

Undergraduate Research Assistantships



Research assistants: Joss, Arundhati, Maria

Islamophobia Discourse in the British, American and Australian media

Faculty: David Smith, US Centre
Research Assistant: Arundhati Suma-Ajith, International History

The Rise and Fall of US Drug War Hegemony: Rethinking Bilateral Perspectives

Faculty: John Collins, International Drug Policy Unit (IDPU)
Research Assistant: Maria Cerdio, Anthropology

Eugenia Charles and US-Dominican Relations, 1980-1995

Faculty: Imaobong Umoren, International History
Research Assistant: Christina Ivey, Government

The Decline and Fall of the Gold Standard

Faculty: James Morrison, International History
Research Assistant: Maitrai Lapalika, International Relations

Jimmy Carter and Global Human Rights

Faculty: Roham Alvandi, International History
Research Assistant: Joss Harrison, International Relations



Research assistant Christina and LSE's Director Minouche Shafik

Shaping futures

Along with helping to shape the students' time at LSE, assistantships had a positive impact far beyond that.

One student planned to continue the research collaboration with her faculty adviser and to produce a paper for an academic journal. She described the whole experience as an invaluable opportunity for her as she would like to pursue a career in research. Another student felt that the assistantship was instrumental for his acceptance to the LSE-Berkeley exchange programme for the 2019-2020 academic year.

"My gratitude for this opportunity cannot be overstated. Working for the US Centre has been everything I wished it to be and more"-Christina

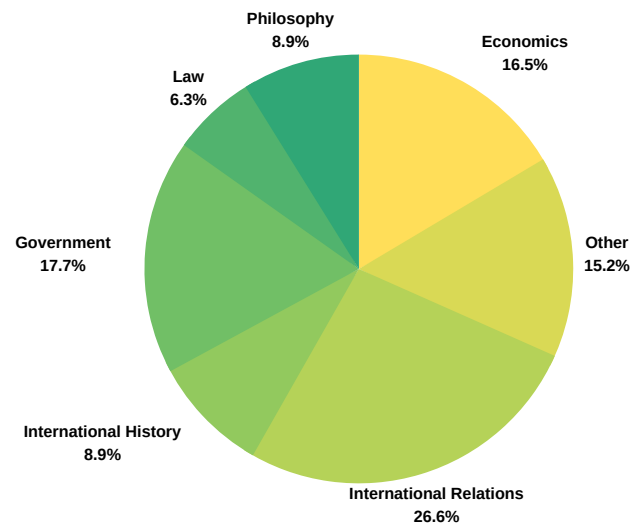
Part of LSE

The assistantships were integral in making students feel part of the wider LSE Community.

Students were encouraged to submit their projects to the LSE Festival research competition. One of the students who took part in the competition not only found it one of the most rewarding aspects of the whole assistantship but also won the Jury Prize for the short film she wrote and produced, which included a cash prize.

"Working with the US Centre and my faculty adviser was a genuine privilege; I found both to be supportive, encouraging and accommodating. The project has been one of the highlights of my LSE experience so far, and it has already opened doors for me" - Joss

Student applications by department



Another year of success

The undergraduate research assistantships were incredibly popular this year as the US Centre received over 80 applications for the five research assistant positions. Applicants were from a variety of LSE departments as represented in the chart above. The programme was also featured in the newest edition of the *LSE Impact* magazine as well as included as best practice in the "Education Portal: Case Studies on Education at LSE"

The US Centre is very excited and grateful for the opportunity to run the programme again for a third cohort of students in the 2019-20 academic year. One of the donors for the programme, Mr Guetter, outlined his motivation for donating:

"My gift is supporting the provision of internships for undergraduate students, enabling them to work with faculty on professional research programmes that emanate from the Centre. I thought it was a very good idea as it provides a different academic challenge that would not otherwise be undertaken in undergraduate study."