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Job type: Graduate School job opportunity

Employment type: Part-Time

Duration: Temporary/Seasonal

Job location: New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute
3170 South Espina Street
Las Cruces, New Mexico, United States

Submission requirements: Resume, Cover Letter, and Transcript (see *Submissions* section for more information)

US work authorization is required, but NM WRRI is accepting OPT/CPT candidates.

Job Overview and Salary:

A graduate research assistantship is available starting in the Fall 2023 (earlier, summer start date negotiable) semester covering tuition at New Mexico State University. The position is an exciting opportunity to approach issues of water scarcity and agricultural production from a social science perspective, while working as part of a multi-disciplinary, collaborative stakeholder and scientific group that is examining potential strategies to conserve both water resources and the agricultural economy in southern New Mexico.

Job salary will be \$26,252/year.

Job Duties:

The graduate assistant will work closely with Dr. Holly Brause and other members of the social science team to collect, analyze and synthesize 50 ethnographic interviews with agricultural stakeholders in southern New Mexico. The student will work to recruit interviewees, obtain informed consent, carry out in-person interviews, manage confidential data, and analyze the interviews with a process of qualitative analytic coding using NVivo software. The student will also help to guide the modeling team to understand the findings of the interviews so that they may be incorporated into the project model. They may also be invited to participate in meetings between the team of collaborating stakeholders and the research team.

Responsibilities and Requirements:

The graduate assistant will take required training in human subjects research and be added to the research teams IRB. The student must be able to drive to local farms to meet with stakeholders (use of NM WRRI-owned vehicle is preferred). Opportunities exist to synthesize the research and additionally work on community-based planning projects to inform future land and water management. The student will work closely with team leaders, including Dr. Holly Brause and Dr. Sam Fernald.

Successful candidates will have a strong academic record in anthropology or sociology, with some experience in hydrology, ecology, biology, environmental science, or related field is preferred. Student should have the ability to effectively collaborate and work independently. Preference will be given to applicants who have experience with interview data collection, an interest in addressing stakeholder issues, previous field research experience, and an enthusiasm for working with people. Requirements also include a valid driver's license or the ability to obtain a license within six months of hire, the ability to lift 40 lbs and carry heavy equipment.

Submissions:

Submit the application directly to the [handshake system](#). If the candidate is not an NMSU student, they must also fill out an application for admission to the NMSU Water Science and Management Graduate Program via the NMSU Graduate School website: <https://apply.nmsu.edu/apply/?id=1c3c41ea-b5f9-48ef-83c3-b085794ba277>. While completing the NMSU Graduate School application packet, there is a section that asks, "How do you plan on funding your graduate studies?". In this section, please list the specific graduate assistantship that you are applying for.

More information about NM WRRI can be found at <https://nmwrri.nmsu.edu/>, and the NMSU Water Science and Management Graduate Degree Program at <https://wsm.nmsu.edu/>. Dr. Sam Fernald can be contacted directly at afernald@nmsu.edu about the Water Science and Management Graduate Program.

When applying for the position, please include in your cover letter: 1) your general research and career goals and 2) if you are interested in obtaining a MS or PhD. Note that interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis until position is filled.