Research Assistant

Department: School of Environmental and Forest Sciences
Quarter Available: Fall 2023 Quarter (09/16/’23 – 12/15/’23)
Application Deadline: Rolling until filled.
Positions Available: Two (2)

Duties and Requirements:
We seek two (2) graduate research assistants to support a systematic literature review of climate change maladaptation scholarship. This research will occur under the direction and supervision of Professors Sameer Shah and Celina Balderas Guzmán. The duties of the research assistants will primarily include closely reading and coding academic peer-reviewed articles. Each student RA will read and analyze multiple articles per week. Successful candidates will have:

- A broad understanding of climate change and adaptation and an interest in equity, justice, and sustainability concerns;
- Familiarity with Qualtrics software (preferred but not required);
- Demonstrated abilities to read and synthesize large volumes of interdisciplinary, academic literature; and
- Demonstrated abilities to work as part of a research team.

Project Background:
Adaptation activities are essential for reducing climate-related risks on people, property, livelihoods, ecosystems, and infrastructure. Yet an increasing body of research finds that climate adaptation is not inherently positive and can, in fact, increase or re-distribute risks within and across societies – a phenomenon known as “maladaptation”. Although studies increasingly document maladaptation, no systematic assessments of the climate maladaptation concept, methods, and empirics has been conducted. A deeper understanding of the key gaps, strengths, and limitations will help identify and advance further research on the most salient and applied questions, including for example, how policymakers, researchers, and communities can develop effective and just adaptation policy, anticipate negative externalities before they occur, and even reverse adaptation activities that adversely affect residents and communities, including marginalized groups.

Pay: Salaried ASE positions are 50% FTE (20 hrs/week) and commensurate with academic standing, per the ASE contract. The RA salaries are based on the University of Washington Salary Schedules (https://grad.uw.edu/graduate-student-funding/funding-information-for-departments/administering-assistantships/ta-ra-salaries/).

How to Apply: Please submit your CV and a cover letter to Professors Sameer H. Shah (shs89@uw.edu) and Celina Balderas Guzmán (celinabg@uw.edu).

Notes: This job classification is governed by a negotiated labor contract and is subject to union shop provisions. For more information about union shop provisions, visit: http://www.washington.edu/admin/hr/jobs/apl/union-info.html

The University of Washington is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact the Disability Services Office at 206.543.6450 / 206.543.6452 (tty) or dso@u.washington.edu.