



GSR Position (50% Spring 2021) at the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative (BIMI)

“The Response of Nonprofit Organizations to the COVID-19 Pandemic”

BIMI is currently looking for a Graduate Student Researcher to work on the “Response of Nonprofit Organizations to the COVID-19 Pandemic” project of the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative (under leadership of PI Prof. Irene Bloemraad) and a team of researchers from Stanford (under leadership of PI Prof. Woody Powell). The position is for 50% with (in-state) fee remission for the Spring 2021 Semester. Ideally, the GSR will already be available to attend project meetings during the Fall 2020 semester (max. 2 hours per week) to get up to speed about the project.

The Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative (BIMI)

BIMI advances research, training, and outreach about immigration to inform and transform what we know about migration in California and the world. BIMI is a collective of faculty, students, and researchers at UC Berkeley across different academic disciplines working on immigration. Find out more information [here](https://bimi.berkeley.edu/) (<https://bimi.berkeley.edu/>).

Project: “The Response of Nonprofit Organizations to the COVID-19 Pandemic”

Nonprofits provide vital services to the communities they serve. Faced with the pandemic, some nonprofits shifted their activities and/or messaging, using digital platforms to communicate health recommendations or, in the case of costume makers at a musical theatre, now fabricating and distributing masks to vulnerable populations. Other nonprofits have hunkered down, seeking to survive and conserve resources and their existing activities. The current moment thus provides an unprecedented opportunity to evaluate (1) how and under what conditions nonprofits are innovators in the activities that they pursue as health, economic, social and political environments change, and (2) whether and how they (re)define the boundaries of community and solidarity in who they serve.

Using digital media, especially organizational websites, this project explores (1) whether organizations have undertaken special COVID-19 efforts, notably a change in activities, and (2) who they view as included in their community or target audience. With COVID, this community could continue to be their longstanding clientele or membership, it could narrow to a vulnerable sub-set of their community (e.g., seniors), or it may expand to a larger sense of community. For the latter, we are particularly interested in outreach to vulnerable groups such as immigrants or non-English speakers. We will develop coding strategies to measure whether nonprofits engage in activity innovation or re-imagined membership and seek to model change/ stasis as a function of demographics, COVID infection rates, political variables, and economic resources.

Applications:

Please apply by submitting a 3-page max. CV and max. 1-page motivation letter (outlining interest and skills) to [the online application portal](#) before **Thursday, November 12 at midnight**. Interviews will be held on November 16-20 over video call and selected applicants will be informed by Sunday, November 22.

Tasks

- Attend meetings with the research team and actively shape data collection & coding strategy.
- Collect and code data about non-profits' scope of services, mode of service provision, and which communities are served by using (historical) website information at two set time points (one pre-pandemic and one during the pandemic).
- Develop materials documenting the data collection, coding and research methodology.
- Conducting exploratory and descriptive statistical analysis of the data and reporting findings to the research team
- Contribute to (and possibly co-author) an academic paper on the findings of the project.

Required experience

- Experience with qualitative & quantitative coding of text (ideally websites, but other text okay)
- Experience working with Excel and/or google sheets
- Basic training in statistical analysis
- Great organizational skills and attention to detail

Preferred experience

- Interest in migration and/or nonprofit organizations
- Training in computational textual data analysis
- Experience writing academic papers
- Ideally available to attend research team meetings already during the Fall semester

If you have any questions about the BIMl Summer Fellowship or one of the specific projects, please reach out to Jasmijn Sloopjes, the Executive Director of the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative (jasmijnsloopjes@berkeley.edu).