

Faculty Member Contact Information

Name: Seran Dogancay-Aktuna

Department: English Language and Literature

E-mail Address: saktuna@siue.edu

Phone Number: 618-650-2148

Campus Box: 1431




Description of the URCA Assistant Position

This posting includes one funded position. In addition, the faculty member may be willing to mentor additional, unfunded students.

How many unfunded students is this professor taking in addition to his/her one funded student? 1

(Students, if the faculty member will have both funded and unfunded students, he or she is free to select which student receives the funding. Funding cannot be split up between multiple students; only one student will receive it.)

Which of the following apply to this position?

- This position is **only** open to students who have declared a major in this discipline. **M**
- This project deals with social justice issues. 
- This project deals with sustainability (green) issues. 
- This project deals with human health and wellness issues. 

How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position? 8

(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9.)

Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit? Yes No

If yes, in which course? N/A

If yes, for how many credit hours? N/A

Location of research/creative activities: Faculty office and the library

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity:

The student will assist me as I conduct a study to uncover the preconceptions (e.g., naive assumptions) about the nature of language that learners (in this case students of linguistics) bring to the scientific study of language. These preconceptions are found to influence learners' understanding and acceptance of linguistic facts; therefore, it is important to uncover what they are and how they may change as a result of scientific engagement with language.

Brief description of student responsibilities:

My assistant will be responsible for conducting literature reviews, entering survey data, and doing some basic qualitative data analysis under my guidance.

URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

At the end of the semester, my Assistant(s) should have learned how to (1) use various library databases to locate scholarly articles (both theoretical discussions and empirical studies), (2) code qualitative data, and (3) analyze open-ended survey responses to locate patterns.

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours), please indicate all required days and times:

Students can set their own hours.

If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?

N/A

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

No

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

Any student who is curious, energetic, and responsive to guidance is welcome to join me in this project.