

## Sociology Department Research Apprenticeship Program WI23 & SP23 Projects

Students interested in the Research Apprenticeship Program are required to [apply to each project individually online](#).

The time commitment for participation in the research apprenticeship program will be around 10-12 hrs a week hours per project (exact times will vary).

### Available Projects (See specific page for details of project):

1. <b>The Rise of Femicide in Latin American Feminist Movements: Pathways to the Making of a new Political Issue</b> , Ana Lopez Ricoy (Page 2)
2. <b>Assessing Diversity in the Economic Sociology Literature throughout 20 years</b> , Bernardo Mackenna (Page 2-3)
3. <b>Learning to Thrive: Academic, Professional, and Mental Health in College</b> , Doreen Hsu (Page 3)
4. <b>The Construction of Asian Diabetes in Global Public Health Discourse</b> , Mohammad Bin Khidzer (Page 4)
5. <b>Global South in Refugee Studies</b> , Sevin Sagnic (Page 4)
6. <b>Seeing Double: Institutional Characteristics and Propensity For Student Multiple Majoring</b> , Richard Pitt (Page 4-5)

## Project Descriptions:

### 1. The rise of femicide in Latin American feminist movements: Pathways to the making of a new political issue

*Ana Lopez Ricoy*

Although femicide is not a novel phenomenon—female murders have happened throughout history—they have become a relevant public issue in the past twenty years, especially in the Spanish speaking world. This project seeks to answer: How and did femicide become such a central political issue in Latin America and what is its significance today? More specifically, we will be centering on cultural communities and their contribution to making femicide into a political issue. In this part of the research, we will be looking at how communities of artists in specific contexts, such as the US-Mexico border, have brought attention to femicide. It entails doing archival research on artists, exhibition, cultural products, etc. In addition, we will be reaching out to the artists, undergoing interviews, transcribing and analyzing them.

#### Key Topics(s)

- Collective Behavior
- Social Movements
- Comparative and Historical Sociology Culture
- Global and Transnational Sociology
- Latinx Sociology
- Political Sociology
- Sex and Gender

#### Anticipated Tasks for RA

- Background research on art pieces or artistic performances and artists
- Background research on activist organizations
  - Coding and transcription of interviews
  - Organizing and completing a database of cultural products

#### Specific Time Commitments & Comments

10 hours of weekly independent work is expected, plus a weekly meeting at a set time

### 2. Assessing Diversity in the Economic Sociology Literature throughout 20 years

*Bernardo Mackenna*

In 2023, Socio Economic Review (SER) will celebrate its 20th anniversary. In this short time span, this interdisciplinary journal has become one of the top outlets for the advancement of socioeconomics, dealing with the analytical, political, and moral questions arising at the intersection between economy and society. This project seeks to explore the underlying process behind the development of SER's intellectual community. More specifically, we aim at describing the trends in the topics covered by the journal and the composition of the authors that both submit and are published in it. Methodologically, we combine administrative data from the journal with the full text of the published articles to assess both the diversity of the research questions as well as the authors submitting and publishing at SER.

Participating in this project will give you hands-on experience with text coding, as well as introduce you to computational social science

#### Key Topics(s)

- Economic Sociology
- History of Sociology
- Mathematical Sociology
- Sociology Methodology

methods like topic modelling and web scraping. Additionally, this is a great project for you if you are interested in the latest development in Economic Sociology, Sociology of Science, and in representation in the social sciences.

CO-PI's: Amy Knight and Ke Nie

**Anticipated Tasks for RA**

MAIN TASK: Coding of texts (abstracts and articles)  
 SECONDARY: Contribute to literature review  
 OPTIONAL: Contribute to text and computational analysis

**Specific Time Commitments & Comments**

2-hour training session (one time)  
 1-hour biweekly meetings  
 8-10 hours of autonomous work

**3. Learning to Thrive: Academic, Professional, and Mental Health in College**

*Doreen Hsu*

This project builds on my existing research projects about UCSD students' academic achievement and experiences of stress in college. I focus on how Asian American students think about their race, ethnicity, family backgrounds, and education experiences. More recently, I have become more interested in the experiences of mixed-race students on campus and the perspectives of university administration staff and faculty members. I am expanding this research to incorporate virtual interviews and participant observations with campus organizations, social events, social groups, and other individuals to find out more about how the school as an institution deals with students' experiences of their academics, professional development, and mental health stresses.

**Key Topics(s)**

- Asia and Asian America
- Education
- International Migration
- Race, Gender, and Class
- Racial and Ethnic Minorities

**Anticipated Tasks for RA**

Tasks may be both virtual and in-person. In winter quarter, I may ask RAs to complete a variety of data collection and analysis tasks, such as gathering relevant online sources, observing campus social events, and participating in interviews. In spring quarter, RAs will have opportunities to advance by collaborating on a creative writing publication. In both quarters, students will be expected to participate in research conferences and related workshop events. Overall, tasks may include: 1) attend virtual/in-person campus social events relating to student success/wellbeing, 2) participate in presentations on research or professionalization content, 3) recruit research participants, 4) participate in virtual research participant interviews, 5) analyzing interview data, 6) do record-keeping, and 7) participate in weekly meetings

**Specific Time Commitments & Comments**

We will have meetings once or twice a week as a team, but RAs can complete their tasks whenever and wherever works best for them. Past RAs have described the time commitment as 10 hours a week on average.

#### 4. The Construction of Asian Diabetes in Global Public Health Discourse

Mohammad Bin Khidzer

Recent public health research points out that 60% of the world's total diabetic population comprise of Asians. This has led to the establishment collaborative research programs and global initiatives oriented towards uncovering the unique etiology of 'Asian diabetes', in the hope of shaping better preventive measures and treatment of Asian populations. One good example of this is the Asian Diabetes Prevention Initiative (ADPI), a collaboration between the Harvard T Chan School of Public Health and the National University of Singapore Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health. This research seeks to 1) map out the central scientific actors and institutions involved in the broader Asian diabetes research program and 2) explore the various definitions and explanations for the Asian susceptibility to diabetes. In tracing the emergence of Asian diabetes in medical scientific discourse, this research project aims to answer the question of how Asian Diabetes has become an important global health concern while engaging with broader questions relating to inclusion, identity and dynamics of scientific knowledge production.

#### Key Topics(s)

- Asia and Asian America
- Global and Transnational Sociology
- Medical Sociology
- Political Economy of the World-System
- Race, Gender, and Class
- Science, Knowledge, & Technology

#### Anticipated Tasks for RA

The RAs for this project are expected to perform the following duties:

- 1) Read and analyze medical scientific papers.
- 2) Create and maintain a database of medical scientific papers and organize the content thematically.
- 3) Map out networks of institutions and authors involved in Asian Diabetes.
- 4) Attend biweekly meetings.

#### Specific Time Commitments & Comments

No more than 12 hours per week (flexible).

#### 5. Global South in Refugee Studies

Sevin Sagnic

This research focuses on the concept of the "global south" and forced migration research in the global south.

#### Key Topics(s)

- International Migration

#### Anticipated Tasks for RA

Working on the dataset and data analysis

#### Specific Time Commitments & Comments

12h per week

#### 6. Seeing Double: Institutional Characteristics and Propensity for Student Multiple Majoring

Richard Pitt

The rise of double majors is perhaps one of the most significant trend in the curricular lives of today's college students. Understanding this phenomenon is critical to a comprehensive understanding of the impact of postsecondary institutions on their matriculants. We know virtually

#### Key Topics(s)

- Medical Sociology
- Racial and Ethnic Minorities
- Science, Knowledge, & Technology

nothing about what kinds of environmental/structural factors may facilitate double majoring as a curricular phenomenon. In this project, we will use three categories of institutional characteristics—institutional function and marketing segment, constituency demographics, and inter-institutional stratification status—to examine the extent to which particular types of institutions provide a favorable environment for double majoring. The data for these analyses is drawn from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), an annual census taken among American colleges and universities; our sample is 1180 core baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral institutions.

#### **Anticipated Tasks for RA**

The TA will be involved in every aspect of the project: data collection from IPEDS, quantitative data analysis, collection and systematic review of pertinent literature, and composition and revision of an article-length research manuscript.

#### **Specific Time Commitments & Comments**

- The time commitment is flexible, but there will be weekly deadlines which should require about 10 hours of active, unsupervised, labor. There will likely be a one-hour weekly meeting as well.