

2019-2020 Academic Year Internship Opportunities

Mentor: Linda Charmaraman, Ph.D.

Internship Topic: Social Media, Civic Engagement, and Health

Internship Description:

Dr. Charmaraman leads several research projects that investigate the risks and benefits of using social media from the early teenage years through adulthood. Her current projects include:

- Data collection on middle school youth social media use and how parents monitor it
- Analyzing data from adults about 2016 and 2018 U.S. elections, including how they impacted racial/ethnic, gender, and political identity
- Disseminating findings to parents, schools, medical professionals, and policymakers

The internship will be a year-long immersion into mixed methods (some quantitative, mostly qualitative) and interdisciplinary (education, human development, psychology, communications, sociology) research that incorporates intern's research interests and goals. The intern will gain a full appreciation of the life of a researcher while working on one or two of Dr. Charmaraman's current projects. The intern will be involved with administering online surveys to middle school classrooms and afterschool programs as well as collecting survey data from parents about social media use. The intern will have the opportunity to co-write an academic article, blog, or brief report, with Dr. Charmaraman based on the project that most interests her.

Intern Responsibilities:

The intern will perform literature searches involving articles or book chapters; assist with data entry, writing literature reviews, and copy editing manuscripts; learn NVivo to analyze qualitative interview data; collect data off-site (transportation provided); co-present work-in-progress at WCW Lunchtime Seminar Series; assist with writing blogs, website content, and/or research briefs about project findings; potentially co-publish findings, if interested and motivated.

Skills Required:

Interest in research or nonprofit work as a future career; Experience and/or enthusiastic willingness to learn how to conduct, analyze, and report social science research; Some coursework in at least one of the following fields is required: psychology, education, sociology, ethnic studies, women's studies, communications, social science methods (quantitative or qualitative). Desire to attend graduate school a plus; Knowledge of library search engines and retrieving journal articles; Ability to respond to work requests by email in a timely manner; Ability to work independently, reliably, and cooperatively as part of a research team; Ability to meet on a regular basis at Cheever House and arrange schedule to meet intern-related deadlines. A typical schedule is to meet for 4 hours twice a week.