

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED Autumn 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
August 25, 2023.

Autumn 2023 School of Communication Projects

Project title: Meta-Analysis Coder
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Brad J. Bushman
Contact information: Dr. Brad J. Bushman
Email: bushman.20@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 2
Project location: Remote/online

Minimum commitment per week: 3 hours

Preferred qualifications: experience with Excel, organized, close attention to detail, strong reading comprehension

Project description: This project involves coding research studies for meta-analytic reviews. The term meta-analysis literally means “analysis of analyses.” It is a quantitative literature review that combines the statistical analyses (e.g., correlations) from different studies conducted on the same topic. Possible topics include anger management, the link between alcohol and aggression, and the link between animal abuse and human aggression. This opportunity can be taken on a voluntary basis or for credit in Communication (COMM 4998).

Remote or in-person: Remote/online, emails and weekly Zoom meetings.

Format of remote interaction: There will be held weekly Zoom meetings to go through the information collected and any questions you might have.

Project Title: User Experiences with Technology
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, user experience (UX), or user testing are strongly encouraged to apply. You must have timeslots available (2 hours or more) to run experiments in person in the laboratory Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 6 PM.

Project description: We are seeking research assistants to help conduct studies 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.

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: <https://forms.gle/ftLgAH6SkP6QnMQc6>

Project Title: Media Experiences Coding
Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Jesse Fox
Contact Information: Ms. Brooke Bennington
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: 1 hour (3 credits); 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 in person meetings between 10 AM & 5 PM Eastern time required (times to be determined).

Project description: We are looking for research assistants to analyze and code participants' responses about their experiences with media and their thoughts about media figures. For some roles we are seeking people with knowledge of the television show *The Bachelor*, but this is not a requirement for the position.

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

To apply for this position, please fill out the following link: <https://forms.gle/ftLgAH6SkP6QnMQc6>

Project title: Face-to-face interpersonal interaction experiment
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Nicholas Matthews
Contact information: n/a
Email: Matthews.345@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 2
Project location: Journalism Building and Derby Hall

Minimum commitment per week: 3.5 hours (i.e., 2 sessions per week)

Preferred qualifications: Nothing technical. RAs will sometimes serve as confederates (i.e., researchers pretending to be participants). Attention to detail and timeliness are highly desired.

Project description: This study is an experiment investigating the effects of certain types of interpersonal interactions in a face-to-face setting. RAs will help coordinate groups of student participants to engage in 45 minutes of guided discussion. Then, RAs will administer questionnaires and dismiss participants. Each session will last a maximum of 90 minutes. Each session will involve 10-40 students simultaneously.

Remote or in-person: In-person only

Project title: Examining how social class is depicted on popular television.
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Alex Bonus
Contact information: Damien Short
Email: short.443@osu.edu
Total number of research assistants sought: 4-5

Project location: Zoom

Minimum commitment per week: 9 hours

Preferred qualifications: A grade point average of at least 3.0. Ability to think through definitions and apply them when answering questions regarding character attributes. Applying these definitions to characters requires careful attention to detail. Enjoys watching television!

Project description: This project is a content analysis examining how those of varying social classes are portrayed in television. Each week you will be tasked with watching a few episodes and going through the questions about each character of the show. Questions include things such as how hygienic, motivated, and intelligent the characters are. The goal is to train everyone to answer the questions in the same exact way before watching the episodes that are part of the study sample. This will require semi-lengthy discussion to get everyone to think about the different questions in the same way.

Remote or in-person: Remote

Format of remote interaction: Zoom