

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Research Assistant (SoTL Specialist)

HOURS PER WEEK 6-12 SALARY / WAGE \$28.86/hr

JOB DESCRIPTION

The term Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) refers to a multi-disciplinary scholarly process of systematic inquiry into teaching and learning, and parallels other forms of applied education research. SoTL Specialists work closely with faculty members from all disciplines on teaching and learning evaluation projects. These projects are managed and supported by the Institute of Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISoTL) as part of the SoTL Seed program, and focus on evaluating innovative pedagogies and learning technologies. Example projects can be found here:

<http://isotl.ctlt.ubc.ca/sotl-seed-fund/>

This position is ideally suited for those who are interested in: education and training, developing skills in analysing/interpreting educational evidence and data, and collaboration

Successful candidates will join an existing, vibrant group of SoTL Specialists. Profiles of current Specialists can be found here:

<http://isotl.ctlt.ubc.ca/about/people/>

Each Specialist is assigned a primary role on two or more projects. Within projects, SoTL Specialists support all elements of the research process. These commonly include consulting and collaborating with faculty on:

- designing evaluation and/or research plans
- preparation of ethics proposals
- qualitative data collection (e.g., interviews, focus groups)
- quantitative data collection (e.g., surveys, experiments)
- quantitative and/or qualitative data analysis
- research communication and reporting (e.g., presentations and publications).
- integrating research evidence into educational change and/or improvement

As Specialists have often have primary responsibility for various research components of each project, the position requires a high degree of ability to work independently as well as superb team-work skills.

A typical project takes 1-2 years. In a typical collaboration, specialists are intended to contribute expertise in SoTL designs, data collection, and analysis (often using social science and/or behavioural research methods) to complement faculty expertise in their own discipline and disciplinary teaching practices.

Training and support are provided by Ido Roll, Senior Manager for Research and Evaluation, and by Gregory Hum, ISoTL Research Coordinator. These include an upfront training, just-in-time support. Support also comes informally through participation in the SoTL Seed Specialist group as a whole through regular meetings and collaboration on projects.

QUALIFICATIONS

Ideal candidates are graduate students who have knowledge of qualitative and/or quantitative methodologies. These may include the social sciences, statistics, information sciences, sociology,

and/or education (and can include many other disciplines). Students would also have familiarity with the research process (e.g., ethics, data storage etc.). Experience in conducting research with human subjects is an asset.

While training in particular methodologies will be provided, candidates should have some foundational knowledge in qualitative and/or quantitative research design and methodology either through prior involvement in research projects, or upper level research methodology coursework.

We place a great value on the following attributes:

- A keen interest in teaching and learning, and their research
- A mature ability to consult for, and work collegially with faculty members
- Strong teamwork and collaboration skills
- Strong attention to details
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- An ability to meet and coordinate deadlines (while overall time commitments are flexible, some aspects of projects such as midterm data collection may be highly time sensitive)
- Significant time remaining at UBC as a student (2–3 years)

Deadline for application is August 15th. Applicants who meet the qualifications will hear back from us by August 20th and will be invited for an interview.

WEBSITE

<http://isotl.ctl.ubc.ca/>

PREFERRED DEGREES/DISCIPLINES

Behavioral sciences

Education

Data and information sciences

Social sciences

EXPERIENCE LEVEL

Current Students in a UBC Graduate Program

CONTACT INFORMATION

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HOW TO APPLY

Please submit in a single e-mail with the subject heading: "SoTL Specialist application - NAME" (where NAME is *your* first and last name) and attach your CV, a brief cover letter (MAXIMUM 1,000 words), the name of three references, and an unofficial transcript (optional).

The cover letter should address the following three points:

- (1) Why you are interested in the position and what you hope to learn and/or gain
- (2) How you meet the qualifications specified above
- (3) Your current student status at UBC (i.e., what you are studying, estimated time to completion of your degree)

