Graduate Student Researcher Position Othering & Belonging Institute, UC Berkeley

Position Title: Graduate Student Researcher

Eligibility: Graduate students only

Duration: Fall 2023, with potential for renewal in spring

Expected Hours: up to 8 hours/week

Compensation Range: Commensurate with experience

The Othering and Belonging Institute (“the Institute”) at UC Berkeley brings together researchers, stakeholders, policymakers, and communicators to identify and challenge the barriers to an inclusive, just, and sustainable society and to create transformative change. The Institute is a vibrant hub of researchers, community leaders, policymakers, artists, and communicators that advances research, policy, and work related to marginalized communities. We engage in innovative narrative, communications, and cultural strategies that attempt to reframe the public discourse around marginality and inclusion and respond to issues that require immediate and long-term action. Our work is informed by understanding how structures and systems work to create or exacerbate othering and exclusion.

The Diversity and Health Disparities Cluster studies health inequities among ethnic and racial minorities and other vulnerable populations through research, teaching and policy activity on deeply rooted social inequalities within our society that result in disproportionate rates of illness and death in marginalized groups. Denise Herd is the lead PI for this project, a member of the Diversity and Health Disparities Cluster, Associate Director of the Institute, and faculty in the School of Public Health where she leads the Community Health Sciences Division and directs the Health and Social Behavior Program. Dr. Herd is leading a study titled “Understanding Changes in Vaccine Hesitancy and Uptake in California Black and Latinx Communities,” which will examine how leaders of Black and Latinx community-based organizations responded to the COVID-19 crisis in order to understand the rapid increase in acceptance of vaccines among Black and Latinx populations since 2020. The study will use qualitative interview methods.

Brief Description of Role

Dr. Herd is seeking a graduate student researcher (GSR) for August 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

The GSR will assist in conducting and recording interviews with community leaders across the state of California. In-person or Zoom interviews will be conducted in the Bay Area, Los Angeles, and the Inland Empire. The GSR will receive interview training and travel costs will be covered by the program. Additionally, the work will include analyzing the data obtained through the interviews, working with the research team to identify trends, and preparing the findings for publication. The work may include reviewing literature gathered by the team from 2021-2023.
Responsibilities

- Complete annotated bibliography, draft preliminary text and/or outlines for publication based on research.
- Conduct qualitative interviews, individually or in a team of two.
- Code and analyze qualitative data.
- Draft outline for research publication.
- Finalize manuscripts including integrating comments/reviews on written publications, citations, visual graphics, charts, tables for publications.
- Systematize citation software collection and maintain Zotero citation libraries.
- Prepare research materials for public talks and presentations of findings.
- Attend weekly or bi-weekly meetings with supervisor and research team.
- Other project-related duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Experience or familiarity with health disparities and public health research.
- Experience working in community-based settings and roles that serve Black, Latinx and other historically marginalized communities e.g. community organizer, community-facing program coordinator, housing rights advocate
- Proficiency in conducting qualitative data collection, analysis, and evaluation
- Pursuing a graduate degree in public health or related field
- Strong project management skills
- Research tools including academic journal database, citation software, coding software
- Experience with
  - conducting qualitative interviews and engaging in qualitative data collection
  - research-based writing for academic publications
  - creating annotated bibliographies as part of writing process
- Interest and commitment to social and racial justice as demonstrated through previous work or research

To Apply

To apply, please email the 3 following materials to tiara@berkeley.edu, ook@berkeley.edu, and chs_division@berkeley.edu with the subject line “NAME | Vaccine Hesitancy Project, 50% GSR”

1. Cover letter detailing your experience and interest in the project (1-2 pages max.)
2. Resume
3. Writing sample demonstrating talents related to program activities above (may be writing created for popular audience, academic writing, or both)

Accepting applications until filled.