

General

Trainees will:

- complete all requirements of their home department and degree*
- maintain good academic standing

Courses, Seminars, Workshops

Trainees will complete 6 credits of UM BRIDGES coursework:

- FEW Nexus Core Course* (Fall first year, 3 credits): foundational theories and concepts of the FEWS nexus and applied case studies
- Introduction to Science Communication (Fall first year, 1 credit): introduction and application of science communication concepts; does not meet all weeks; rotates between in-class discussions and local field trips
- Bridging Science to Practice Seminar* (Spring first year, 1 credit): topics at the intersection of FEW science and practice
- Applied Communications (Spring second year, 1 credit): trainees envision, create, and deliver a science communications project
- 6 additional credits from approved elective courses are required to obtain the WEF Nexus Certificate

Trainees will participate in 1 Workshop:

- Numeracy Workshop* (Spring first year, 8-10 hours): develop tools and tricks for using numbers skillfully, comfortably, and powerfully.

Additional Elements

Trainees will:

- attend the UM BRIDGES orientation and field trip prior to the start of their first semester as a trainee
- complete a UM BRIDGES development plan with the Program Coordinator
- attend the UM BRIDGES Distinguished Speaker Series talks and activities (~3/year)
- complete a FEWS-related internship (minimum of 120 hours PhD; 80 hours MS)
- attend monthly pizza lunch check-ins as available
- attend any additional UM BRIDGES retreats as scheduled
- complete Responsible Conduct of Research training (on-line) prior to receiving any funding
- give a talk or seminar on their INFEWS-related research to other cohort members
- respond to program evaluation requests and on-line surveys and attend a program exit interview
- participate in an interdisciplinary co-lab (*fellows only*)
- engage in a “broader impacts activity”, to be determined with the Program Coordinator (*fellows only*)
- PhD trainees will participate in a broadly defined “international experience”

*NOTE: Due to COVID-19 and associated restrictions, trainees *may* apply for exemptions to one *impacted* requirement – with the approval of their supervisor. These applications will be reviewed by the Steering Committee on a quarterly basis. Decisions will be based on evidence of challenges due to COVID, availability of alternative ways to fulfill requirement, and timeline to graduation.

UM BRIDGES Responsibilities to Trainees

UM BRIDGES faculty and staff will:

- complete a UM BRIDGES development plan with each trainee and provide disciplinary and program mentoring
- provide high-quality, intellectually-engaging courses, seminars, workshops, and culture
- ensure relevant co-lab opportunities for each fellow
- assist in identifying and arranging internships and “broader impact” events and activities
- provide opportunities to apply for competitive funding for travel and FEW-related research support

Trainee Responsibilities Checklist

Year 1

Fall Semester

- Attend pre-semester BRIDGES orientation
- Attend nexus field trip and retreat (may be scheduled at different times)
- Discuss coursework plan with advisor and develop program plan with UM BRIDGES Program Coordinator
- Complete FEWS Nexus Core Course
- Complete Introduction to Science Communications seminar
- Complete on-line Responsible Conduct of Research certificate by end of September
- MS Trainees:* Discuss internship options with advisor and Program Coordinator

Spring Semester

- MS Trainees:* contact potential internship host organizations by February
- MS Trainees:* finalize internship learning agreement by April 15 (draft due March 15)
- Complete Bridging Science to Practice seminar
- Participate in Numeracy Workshop
- Fellows:* Develop plan with Program Coordinator to engage in a minimum of 4 hours “Broader Impacts” activity
- PhD Fellows:* develop plan with Program Coordinator to lead trainee experience in Year 2

Year 2

Fall Semester

- MS Trainees:* complete internship by end of fall semester (3rd semester of traineeship)
- PhD Trainees:* Discuss internship options with advisor and Program Coordinator

Spring Semester

- Complete Applied Science Communications seminar
- PhD Trainees:* finalize internship learning agreement by April 15 (draft due March 1)

Any Semester

- Give research talk or seminar to cohort by end of Year 2
- Fellows:* Participate in co-lab by end of Year 2
- Fellows:* Complete “Broader Impacts” activity by end of Year 2
- PhD Fellows:* complete organization/lead of trainee experience by end of Year 2 summer

Year 3

- PhD Trainees:* complete international experience by end of Year 3
- PhD Trainees:* complete internship by end of Year 3