UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED
Summer 2021

The School of Communication both welcomes and encourages undergraduate student involvement in the research programs of faculty and graduate students by serving as undergraduate research assistants. Research assistants play a vital role in the research of any university, by helping with data collection and analysis, computer programming, library research, and writing of research reports for presentation and conferences and for publication. Undergraduates in the social sciences with research experience (especially in the form of an undergraduate thesis) and who meet other entry requirements are often highly sought out by graduate schools, including the graduate program in the School of Communication at The Ohio State University. Furthermore, people with research skills are also sought out in industry and the corporate world. Thus, serving as a research assistant can give you a competitive advantage in your quest for furthering your education in the social sciences or obtaining employment upon graduation. If you need a letter of recommendation from a faculty member for graduate school or a job, you will get a much stronger letter if you work in a faculty member’s research group. Because there is no such thing as too much experience, we especially encourage students to get involved early in their education, at least a year before graduation. It sounds a lot better for a faculty member to say that that you worked in their lab for two, three, or even four years than only a semester.

The School of Communication is currently recruiting undergraduate research assistants for ongoing research projects described below. You may earn ‘independent study’ course credit by working on these projects or get involved on a voluntary basis—details are to be discussed with the faculty/project contacts. If you see a project description that interests you, please contact the faculty member directly (unless otherwise indicated in project description). Most projects fill on a first-come basis until full.

The application deadline for all positions is June 11, 2021.
Project Title: Children’s Learning from Educational TV  
Faculty supervisor: James Alex Bonus  
Contact information: jamesalexbonus@gmail.com  
Email: jamesalexbonus@gmail.com  
Total number of Research Assistants sought: 2  
Project Location: Center of Science and Industry (COSI), 333 West Broad St, Columbus, OH, 43215

Minimum commitment per week: 3-4 hours on one of the following days: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday

Preferred qualifications: Prior experience and/or comfort working with 4- to 6-year-old children and their parents. Must have access to reliable transportation (for travel to-and-from COSI).

Project description: We are studying how informal learning experiences (i.e., exposure to educational TV) influences children’s learning from formal instruction (i.e., a brief science demonstration). RAs will be required to recruit parents/children who are visiting COSI. They will explain the study to parents and then guide children through the study. Children will watch a 6-minute educational science video (about buoyancy) and answer questions about what they learned. The RA will then provide a brief lesson about buoyancy (i.e., observing objects that float vs. sink) and assess what children learned from the lesson.

Format of remote interaction: This study will be conducted entirely in-person.

Stable on-going internet access required?: No

Two paid hourly RA positions: The pay will be per the Ohio State University guide and commensurate with relevant experience and skills. See below for details. If you are interested, submit resume including a description of video production skills and experience and a weblink through which your sample video(s) can be accessed.

Project title: Educational Video Production to Address Anti-Asian Racism  
Faculty supervisor: Hyunyi Cho  
Contact information: via email  
Email: Cho.919@osu.edu  
Total number of research assistants sought: 2  
Project location: Online

Minimum commitment per week: 5 hours

Required qualifications: Experience and skills in video development, production, and editing using Adobe Premiere Pro

Project description: The RAs will work on educational video development, production, and editing, and existing audiovisual materials search.

Format of remote interaction: Via Zoom and email

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes
Project title: Editing Narrative Videos
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Michael Slater
Contact Information: Please contact Jared Ott for further information about this study at the email listed below, or by phone: (330)464-5749
Email: ott.75@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 2
Project Location: Derby Hall/Journalism Building or Remote

Minimum commitment per week: 5 hours

Preferred qualifications: Experience with video editing software, especially Adobe Products.

Project description: RAs will assist in the compilation and editing of popular TV and movie clips for use as experimental stimuli in future research projects.

Format of remote interaction: Required editing software may be installed on personal computers. Final products uploaded to shared folders via Microsoft Teams with communication conducted via Zoom/Teams.

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes