UC Irvine
Field Study

Winter '27 School of Social Ecology- Based Placements Catalog

Types of Placements Available:

- **Research Assistantships (RA) – Site # 1000**
  - Research assistant positions with faculty within the School of Social Ecology**
- **Learning Assistantships (LA)- Site # 1001**
  - Learning assistant positions for courses within the School of Social Ecology**
  - Learn more about Learning Assistantships here: https://dtei.uci.edu/certified-learning-assistants-program-clap/

Helpful Reminders

- **Within the School of Social Ecology:**
  Research or Learning Assistant positions **not listed in the catalog** may still be approved as a Field Study placement. You must have approval from the faculty member overseeing the lab/class and their agreement to serve as your supervisor.
- **Outside the School of Social Ecology:**
  Research or Learning Assistant positions **must first be reviewed and approved** by the Field Study Director. To request this, submit a Research and Learning Assistant Clearance Form.
- **Important:**
  Before applying, please review the **unit and enrollment requirements** for Research/Learning Assistantship positions [HERE].

If you have any questions, contact us at
sefieldstudy@uci.edu!

OPPORTUNITY: Learning Assistanat	**Virtual/Remote/Hybrid**
Placement Name	In - Person
C147: Criminal Justice and Public Health	**Placements available** = 1
Supervisor Information	
Faculty Name: Amanda Geller	
Title: Associate Professor of Criminology, Law and Society	
Email Address: agellers@uci.edu	
Placement Information	
Learning Assistants (LAs) are undergraduate peer educators who work with students in the classroom setting to support and facilitate active learning in courses that are traditionally difficult or have high enrollment. LAs are required to enroll in a 2-unit LA pedagogy/training course concurrent to their first quarter as an LA (in addition to the SE 195/SE 195W course). LAs are an important part of the instructional team. In the classroom, LAs support professors and graduate teaching assistants (TAs) with active learning -- typically in the form of group activities or discussions. Outside the classroom, LAs meet, reflect, and plan course curriculum and student progress with professors and TAs weekly.	
Requirements (subject to change)	
W26 enrollment in C100: Criminal Justice and Public Health, completion with a B or better. Please submit CV and cover letter explaining your interest in the role.	
How to Apply	
Please email resume and cover letter	

OPPORTUNITY: Research Assistant	**Virtual/Remote/Hybrid**
Placement Name	Hybrid (mix of in-person and remote)
Carceral Institutions, Families, and Reentry Research Lab	**Placements available** = 3
Supervisor Information	
Faculty Name: Amanda Geller	
Title: Associate Professor of Criminology, Law and Society	
Email Address: mercyr@uci.edu	
Placement Information	
The Carceral Institutions, Families & Reentry Research Lab explores how incarceration affects mothers, children, and family relationships, with a focus on family separation, reunification, and reentry. Undergraduate field study students will join weekly lab meetings and support ongoing research through literature searches, annotated bibliographies, and collecting relevant public documents. Students will also have opportunities to develop their own research interests related to the lab's themes.	
Requirements (subject to change)	
Open to undergraduate students in any major. No minimum GPA or prior research experience is required. Applicants should be interested in incarceration, families, gender, or reentry; willing to attend a weekly lab meeting; and able to commit at least five hours per week. Students should be dependable, open to feedback, and comfortable reading and discussing research on sensitive topics.	
How to Apply	
To apply, email Erin Aubele (eaubele@uci.edu) with your resume and a brief paragraph about your interest in the lab. Please include your major, year in school, and availability for a weekly lab meeting. A formal cover letter is not required.	

OPPORTUNITY: Research Assistant	**Virtual/Remote/Hybrid**
Placement Name	Hybrid (mix of in-person and remote)
Mapping Law Enforcement	**Placements available** = 2
Supervisor Information	
Faculty Name: Amanda Geller	
Title: Associate Professor of Criminology, Law and Society	
Email Address: agellers@uci.edu	
Placement Information	
I'd like to engage a student in helping me code recent incidents of immigration raids in Southern California, based on videos from 'LA Taco', a local independent news source. Students may gain experience and skills in mapping and geocoding as well as data curation and management.	
Requirements (subject to change)	
How to Apply	
Please email resume and cover letter, including, if past C100 or C106 student, which quarters you took the classes.	

OPPORTUNITY: Research Assistant	**Virtual/Remote/Hybrid**
Placement Name	Hybrid (mix of in-person and remote)
Pocket Park and Garden Climate Solutions	**Placements available** = 7

Supervisor Information

Faculty Name: Doug Houston

Title: Assistant Dean & Professor

Email Address: houston@uci.edu

Placement Information

Description of Research: This project studies how neighborhoods across Southern California are benefiting from pocket parks and gardens (PPGs). Although small in size compared to larger parks and recreational facilities, PPGs can play an outsized role in supporting sustainability, public health, and resilience against the impacts of climate change. By expanding tree cover, vegetation, and gardening opportunities, PPGs provide a variety of "ecosystem services." These include benefits to people and the environment, such as cooling the surrounding neighborhood, supporting biodiversity, and offering communities a space to grow fresh produce. Our research team monitors PPG ecosystem services (by collecting data on soil, trees, heat, air, and usage) and supports community engagement events. Field Study Activities: Research Assistants will be engaged in the following tasks: (1) support monitoring of the usage and ecosystem services of PPG sites (2) support community engagement activities and outreach (3) help develop content for online and social media communications Field study hours will be a mix of virtual and in-person meetings, completing individual and group assignments, and working in teams to conduct PPG site visits and engagement events within Irvine, Santa Ana, and Los Angeles County.

Requirements (subject to change)

Ability to work in teams, good communication skills, and reliability are required. Interpersonal, organizational, and writing skills are desired. Experience with spreadsheet, GIS, or other analysis software is helpful. Interest, experience, or previous courses on policy, planning, or environmental topics are a plus.

How to Apply

Please email a resume and cover letter describing your motivation and related interests/experiences to Professor Houston (houston@uci.edu) and Postdoctoral Scholar Vivi Goh (vmgoh@uci.edu).

OPPORTUNITY: Learning Assistanat	**Virtual/Remote/Hybrid**
Placement Name	Hybrid (mix of in-person and remote)
Positive Psychology 184s	**Placements available** = 3
Supervisor Information	
Faculty Name: Sarah Pressman	
Title: Professor of Psychology and an Associate Dean in the Division of Undergraduate Education	
Email Address: pressman@uci.edu	
Placement Information	
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Requirements (subject to change)	
They must have taken Positive Psychology with me and gotten at least a A-	
How to Apply	
They should submit a resume or CV with their application and a cover letter explaining why they would like to be a learning assistant for this class.	

OPPORTUNITY: Research Assistant	**Virtual/Remote/Hybrid**
Placement Name	In - Person
SAMHSA Clinic	**Placements available** = 1
Supervisor Information	
Faculty Name: Jason Schiffman	
Title: Director of Clinical Training	
Email Address: jason.schiffman@uci.edu	
Placement Information	
SAMHSA CHR-P Clinic: Work under clinic coordinator and help with administrative tasks related to referring individuals who are at risk for developing psychosis (CHR-P), observe therapy sessions with CHR-P clients, observe and potentially support psychoeducation groups related to CHR-P, help conduct a supported education program called inVEST for CHR-P individuals.	
Requirements (subject to change)	
Psychology, sociology or related major. No minimum GPA. Must have interest in conducting clinical work and interest in serving individuals with severe mental illness.	
How to Apply	
Email cover letter and resume to Alison boos boosa@uci.edu	