

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED Autumn 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
August 27, 2021.

Autumn 2021 School of Communication Projects

Project title: Gun Study

Faculty supervisor: Dr. Brad J. Bushman

Contact information: bushman.20@osu.edu

Email: kjaervik.1@osu.edu, davidson.536@osu.edu

Total number of research assistants sought: 5

Project location: Journalism 381 Building

Minimum commitment per week: 6-9 hours

Preferred qualifications: We are interviewing for two positions:

- First position (2 positions): Good at interacting with children (8-12 years old). Good at talking with parents. Good at explaining things simply. Good social skills.
- Second position (3 positions): Coding and data entry skills. Code video clips of play sessions. This requires Excel and Qualtrics skills and careful attention to details.

Project description: Previous research has shown that children who see movie characters smoke are more likely to smoke themselves, and children who see movie characters drink alcohol are more likely to drink alcohol themselves. This study examines whether children who see movie characters use guns are more likely to use real guns themselves (e.g., touch a gun, hold a gun, pull the trigger on a gun), and whether watching a gun safety video can counteract the effect of violent movie characters.

Remote or in-person: In-person (either with children/parents/researcher in a lab or in the OSU computer lab)

Format of remote interaction: in OSU computer lab

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

Project title: Meta-analysis

Faculty supervisor: Hyunyi Cho

Contact information: Professor in the School of Communication

Email: cho.919@osu.edu

Total number of research assistants sought: Up to two

Project location: Online

Minimum commitment per week: 6 to 10 hours

Preferred qualifications: Strong performance in research methods courses (e.g., COMM 3160, 3163)

Project description: The goal of this project is to synthesize published media literacy educational intervention studies. The RA will analyze each study to categorize it across study variables. If you are interested, please submit (a) your resume including information about research methods courses taken and (b) a brief description of the reason for your interest in this project. When applying, please write "Meta-analysis Project" in your email subject line.

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom meetings, email, OneDrive file upload and sharing

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

Project title: Website Development

Faculty supervisor: Hyunyi Cho

Contact information: Professor, School of Communication

Email: cho.919@osu.edu

Total number of research assistants sought: One

Project location: Online

Minimum commitment per week: 4-6 hours

Preferred qualifications: Previous website development

Project description: The research assistant will develop a web site for an educational project. The goal of the education is to address anti-Asian racism. The website will use the u.osu.edu platform which is similar to WordPress. Website will host videos and will have user engagement functions including likes and comments. If you are interest in, please submit (a) your resume including information about relevant past experience and (b) a brief description of the reason for your interest in this project. When applying, please write "Website Development Project" in your subject line.

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom meetings, email

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

Project title: To frame or retain news media frames? Examining news media reframing on Twitter and its effects on science-related attitudes

Faculty supervisor: Graham Dixon

Contact information: Austin Hubner

Email: Hubner.9@buckeyemail.osu.edu

Total number of research assistants sought: 4-5

Project location: Virtual

Minimum commitment per week: 6 hours per week (2 credits)

Preferred qualifications: Have worked as an RA before, commitment to detail and willingness to commit time to the project.

Project description: Students will be collecting and coding news articles and tweets related to the COVID-19 vaccination

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom and email check ins
Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

Project Title: Technology and Mental Health Interventions

Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox

Contact Information: Ms. Nina Freiberger

Email (link for application is below; do not email to apply): Freiberger.12@osu.edu

Total number of Research Assistants sought: 4-6

Minimum commitment per week: 6+ hrs (2-3 credits)

Preferred qualifications: Attentive to detail; ability to self-manage, including meeting deadlines and making steady progress on long-term projects without constant supervision; availability for training meetings between 10 AM & 5 PM Eastern time (times to be determined). This is a good fit for students with an interest in mental health interventions or the use of VR and games for prosocial purposes.

Project description: We are seeking research assistants to read and code scientific abstracts and articles about VR and serious games designs as mental health interventions. You may also be asked to locate information about these interventions online.

Format of remote interaction: We will have occasional Zoom meetings for training purposes; otherwise you will work on your own.

Stable ongoing internet access required? You will need to have read or download articles

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: <https://forms.gle/D3czSF3ZBukzHfyZ6>

Project Title: Coding Experiences with Discrimination

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox

Contact Information: Mr. Kelly Merrill Jr.

Email (link for application is below; do not email to apply): merrill.155@osu.edu

Total number of Research Assistants sought: 4

Minimum commitment per week: 3-6 hours (1-2 credits)

Preferred qualifications: Attentive to detail; mindful; can meet deadlines; ability to self-manage and make steady progress on long-term projects without constant supervision; availability for meetings between 10 AM & 5 PM Eastern time (times to be determined).

Project description: This position will entail coding sensitive data tied to experiences in educational settings. Some data will include negative emotional experiences tied to one's sense of self. Please note these descriptions can be upsetting, as people are describing their experiences with discrimination and can include offensive language.

Format of remote interaction: If you have not already, you will need to complete the required online training modules for human subjects researchers (this will be the first assignment). After the required

human subjects training is complete, we will conduct training sessions for the project over Zoom. We will maintain contact by email and you will upload your progress weekly or bi-weekly. Stable ongoing internet access required? You will need to have stable synchronous access for the online human subjects training and the training meetings (we expect 2-3). Otherwise you can mostly work offline if needed.

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: <https://forms.gle/D3czSF3ZBukzHfyZ6>

Project title: Representing race in newspaper coverage of Barak Obama's Presidential campaign

Faculty supervisor: Susan L. Kline

Contact information: 3106 Derby Hall

Email: kline.48@osu.edu

Total number of research assistants sought: 2-4

Project location: at Ra's

Minimum commitment per week: 3 hours/week

Preferred qualifications: communication or journalism major, with an interest in discourse analysis

Project description: We (Professors Kline & Ross) are extending research on Obama's presidential campaign by analyzing how newspapers utilized the ideas expressed in Obama's race speech in their coverage of his presidential campaign. Each RA will be in charge of analyzing one newspaper's coverage of the campaign, with newspaper articles provided to the student. Extensive training on inductive coding will be provided.

Remote or in-person: remote and/or in-person

Format of remote interaction: weekly discussion

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

Project title: Survey Transparency Project

Faculty supervisor: Dr. Jerry Kosicki

Email: kosicki.1@osu.edu

Total number of research assistants sought: 3

Project location: Online

Minimum commitment per week: 3-4 hours

Preferred qualifications: Completion of any of the following courses would be helpful, but not essential: Comm 4820, 3160 or 3163.

Project description: We're doing some content analysis of articles in some of the major communication journals to see how much they disclose about their research procedures when publishing studies based on survey research techniques. The idea is to try to increase awareness of issues identified by theories of Total Survey Error and increase awareness of problems in the reporting of survey studies. Basically this is a good opportunity to develop some research experience with relatively simple content analysis tools and contribute to the improvement of the scientific rigor of research in communication.

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom or Teams

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: 5-10 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
