

Postdoctoral Scholar - Institute of Governmental Studies

A postdoctoral position in the Institute of Governmental Studies, at the University of California, Berkeley, will be available beginning March 15, 2018.

Departmental Overview:

The Institute of Governmental Studies (IGS), established in 1919, is a medium-sized high profile organized research unit reporting to the Vice Chancellor for Research. IGS supports interdisciplinary research, public service and policy, sponsoring and facilitating academic research activities, student fellowships, awards and internship opportunities, and a variety of programmatic interdisciplinary colloquia, seminars, and conferences. It is home to seven research centers or programs, an affiliated library, a publishing unit, and an active development and fundraising program.

Project Background:

To strengthen democracy around the world, organizations and activists constantly make strategic choices about how best to inform, engage, and amplify the voices of ordinary people and mobilize collective action. Research often is not available to serve the needs of these actors. We seek to build a university-based center focused on sharpening organizations' capacity to make these choices by developing a generation of scholars from diverse backgrounds who can do work that simultaneously meets the highest standards of academic rigor and addresses concrete needs of practitioners. To begin developing the vision for this center, we have received an 18 month planning grant to meet with practitioners, co-construct a plan, and begin to develop a program for training graduate students. The postdoctoral researcher will be central to our planning process, and be primarily responsible for managing different parts of the planning grant.

Responsibilities:

The postdoctoral scholar's role will be five main areas:

1. Assisting the co-PIs with the conceptual work necessary to identify best practices for engaging in this type of engaged scholarship, including potentially managing the development of white papers in this area;
2. Helping to develop and manage a network of scholars who can help lead this work in their disciplines;
3. Serving as the main liaison between practitioners and the project, including being in regular communication with them; running webinars focused on the use of research evidence; and assisting in the planning of scheduled convenings;
4. In collaboration with the co-PIs, designing and launching a research institute in summer 2019 to pilot a practitioner/researcher training model;
5. Working with the co-PIs to design and implement "proof of concept" research projects putting the conceptual frameworks into practice in the field.

We seek candidates that have some experience working with community-based organizations and conducting research "on the ground," some background in community organizing, and a strong level of cultural competency for dealing with diverse populations.

Basic Qualifications (by the time of application): The minimum qualification required to be considered an applicant for the position is the completion of all doctoral degree requirements except the dissertation in any related social science field (e.g., political science, sociology, ethnic studies, public policy, etc.)

Additional Qualifications (required by start date):

- A PhD or equivalent foreign degree in a related social science field
- Ability to work both independently and in collaboration.
- Knowledge of at least one statistical analysis package or program (R, SAS, SPSS and/or Stata).

Salary and Benefits: The appointment for this position is 18 months at 100% time. Salary will commensurate with qualifications and experience level based on UC Berkeley salary scales. The University of California offers a comprehensive benefits package for postdoctoral scholars. (<https://vspa.berkeley.edu/postdoc-health-insurance-and-benefits>).

This position is open until filled with an anticipated start date of March 15, 2018. Questions regarding this position can be directed to Ciana Gallardo at cianagallardo@berkeley.edu.

Applications can be submitted at <https://aprecruit.berkeley.edu/apply/JPF01659>.

Complete applications will include a cover letter, CV, a statement of research, and the names and contact information for three references. Letters of reference are not required at this time. We will seek your permission before contacting your references. All letters will be treated as confidential per University of California policy and California state law. Please refer potential referees, including when letters are provided via a third party (i.e., dossier service or career center), to the UC Berkeley statement of confidentiality: <http://apo.berkeley.edu/evalltr.html>

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. For the complete University of California nondiscrimination and affirmative action policy see: <http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4000376/NondiscrimAffirmAct>.