

Berkeley Public Policy

The Goldman School

Democracy Policy Lab Graduate Student Researcher 2024-2025

The Democracy Policy Lab, part of the new [Democracy Policy Initiative](#) at the Goldman School of Public Policy, is recruiting for several Graduate Student Researchers to join our team for the 2024-2025 academic year. The students in this position primarily will provide research assistance for a new public opinion study on the political psychology of American democracy that will launch in August 2024, in addition to a number of other research efforts for the Lab as described below.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Apply by July 19th for best consideration.

Job Description

Graduate Student Researchers will provide research assistance to the Democracy Policy Lab research team. Specific contributions will include:

- Help to launch and support the work of a new, three-wave public opinion study on the Political Psychology of American democracy, institutional trust, political attitudes, and the psychological boundaries of “We the People.” The new study, led by Dean [David Wilson](#) (PI), will consist of a three-wave survey conducted over the next several months with additional research, analysis, and writing through the academic year, ending in June, 2025. GSRs will attend regular meetings, and help to develop survey items, design questionnaires, data cleaning and analysis, and write up key findings for short-term issue briefs, digital, and print content, as well as contribute to longer term research reports and presentations.
- Help to collect, assemble, and analyze data for several ongoing research efforts involving state and county-level measures of democracy, electoral policy, legislative redistricting, civil rights and liberties, and related issues.
- Help to write and submit grant proposals for projects and offerings based in the Lab.

Responsibilities

- Collect, assemble, clean, and code quantitative data
- Analyze quantitative data and produce charts, tables, graphs, and maps
- Organize and maintain databases
- Conduct literature reviews
- Write up findings and present research results
- Meet with the research team on a regular basis
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications

- PhD students in public policy, psychology, sociology, political science, economics, business, or related social research or analytic fields, or Master’s students with proven analytical ability
- Strong independent statistical programming and analysis skills:
 - Proficiency in one or more statistical packages: IBM SPSS, STATA, JMP, R, etc.
 - Must be comfortable with Excel (e.g., building tables, charts/graphs, data visualizations)

- Experience working with survey data, codebooks, and software applications for surveys (e.g., experience in Qualtrics, IRB applications, etc.)
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Must be organized and attentive to detail
- Strong interest in publishing research in academic or popular outlets

The Democracy Lab

The Democracy Policy Lab (DPL) engages in rigorous studies in a new field of policy research: democracy policy. The DPL's research investigates how public leaders, organizations, policies, and institutions contribute to democratic advancement and address emerging threats. The DPL seeks to understand and provide solutions that establish justice and protect and expand majority rule, political equality, the rule of law, social solidarity and trust, and other key components of governance by, for, and of the people.

Salary

The appointment level and salary for this position is based upon experience and qualifications. GSR appointments >25% will include partial or full fee remission, depending on appointment percentage.

Application Materials

- Updated C.V. (Required)
- Statement of Interest that addresses the stated qualifications (Required)
- Writing sample (Preferred but not required)

How to Apply

- Send an email with all materials to swanbeck@berkeley.edu
- Please include "DPL GSR" in the subject line