

SOC GEN RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

WINTER 2018

<http://socgen.ucla.edu/academics/undergraduate-research/>

<p>How to apply:</p>	<p>See projects below. Email your resume and a very brief project-specific statement of interest to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cyndi Tando, Student Affairs Officer UCLA Institute for Society and Genetics ctando@socgen.ucla.edu 3360C Life Sciences Building 310-206-1890</p> <p>If applying to more than one project, send a statement of interest for each. In the end, you can enroll in only one project in quarter.</p> <p>Applicants will receive an email confirmation of receipt of application. Applications will be forwarded to the relevant project leader(s) for their consideration, along with a copy of your transcript (which Cyndi will supply). Project leaders decide whom to interview and hire. Once you decide to enroll, course contract must be submitted to Cyndi by Friday of WEEK 2.</p>
<p>When to apply:</p>	<p>Apply as soon as the undergraduate research position is posted</p>
<p>Who can apply:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either a Junior standing (90-134.9 cumulative units) with at least a 3.0 GPA in major • Or Senior standing (135.0 or more cumulative units)
<p>Contract Course types:</p>	<p>SOCIETY AND GENETICS 196. 2 units; choose <u>letter grade</u> option, if you want Human Biology and Society major program credit. May be repeated once for credit. <u>No written work or final exam required.</u></p> <p>SOCIETY AND GENETICS 199. 2 to 4 units (2 unit contract is appropriate for 6 -10 hours/week project; 4 unit contract is appropriate for 12+ hours/week.) Choose <u>letter grade</u> option, if you want Human Biology and Society major program credit. <u>Student must write a research paper on topic related to research under guidance of project leader and submit completed paper to project leader AND Cyndi by end of Week 10.</u> May be repeated for credit.</p> <p>Also note the academic regulations for Independent Study Units here: http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/counseling/independent-study.html</p>

PROJECT TITLE:
**PERSONALIZED MEDICINE AND GENOMICS: NEW
PERSONS, DIAGNOSIS, AND INSTITUTIONS**

Course Contract available:	SOCIETY AND GENETICS 196
Quarter(s) help is needed:	Winter, 2018
Hours/week:	6 hours/week
Work in Laboratory?	No
Project Supervisor(s):	Damien Cartron
Project Description:	<p>“Personalized medicine” is a catchword. It designates the high medical expectations triggered by genomics, but it remains very vague. The project aims at giving this a more precise meaning.</p> <p>For this, we will be studying sociologically the “Undiagnosed Disease Network” (UDN.) A network that consists of seven research universities (among them UCLA,) two sequencing cores, and many more entities. It uses cutting edge methods of genomic sequencing, and aims at providing a diagnosis to patients who have been through a diagnosis odyssey that might have lasted several years, but remain not diagnosed. We want to understand how this network will give a shape to personalized medicine, in transforming the concept of the “person” that is sick, in changing the process of diagnosis, and in creating a new institutional setting coherent with this new kind of medicine.</p>
Job description:	The job will consist of treating qualitative interviews with people from the UDN. Students will transcribe interviews that have already been performed, discussing a coding system with the supervisor, and code the interviews. They will learn the basic skills in interviewing techniques and handling.
Job qualifications:	None, an interest in social science methods is necessary

PROJECT TITLE:
MAPPING THE MARKET FOR ‘RECREATIONAL/DIRECT TO CONSUMER’ GENETIC TESTING

Course Contract available:	SOCIETY AND GENETICS 196
Quarter(s) help is needed:	Winter 2018
Hours/week:	10 hours/week
Work in Laboratory?	No
Project Supervisor(s):	Dr. Vanessa Nurock
Project Description:	Have you ever thought about taking a genetic test ‘for fun’? The first step of this project aims at providing a critical review of the market of ‘recreational genetic’ testing (also coined ‘direct to consumer ‘or DTC testing) – genetic testing that is not administered by health professionals for medical reasons or professional health research. In a second step, we would like to understand the link between these companies and the apps market. We will also draw a comparison between US headquartered companies and non US headquartered companies. In a last step, we would like analyze ethical and legal issues raised by this market.
Job description:	This job deals with the second step and third of the project: it aims at understanding the link between the DTC companies market and the apps, in the US and in the other countries. We will also look for legal and ethical texts. The job is threefold: (i) Consolidate the mapping of the DTC companies market and the DTC apps market in the US. (ii) Map the non US companies (and apps) (iii) Spot the legal issues and the ethical debates
Job qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good knowledge of search engines -- internet, scientific research, and library - Knowledge of one of several foreign languages (especially Chinese) could help but is not a requirement. - Interest in the relationships between genetics, new medias, law and ethics

PROJECT TITLE: CHEMICAL ENTANGLEMENTS

Course Contract available:	Society and Genetics 99, 196, or 199
Quarter(s) help is needed:	Winter 2018, possibility of continuing in Spring 2018
Hours/week:	6
Work in Laboratory?	No
Project Supervisor(s):	Rachel Lee, Gracen Brilmyer
Project Description:	<p>Exposure to environmental toxicants and endocrine-disrupting chemicals have been proven to have negative impacts on human reproductive health. Because products containing such substances (cleaning products, cosmetics, etc.), are overwhelmingly marketed to women, and because environmental pollution is often concentrated near the places where people of lower economic status or people of color live; gender, race, and class can determine level of exposure and health outcomes. CSW's Chemical Entanglements initiative is a response to this dynamic. The goal of this research project is to illuminate the way in which women have been enrolled, both as scientists and nonscientists, in chemical experiments since WWII, and to increase the chemical literacy of scholars in gender/sexuality studies. We will also reveal the gendered patterns of exposure that lead to illnesses such as Toxicant-Induced Loss of Tolerance (TILT) and Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS).</p>
Job description:	<p>Undergraduate researchers will help compile detailed historical timelines using primary and secondary sources on a number of topics. Students will spend the majority of the quarter compiling resources to complete a robust timeline and will also conduct 1-2 interviews to complete a 1,000 word blog post for the CSW website on a selected topic. The goal of the timeline is to create a detailed historical view of the history of a specific genre of personal care and cleaning products, while the interview/blog post will serve as a narrative means of recounting this story. Students are expected to meet weekly with a CSW advisor, and will compile an annotated bibliography. Strong independent research skills are a requirement. Students can choose to research the history of one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iv) Particular laundry detergents (v) Air fresheners in cars (vi) Cleaning products (like bleach, Fabuloso, etc.) (vii) Synthetic food-like scents in personal care products

Job qualifications:	<p>Strong independent research skills, experience conducting research using library and digital resources, ability to synthesize and present information, exceptional writing and communication skills.</p> <p>To apply, please visit https://uclacsw.submittable.com/submit/102584/application-winter-2018-chemical-entanglements-undergraduate-research-group</p>
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NOTE: Do not send Cyndi your statement of interest and resume/CV for this one – please fill out application through the website

No longer accepting applications

PROJECT TITLE:
ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Course Contract available:	SOCIETY AND GENETICS 196
Quarter(s) help is needed:	Winter, Spring
Hours/week:	10 hours/week
Work in Laboratory?	Work would be at Center for Social Medicine (Semel Institute) or at LA County Department of Mental Health
Project Supervisor(s):	Marcia Meldrum/Ronald Calderon
Project Description:	Evaluation study of innovative Los Angeles County program to outreach to individuals with untreated mental illness and engage them in treatment
Job description:	Assist with data compilation, entry, and checking
Job qualifications:	Attention to detail; interest in mental health; computer literate; knowledge of Excel especially helpful