Research Assistant

Institute for the Study of Teaching and Learning in the Disciplines and the Department of English

The Simon Fraser University (SFU) Institute for the Study of Teaching and Learning in the Disciplines (ISTLD) invites applications for a Research Assistant appointment for the Teaching and Learning Development Grant project “Mindfulness, Stress Reduction, and Focus” to begin late August, 2017 and end in Jan. or Feb. 2018.

This project will investigate student perceptions of stress and focus in two English courses, one a high-stress quantitative analysis course and the other a low-stress popular elective, in relation to brief instructor-led mindfulness sessions.

Research assistant responsibilities include

- Assisting in literature review;
- Assisting in the design of survey, state-sampling, and reflection instruments;
- Adding survey instruments to Canvas;
- Maintaining a database of student responses: data coding, entry, and analysis for surveys, state-sampling, and reflections;
- Summarizing of reflections and analysis of student responses;
- Assistance compiling final report.

Required qualifications and skills:

- Currently enrolled in a graduate program at SFU, either at the MA or PhD level;
- Experience with basic qualitative and quantitative data analyses, experience summarizing statements and collating data;
- Experience with instrument design (especially surveys and self-reflection tools);
- Ability to undertake literature reviews in disciplines beyond own research area;
- Skilled in use of Microsoft Office suite, especially Excel.

Experience and skills that would be an asset:

- Familiarity with database management (e.g. FileMaker Pro);
- Experience in using Canvas quizzes;
- Experience with Teaching and Learning research.

Rate of pay: $20 - $25/hr (incl. vacation and statutory holiday pay, no medical or dental benefits), based on experience, qualifications, and degree program (MA or PhD). Total appointment hours: 150

To Apply: Applicants should submit: (1) a 1-page cover letter structured to address the qualifications, skills, and role responsibilities as listed above, and (2) a 1-2 page resumé with two references listed.

These two items should be organized as one PDF attachment, addressed to Nicky Didicher, and emailed to didicher@sfu.ca.

Note: Letters of reference will only be requested from short-listed applicants.

Complete applications received by August 9, 2017 are assured of full consideration. I appreciate all replies to this position posting; however, I will only contact short-listed applicants. Thank you.