

Postdoctoral Fellows in the Social Sciences

The Harvard Department of Sociology and the Boston Area Research Initiative (BARI) seek applications to fill up to two Postdoctoral Fellow positions in the social sciences, with a focus on urban inequality, the life course and social change, and new data sources on cities. Salary and research funds will be provided, along with the opportunity to draw on the resources of a coordinated set of research initiatives directed by Professor Robert J. Sampson.

Major funding is provided by the National Science Foundation and positions are available starting in the summer of 2017 for one year, with the possibility of renewal for another year. Candidates are expected to have a Ph.D. If hired prior to the completion of the degree, candidates will be hired as a Fellow.

We seek self-driven, creative thinkers with strong quantitative and interpersonal skills. For one position, the successful candidate will participate in the Boston Area Research Initiative's efforts to translate modern digital data (e.g., administrative records, social media posts, sensor readings) into products that advance urban scholarship, theory, and social policy. Areas of activity will include, but will not be limited to: designing, executing, and managing the retrieval, documentation, and analysis of digital data from various sources, to be stored and published through BARI's Boston Data Portal; proposing, pursuing, and disseminating results from original research projects utilizing those and complementary data; coordinating with research partners, including universities, public agencies, and private corporations; helping to manage and mentor students working with BARI, collaborating on papers and grants, and taking part in the intellectual community of scholars through workshops and conferences. Specific areas of research interest are flexible provided they focus on some aspect of urban science and policy.

The second position will involve research on individual, community, and macrosocial change based on long-term projects in Boston, Chicago, and Los Angeles. Intellectual synergy with BARI will be high, including the potential follow-up of the offspring of participants from a classic Boston longitudinal study. Current research efforts focus on environmental inequality, crime and criminal justice across the life course, neighborhood stratification and social organization, intergenerational mechanisms, and connecting individual with social change. Strong statistical skills involving longitudinal data are desired along with someone who is potentially interested in taking part in the design of new data collection.

Overall, it is expected that both postdocs will engage in high-level research and be involved in the analysis and publication on projects currently underway or planned at Harvard. He or she would also be encouraged to maintain an independent set of research interests. The roles will be supported by a deep array of resources at Harvard University and no teaching is required.

Qualified applicants must have a PhD degree in geography, urban studies, sociology, criminology, planning, public policy, environmental psychology, statistics, or a related field; others will be considered based on individual fit with the research mission. Experience or comfort with interdisciplinary scholarship strongly recommended. Must possess strong communication, interpersonal, and analytical skills. Relevant modeling experiences will depend

on the position (e.g., GIS, growth curve modeling, latent class analysis, systems dynamics, network analysis, agent based modeling) and should be demonstrated by prior coursework, dissertation, or publication record. Programming experience in R or Stata preferred.

Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience and is benefits-eligible. Applicants should submit a dossier including: (1) a complete *vita*, (2) a cover letter of interest that highlights relevant research experience and statistical skills, and (3) names and contact information of up to three persons who can serve as references. All materials should be submitted on line to <https://academicpositions.harvard.edu/postings/7350>.

Materials submitted by regular mail or email will not be accepted. Review of applications will begin February 1, 2017, and continue until the position is filled. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

December 13, 2016