UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED
Summer 2022

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 May 13, 2022.
Summer 2022 School of Communication Projects

Project title: Gaming-Attraction Study
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Brad J. Bushman
Contact information: bushman.20@osu.edu
Email: bushman.20@osu.edu; erxleben.2@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 3
Project location: Columbus, Main Campus, Journalism Building

Minimum commitment per week: 6 hours

Preferred qualifications: Good organizational skills, comfortable giving instructions to others, able to follow a script

Project description: Schedule participants and run experimental sessions. Explain tasks to participants.

Remote or in-person: In-person

Format of remote interaction: N/A

Stable on-going Internet access required? N/A

POSITION FILLED (no longer recruiting)

Project title: First title: The invisible frontline: Examining the underrepresentation of female expertise in news coverage about the COVID-19 vaccine development.
Second Study: Systematic review of framing research within the field of science communication.
Faculty supervisor: Graham Dixon
Contact information: Austin Hubner
Total number of research assistants sought: 4
Project location: Virtual

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

Preferred qualifications: Commitment to detail and willingness to commit time to the project.

Project description: There are two projects that students will be working on. For the first project, students will be coding New York Times articles related to the COVID-19 vaccinations. For the second study, individuals will be coding academic articles that are related to framing.

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom and email check ins

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes
Project title: Bombshell
Faculty supervisor: Felecia Jones Ross
Contact information: Email
Email: ross.256@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 6
Project location: Students can work remotely from anywhere. They primarily need access to the OSU Library databases, but they may need access to off-campus archives and databases.

Minimum commitment per week: 5-6 hours

Preferred qualifications: Prefer upper-level undergraduate majors who have interests in Black history, health and journalism

Project description: This project explores how the Black press covered and reacted to the U.S.’ dropping of the atomic bomb in Japan in 1945. There is evidence that the press challenged the government’s claims about the long-term health effects of the bomb. The project requires students to use databases to find Black newspaper articles, columns and editorials on this coverage.

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom

Stable on-going Internet access required? Required