Seeking Grad Student Instructor for CPL Summer Institute

The California Policy Lab (CPL) seeks a graduate student instructor for our annual Summer Institute, in which we host a cohort of talented undergraduates to do data-driven projects using administrative data.

The Organization
The California Policy Lab creates data-driven insights for the public good. Our mission is to improve the lives of Californians by generating evidence that transforms public policy. We do this by forming lasting partnerships between government and California’s flagship public universities to harness the power of research and administrative data. We work on California’s most urgent issues, including homelessness, poverty, criminal justice reform, and education inequality.

The Position
The Summer Institute hosts 5-10 talented UC undergraduates to work on data-focused policy research projects. Applicants are well-equipped in coding and data analysis and have a background in data science, economics, statistics, or public policy.

We seek a Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) who would guide the students’ projects for the duration of the summer. The GSI would convene a weekly meeting with the students which would cover how to execute a quantitative research project from start to finish. The GSI would also meet with each student weekly to help them with coding or other research-related issues.

In addition, the GSI would get the opportunity to conduct projects in collaboration with the students and other CPL staff and faculty. This includes potential access to valuable administrative datasets that could be used for publication.

Past Summer Institute projects studied...
- The effect of minimum wage increases on financial well-being
- Student debt burdens in California
- Post-wildfire displacement
- Justice-involvement among the homelessness population

Qualifications
- CPL is committed to maintaining a diverse, multicultural working environment and we especially encourage applications from marginalized communities.
- The GSI should have advanced quantitative and data skills and a grasp of econometrics and causal methods. Students will be potentially working in STATA, SAS, R, Python, or SQL. The GSI should know at least some of these languages.
- We prefer someone who has experience teaching students about quantitative methods, data science, coding, or similar.
Length and Compensation
The position is **50% time for 12 weeks**. We are open to a 100% appointment if the applicant wishes to work more as a researcher on CPL projects. The GSI will start on June 1 and the Institute will run from June 14 to August 20. Given uncertainty around the pandemic, the Institute will take place remotely.

How to Apply
Applicants should submit a CV, transcript (unofficial ok), and short (< ½ page) cover letter to evanbwhite@berkeley.edu. The application deadline is March 19th at 12pm Pacific.