Hilary Wething, and Valerie Wilson. “Improving Teacher Diversity Is Key to Reducing Racial Disparities in Academic Outcomes and Addressing the Teacher Shortage.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, August 20, 2024. [LINK](#).

Hersh, Adam S. “Prices Have Fallen in Key Sectors since Inflation Peaked in 2022.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, July 25, 2024. [LINK](#).

deCourcy, Katherine, and Elise Gould. “Class of 2024: Young High School Graduates Have Seen Strong Wage Growth over the Pandemic Recovery.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, May 22, 2024. [LINK](#).

Katherine, deCourcy, and Elise Gould. “Class of 2024: Young College Graduates Have Experienced a Rapid Economic Recovery.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, May 9, 2024. [LINK](#).

Wething, Hilary, Katherine deCourcy, and Josh Bivens. “The Teacher Shortage Shows Small Signs of Improvement, but It Remains Widespread.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, December 19, 2023. [LINK](#).

Gould, Elise, Katherine deCourcy, and Jori Kandra. “Class of 2023: Young Workers Have Experienced Strong Wage Growth since 2020.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, May 24, 2023. [LINK](#).

Gould, Elise, Katherine deCourcy, and Jori Kandra. “Class of 2023: Young People See Better Job Opportunities.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, May 12, 2023. [LINK](#).

Gould, Elise, Jori Kandra, and Katherine deCourcy. “Class of 2023: Young Adults Are Graduating into a Strong Labor Market.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, May 3, 2023. [LINK](#).

Gould, Elise, and Katherine deCourcy. “Gender Wage Gap Widens Even as Low-Wage Workers See Strong Gains: Women Are Paid Roughly 22% Less than Men on Average.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, March 29, 2023. [LINK](#).

Schmitt, John, and Katherine deCourcy. “Beyond the Numbers: What Teaching Shortages Look like in Practice.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, December 14, 2022. [LINK](#).

Gould, Elise, Katherine deCourcy, and Zane Mokhiber. “Stagnant Top-Code Thresholds Threaten Data Reliability for the Highest Earners and Make Inequality Difficult to Accurately Measure.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, April 26, 2022. [LINK](#).

deCourcy, Katherine. “High and Rising Teacher Vacancies Coincide with a Steep Decline in the Overall Well-Being of the Teaching Profession.” *Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute*, March 10, 2023. [LINK](#).