



OSEA Ethnography Field School Assistant Open Position 2016

Ethnography Field School Assistant is a paid position that combines Teaching, Research and Administration. This position relies a diverse set of skills and work experiences, ranging from fieldwork methodologies, teaching experience, expertise in relevant research areas, Spanish proficiency to software programs

Level of Remuneration

Remuneration is based on qualifications of candidate and commitment to engage the OSEA mission and vision of ethnography field school. Remuneration is provided in stipend, on-site expenses during program, and a reimbursement of airfare.

Ideal Candidate:

Candidates can be from cultural Anthropology or related fields, e.g., Culture and Communications, Performance/Theatre Studies, cultural studies, or interdisciplinary social science; candidate should have a research focus on Latin America be conversant with ethnographic approaches. We seek candidates who are theoretically innovative and analytically creative in thinking about and addressing contemporary cultural issues with current anthropological debates. OSEA seeks candidates for the Field School Assistant who may have a long term commitment to contribute to field school training, field study abroad, or international/overseas studies within their professional agenda or personal histories. We are particularly interested in candidates who can bring energy, vision, and practical experience necessary for OSEA to continue to grow and meet future challenges as an independent field study program.

Job Description and Work Activities:

The primary job of the OSEA Field School Assistant is to create solutions. There are three areas of work: Administration, Teaching and Research.

Period of Employment:

- Full time on-site starting a few days before & after program, June 18 to August 4, 2016
- Part-time, estimated 1-6 hours a week from date of hire in December/Early January through spring to assist in the enrollment process of applicants and program preparation

Commitment:

OSEA is committed to theoretical and methodological pluralism. OSEA recognizes that there are a multitude of valid and legitimate styles and traditions of and philosophical-theoretical approaches to ethnography. It is important for candidates to learn the OSEA approach to ethnography which is grounded in the interpretivist philosophical tradition and builds directly on symbolic interactionism, ethnomethodology, and phenomenological oriented fieldwork. The ideal candidate however should be able to converse with and assist any student who may seek to work within a positivist, quantitative and scientific tradition. Understanding, knowledge of, and commitment to both "pure" and "applied" social science research agendas is highly valued. Candidates must demonstrate a commitment to learn Yucatec Maya at a basic level of communication.

Application:

Submit a letter of interest explaining qualifications, objectives, and desired professional outcomes, vita, and two letters of recommendation to Quetzil Castaneda, quetzil@osea-cite.org. Applicants are also encouraged to submit additional pertinent materials for consideration. A video conference interview or live interview at the AAA Meetings in Denver is arranged with each candidate. A determination will be made by the end of November.

Qualifications:

Required Academic Background and Training:

Ideal candidates have an interdisciplinary formation based in cultural anthropology or a closely related field of such as culture and communication, cultural studies, cultural sociology, or performance studies. The OSEA approach is grounded in the humanist philosophical tradition and builds on theoretical perspectives such as interpretivism, feminism, poststructuralism, Marxism, critical theory, phenomenology, postcolonial theory, and related constructivist approaches. Regardless of disciplinary background/training, the ideal candidate will be grounded in ethnography and ethnographic fieldwork as their primary mode of research. Understanding, knowledge of, and commitment to "pure" and "applied" social science research agendas is highly valued.

Experience:

Candidates should have teaching experience, such as provided by a TA/Al position. Prior fieldwork in Latin America or Mexico is not required, but minimally candidates should have had graduate level coursework in ethnographic methods. Experience in office, administrative or related work is highly valued. Candidates with significant skills, knowledge and/or experience using audio-visual, digital photographic, audio, and internet technologies should highlight these aspects and any relevant achievements.

Skills:

Fluency in speaking, reading and writing Spanish. The candidate should have experience in office or administrative work that has provided them with a variety of skills, such as multi-tasking, punctual completion of assignments, writing/proofreading texts, manage email correspondence including archiving, being able to create and maintain a budget, organize files, develop file system, manage receipts, make professional quality scans of documents, competency to troubleshoot computer and printer problems, and a developed knowledge of digital technologies for video and audio documentation. Candidate should be able to demonstrate ability to use or motivation to learn and use at high level: Excel, Acrobat Professional, Word, Dreamweaver, SIL Fieldworks, ACDSee Photomanager, and Adobe or Pinnacle video editing programs. In addition, the candidate must be comfortable with both MACs and PCs in order to effectively work across MAC and Windows OS. Candidates must be able to or have the capacity to learn how to teach field school participants how to convert data files between MAC and PC in situations where standard programs are not available in one or another platform.

Required Research Areas and Interests / Knowledge Expertise:

OSEA is committed to a concept of interdisciplinary anthropology that positively values the full range of issues, approaches, and agendas of and for research. Areas of research interest and intellectual work that are highly valued include but are not limited to: tourism, medical anthropology, indigeneity and identity politics, anthropological linguistics, sex/gender analyses, ethnicity and critical race theory, governance/governmentality, political analyses, state/community interface, NGOs, visual ethnography, folklore and popular discourses, youth cultures, traditional culture, religion, ritual, anthropology of art, history oriented and grounded research of all types and shapes. The unique areas of expertise that each individual assistant brings to OSEA can contribute to OSEA training and enrich student learning and experience.

Learn about OSEA:

Interested persons can learn about OSEA, its history, programs and mission from the OSEA website. In addition, OSEA maintains active presence on Facebook with pages in English and Spanish and on YouTube.

<https://www.facebook.com/OSEA-Open-School-of-Ethnography-and-Anthropology-179705342064451/>

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