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Job Description: Peer-tutor, Global 195

Opening for up to four undergraduate tutors (Job title: 2280, Remedial Tutor I) to work with me on a first-year course in Fall 2022. The course is Global 195 - Preparation for the Mathematical Social Sciences (course description on next page). The class will serve approximately 35 students, who will mostly be associated with UCSB's equal opportunity programs (Promise Scholars, Propel Scholars, EOP, etc.) The class aims to build confidence working with logic, the application of the scientific method to social questions, and the basic mathematical tools students will encounter in quantitative social science courses.

Tutors would be engaged for 9-12 hours per week in the following activities:

- (1) Planning/grading meetings (1-3 hours per week).
- (2) Keep up with course readings (1 hour per week).
- (3) Attend class MWF: 9-9:50 (3 hours per week).
- (4) Assist professor with clerical tasks (0-1 hours per week)
- (5) Office hours – help students with logic and math (2-3 hours per week).

Pay would be \$17.78 per hour for activities (1) – (4), \$23.48 for activity (5). All activities will be in person, unless UCSB directs otherwise. Tutors will ideally major in a quantitative social science (Economist, Political Science, quantitative styles of Anthropology or Sociology) or cognate field (Geography, Psych & Brain Sciences, applied Statistics), and will have struggled and succeeded in some of the following courses: Econ 10A, Polisci 15, PStat5A, Math 2A/B, Math 3A/B, Math 34A/B. Interest in teaching basic mathematics and data-driven approaches to social scientific inquiry is essential.

I will interview candidates until the positions are filled. To apply: email mehta@global.ucsb.edu, indicating:

- Your full name, perm #, Class Level (e.g. Junior/Senior)
- Your Major(s)/Minor(s)
- Which of the above listed courses you completed, in which quarter, and your final grade.
- A brief response to the question: “Why do you feel you would be a good tutor for possibly underprepared students aspiring to major in a mathematical social science?”
- A brief description of your experiences learning mathematics and applied social science.
- A brief description of any experience teaching/tutoring mathematics or applied social science.
- Whether you are involved with or benefit from any of UCSB's equal opportunity programs (e.g. PROMISE Scholars, PROPEL, etc.).
- A phone number and times at which you can be reached.
- Where you are located during the summer, and whether you would prefer to meet me in person or over Zoom for an interview/teaching demonstration.

Course Description:

Students tend to be more successful in the mathematical social science majors (mainly economics, political science and quantitative sociology) when they have had prior exposure to the types of reasoning, language and procedures used in these fields. Confidence and comfort with mathematics are important too. This is particularly important for students attempting majors that require high grades in particular introductory courses.¹ If your high school did not provide that prior exposure or confidence with mathematical reasoning, Global 195 aims to assist you to build them in a cooperative, learning- and labor-intensive setting.

Course activities will consist of: (1) Review and drill to ensure comprehension and fluency with the specific mathematical skills you will need to succeed in these majors; (2) Short readings and interactive lectures on core principles of social science reasoning and research;² (3) Reading, (in-class) processing and summarizing of quantitative social science research papers, so that these core principles become intuitive to you; and (4) Getting some experience working with quantitative data to answer particular questions.

To make sure you learn a lot, this course will involve a consistent homework load (7 hours per week, best completed daily). We will have only 35 students in the class, 3-4 undergraduate tutors, and a lot of instructor/tutor face time. Grades will be based on the effort you put in.

¹ For example, bright but less-prepared students often struggle to clear pre-major GPA minimums needed to gain entry to the Economics and Political Science majors at UCSB.

² Be aware that there are many approaches to social science, and we will not cover all of them. We will focus on deductive scientific approaches involving categorization and quantification (stating theories clearly and using data to test the implications of those theories), over historical approaches, discursive approaches (analyzing the language used to communicate ideas), participatory methods, and inductive scientific methods (gathering data and seeing what theories those data suggest).