THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Communication

3016 Derby Hall
154 N. Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210

614-292-3400 Phone
614-292-2055 Fax

comm.osu.edu

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED
Spring 2023

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
January 13, 2023.

Spring 2023 School of Communication Projects

Project title: Examination of Social Justice Agenda Building
Faculty supervisor: Dr. HyunYi Cho
Contact information: cho.919@osu.edu
Email: cho.919@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: Up to 4
Project location: Online

Minimum commitment per week: 4-6 hours

Preferred qualifications: Successful completion of COMM 3160 Communication Research Methods or COMM 3163 Communication Industry Research Methods; Commitment to accuracy and attention to detail

Project description: The RAs will analyze newspaper coverage and social media discourse about antiAsian hate and violence.

Remote or in-person: Remote mostly; in-person meetings as needed

Format of remote interaction: via Zoom

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

Project title: Treasures of the Black Press
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Felecia Jones Ross
Contact information: ross.256@osu.edu
Email: ross.256@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 8
Project location: Students can work remotely from anywhere. They only need access to the OSU Library databases.

Minimum commitment per week: 5-6 hours

Preferred qualifications: Prefer upper-level undergraduate majors who have interests in historical research overall and Black media history in particular.

Project description: Black newspapers have served as a voice for the Black community for nearly 200 years. This project seeks to explore how Black newspapers, as well as other media sources have chronicled and responded to events in national and international history. We will also explore how newspapers can be used as sources for family history.

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom

Stable on-going Internet access required? Required

Project title: (Mis)information about COVID-19 vaccination on Twitter
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Robert Bond
Contact information: Yue Li
Email: li.7232@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 6
Project location: online & in-person

Minimum commitment per week: 9 hours per week

Preferred qualifications:
(1) Native English speakers are preferred because RAs need to read the tweets.
(2) Good candidates need to be detail oriented and patient.
(3) Good candidates are expected to submit weekly assignments on time with high quality.

Project description: This project aims to examine how (mis)information about COVID-19 vaccination with different message features diffuses on Twitter. We need to read the related tweets and label them to achieve the goal. RAs will learn how to transform qualitative text data into quantitative data for further analysis through the process. The skills you will learn through the process are widely used in academic and the media industry.

Remote or in-person: 70% remote 30% in-person

Format of remote interaction: RAs can work remotely except for the weekly meetings after the training phase. In-person training in the first few weeks is required.

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes, at least have access to Zoom meetings and can check emails regularly.

Project title: Understanding Health Information Seeking
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Shelly Hovick
Contact information: 706-338-8935
Email: hovick.1@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 1 or 2
Project location: Journalism Building & Online

Minimum commitment per week: 2 hours per week

Preferred qualifications: Successfully completing a (1) communication research methods class OR (2) health communication and/or risk communication course

Project description: We are looking for someone to help supervise and run studies in-person in the lab on the topic of online health information seeking. This person will also assist in conducting literature searches and reviews on the topic of health information seeking and monitoring.

Remote or in-person: In person

Format of remote interaction: Zoom meetings

Stable on-going Internet access required? Yes

Project Title: Agent Interactions
Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox
Contact Information: Dr. Jesse Fox
Email (link for application is below; do not email to apply): fox.775@osu.edu
Total number of Research Assistants sought: 4-6

Minimum commitment per week: 6 hours (2 credits); up to 3 credits available

Preferred qualifications: Good interpersonal and professional communication skills; attention to detail; ability to adhere to strict research protocols; reliable and timely. Students with an interest in human-computer interaction or user testing are strongly encouraged to apply. You must have blocks of availability to run experiments in the laboratory.

Project description: We are seeking research assistants to help conduct experiments on voice agents, virtual assistants, and chatbots in our laboratory in the Journalism Building. You will be conducting live experimental sessions on a regular schedule. You will develop several research skills that are useful for careers in UX/UR/HCI, user experience, and market research more broadly.

Format of remote interaction: Email will be used as needed for organization.

Stable ongoing internet access required? No.

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: https://forms.gle/tKzijNCHzcLdrvsm9

Project Title: Media Personalities
Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox
Contact Information: Dr. Jesse Fox
Email (link for application is below; do not email to apply): fox.775@osu.edu
Total number of Research Assistants sought: 1-2

Minimum commitment per week: 3 hours (1 credit); up to 3 credits available

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: We are looking for people who stay up-to-date with popular culture (mainstream), subcultures, or fandoms. The tasks for this project will include researching the backgrounds of media personalities and fictional characters; identifying online communities and fandoms; and coding related information. You may also be asked to help recruit participants online.

Format of remote interaction: We will have meetings over Zoom as needed. We will maintain contact by email and you will have weekly or bi-weekly due dates for progress on projects.

Stable ongoing internet access required? Yes. Most of the work will be completed online.

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: https://forms.gle/tKzijNCHzcLdrvsm9

Project Title: Reality TV
Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox
Contact Information: Dr. Jesse Fox
Email (link for application is below; do not email to apply): fox.775@osu.edu
Total number of Research Assistants sought: 2-4

Minimum commitment per week: 1 credit (3 hours); up to 3 credits available

Preferred qualifications: Highly organized; attentive to detail; mindful; can meet deadlines; ability to self-manage; friendly and likes to interact with others. You must be available to work some Monday nights during the semester.

Project description: We will be conducting some real-time data collection surrounding the television show "The Bachelor." We are looking for people to help communicate with participants and oversee data collection.

Format of remote interaction: We will meet over Zoom or communicate via email as needed.

Stable ongoing internet access required? Yes.

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: https://forms.gle/tKzijNCHzcLdrvsm9

Project Title: Coding Experiences with Discrimination
Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox
Contact Information: Dr. Jesse Fox
Email (link for application is below; do not email to apply): fox.775@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/tKzijNCHzcLdrvsm9