Position: Full-Time Research Assistant

Description of Job Responsibilities:

Economics professors Dan Benjamin (University of California, Los Angeles), Miles Kimball (University of Colorado Boulder), Ori Heffetz (Cornell University and Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Kristen Cooper (Gordon College) and their co-authors employ a full-time research assistant at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) with a start date during the summer of 2021. This position is ideal for individuals interested in behavioral economics research and likely to pursue a PhD in economics. Current research focuses on conducting surveys to shed light on what respondents mean when they answer questions about their own happiness, and on developing methods to use such survey responses to measure personal and national well-being. Research assistants might also help with other projects in behavioral economics (e.g., developing theory and running experiments to understand people's biased beliefs about random processes). For examples of past research, see http://www.danieljbenjamin.com/. Research assistants are directly involved in the entire research process, including:
• Data analysis (R or Stata knowledge required, Python knowledge a plus)
• Econometric modeling and analysis
• Grant writing
• Experiment design and execution (including tasks such as assisting with formulating hypotheses to be tested; writing procedure documents for experiments; coordinating the location of and staff for experiments; managing participants' payments, etc.)
• Survey design and execution (including writing survey questions, testing website designs, liaising with market research firms, etc.)
• Background research and literature reviews for experiment/survey design and paper writing
• Data compiling and presentation (including designing figures for papers, paper editing, and the potential for small writing assignments, such as blog posts or data reports)
• Various administrative tasks central to the research process (including IRB applications, coordination of team activities, creation of efficient systems of management, etc.)

Required background:
• Knowledge of R or Stata
• Strong organizational and self-disciplinary skills
• A background in economics (undergraduate degree or at least 3 years of relevant experience)
• Strong econometrics, math, and statistics skills
• Leadership skills
• An interest in behavioral economics specifically
• Strong writing skills

Optional background:
• Knowledge of Python and Latex
• Knowledge of various statistical analyses such as OLS, MLE, and PCA

Salary: $56,500 (plus benefits)

To apply please submit the following documents, as a single pdf document, to benjaminrecruit@gmail.com:
(1) A cover letter describing your interest in and qualifications for the position (reference RFP:012)
(2) your resume
(3) an unofficial transcript, and
(4) a paper you've written for a course, a research paper, or other writing sample.

For our records, please also let us know where you found the job posting.

The position will remain open until it is filled.