

### Faculty Member Contact Information

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### 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?**   0  

(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?**   10  

(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?** POLS 310

**If yes, for how many credit hours?** 3-6

**Location of research/creative activities:** Lovejoy Library, Peck Hall, possibly UMSL archives, students own residence

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

The student will help me research and prepare for a collaborative undertaking with Palestinian Security experts to prepare for the investigation of how external security can be achieved by an independent Palestinian state. The broader project will be executed in the summer of 2012 and 2013. The broader project will involve interviewing key security actors from Israel, the OPT and international community. The results will help us inform policy makers involved in the peace process, while helping us to construct a questionnaire to be distributed to a wider audience of security pundits. We will analyze five critical external security issues across four different dimensions to enhance our understanding of the external security needs of Palestine, Israel, and their immediate neighbors. This study will bring new “eyes” to the age-old concern of security in the region. First, it will incorporate traditional theoretical approaches from international relations to help frame the issue. Secondly, it will incorporate the Palestinian viewpoint regarding the necessary elements for a viable external security arrangement. Third, the preliminary and long term findings of our project will be distributed to interested parties to better inform the negotiation process and policy decisions made by both Israelis and Palestinians. Therefore, the student has a unique opportunity to be involved in a very important undertaking in international security.

### **Brief description of student responsibilities:**

- 1) Conduct extensive research on security concerns and perceptions of the Palestinian Authority and Israeli government.
- 2) Help with the construction of a survey instrument.
- 3) Help with the construction of an interview tool.
- 4) Help professor prepare memos, communiqués, policy briefs and research paper regarding this project.

**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?**

- 1) locate and interpret scholarly materials
- 2) familiarity with the archives of Israel and the Palestinian Authority
- 3) complete and IRB application and understand the important aspects of conducting research with human subjects
- 4) design of survey and interview instruments
- 5) writing policy briefs
- 6) communication and collaboration with international scholars and government officials.

### **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 must be willing to devote 10 hours a week to this project. Hours are flexible but must be executed between the hours of 8am - 4pm, M,T,W,R,F. Students must be a major in Political Science and have some course work in international relations.

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

No offsite work is involved.

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

Student must have some coursework in International Relations and received at least a B in those courses.

**Other requirements or notes to applicants:**

N/A