

RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN DIGITAL SOCIAL SCIENCE

GLOBAL DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP LAB DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY YORK UNIVERSITY TORONTO, CANADA

Overview of the Position

Based in the Department of Sociology at York University, the Global Digital Citizenship Lab (GDCL) is a dynamic community of researchers at the cutting edge of social science research analyzing the digital world through a social justice lens. In particular, we are combining cultural analysis with digital and computational methods to study the online manifestations of controversies about some of the world's most pressing problems (climate change, gender-based online abuse, etc.). We are interested in how laypersons and experts are acting as digital citizens involved in creating, interpreting, and disseminating evidence about these problems, and the debates that stem therefrom. For more information about the GDCL, visit <http://gdcl.apps01.yorku.ca/>.

The position of Research Assistant represents an exciting opportunity for a self-motivated, organized, and team-oriented person to contribute to a small group of social science researchers. The Research Assistant will be telecommuting or working from home, and will need to have a computer on which to work. Directly reporting to the GDCL's Director and Programmer, the Research Assistant will have the following responsibilities:

- Assist in the development and writing of Python- or R-based scripts and code for computational data collection, analysis, and visualization;
- Help identify and benchmark existing scripted packages and software programs for natural language processing (NLP) and social network analysis (SNA);
- Assist with data scraping and analysis using the aforementioned scripts, packages, and programs;
- Database organization and management via an external virtual server

Skills and Qualifications

- Completed or currently enrolled in an undergraduate or Master's degree in the social sciences, computer science, or related field;
- Demonstrated knowledge of scripting languages (principally Python, possibly R), coding, and computational skills ;
- Experience or basic familiarity with natural language processing (NLP) and social network analysis (SNA) software or scripts;
- Demonstrated organizational abilities, including timely project delivery;
- Capacity to collaborate with a team of social science researchers and a programmer;
- Excellent writing, communication, and interpersonal skills

Hours

35 hours/week

Salary

\$18-\$25/hour, depending upon qualifications

Timeframe

June-August 2018

Contact

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