Graduate Research Assistant sought for geospatial data analysis for WA Elections Database Project

Quarters: Fall 2022, Winter 2023 and Spring 2023 (i.e. Sep 15, 2022 – June 15, 2023)
Unit: Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology
Application Deadline: Aug 1, 2022, or until the position is filled
Supervisor: Dr. Philip M. Hurvitz (phurvitz@uw.edu)
Project PI: Dr. Jacob M. Grumbach (grumbach@uw.edu) and Dr. Philip M. Hurvitz

We seek a **graduate research assistant** to join our project team on a WA state-funded project to build a database of election results and voter demographics across electoral precincts, districts, and other geographies. The database will be made publicly available and will assist the State of Washington in legislative redistricting and election administration.

The largest responsibility of the RA will involve **analysis of data in R (and/or other languages), including geospatial data.** These coding responsibilities will be beginner to intermediate level, and mentorship will be available, but some experience is required (e.g., programming and geospatial analysis in graduate coursework). A more detailed list of responsibilities includes:

General Research Assistant duties:
- Attending project team meetings
- Managing and responding to project-related email, including from state and local governments
- Working with project partners to obtain the research data
- Checking and cleaning the data
- Linking and mapping demographic data to electoral precinct, district, and other geographic data
- Establishing and maintaining a website for the Elections Database
- Conducting statistical analyses of the data using R

Requirements:
- Experience with R, especially for data management and geospatial analysis
- Interest in election policy and administration
- Ability to work and thrive in a collaborative team environment
- Familiarity with Excel and Word
- Strong communication and writing skills
- Demonstrated ability to work independently as well as collaboratively

Preferred
- Prior knowledge and/or experience in analysis of voting or elections
- Familiarity with Git and Github
- Experience using relational databases (SQL)
- Familiarity with more advanced statistical and geospatial methods
- Familiarity and/or experience in web development

Hours and Salary: This position will be approximately 20 hours per week (50% FTE) with a total of 220 expected in each quarter. Salary is commensurate with academic standing, qualifications, and experience aligned with the ASE Salary Schedule.

There is the potential to use analyses from this work for practicum, thesis or dissertation credits.

To apply: Fill out this application form and upload your C.V.

For more information: e-mail Jake Grumbach (grumbach@uw.edu)