

New Graduate Assistant position in Health Geography and GIS

Associate Professor, Debs Ghosh, from the Geography Department of University of Connecticut (UConn) is looking for *either* an incoming **MA student** or a **1st-year PhD student** to work on a funded project starting from **Spring 2019**.

The project will study the disproportionate effects of housing foreclosures on community health including addiction, mental health, food insecurity, and obesity. The final goal is to design interventions to combat housing insecurity, neighborhood destabilization, and other unmet legal needs related to community health. The project team includes an interdisciplinary group of researchers from UConn, Quinnipiac University, Connecticut Fair Housing Center, and Connecticut Judicial Branch. The project is funded by the Connecticut Bar Foundation.

Position Funding Details

The position is for a **full-time graduate assistant** including the summer months. Although the funding is for two years, funding will be renewed based on the student's performance after each semester.

Position Requirements

We are looking for a student who is interested in spatial analysis of social geography topics such as urban health, accessibility, crime, housing instability, and racial segregation.

Required skills

- Experience with cleaning and processing messy data in Excel
- Experience with managing large number of Excel files
- Cleaning and preparing address data for geocoding in GIS from different sources such as internet, social media, or excel files
- Experience with geocoding large datasets in GIS
- Sound cartographic technique for visualizing and thematic mapping of vector data
- Finding, downloading, and handling data from the US Census and American Community Survey websites
- Preparing data for SPSS

Optional skills

- Experience with the functions in the Spatial, Spatial Statistics, and Network Analyst extensions in ArcGIS
- Experience with Business Analyst in ArcGIS
- Fundamentals of using R-statistical software

It is expected that the student will learn these optional skills as soon as possible and dig in to the data and take the lead on formulating questions and identify opportunities to develop and apply new methods for data analysis and visualization.

How to Apply

Follow the procedures on how to apply from the UConn Graduate School's website.

(<https://grad.uconn.edu/admissions/apply-to-uconn/>). In addition please send a cover letter that specifically mentions why you are interested in this position, a description of your experiences with the skills required for this project, and a CV (all PDF) to Debs Ghosh at debarchana.ghosh@uconn.edu.