BACKGROUND

The Richard Charles Lee Asian Pathways Research Lab (RCL-APRL) is an initiative of the Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto. The Lab’s mission is to produce innovative theoretical and methodological frameworks to understand human migrations and mobilities with a focus on Asian life-histories and experiences. The RCL-APRL cultivates engaged qualitative research, student training, and public dialogues on migrations between Asia and Canada in the context of cross-cutting global themes. These themes include: Asian modernities, broadly conceived within East Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia; capitalisms; diaspora and transnationalism; securitization and surveillance; urban life in global contexts; climate/environment and migration trajectories, and flows of information and disinformation. The RCL-APRL offers essential training for undergraduate students to use qualitative methods to study the process of migration from, within, and between Asia and Canada, with a particular focus on life-histories of Asian Canadians in the Greater Toronto Area. For this internship, PCJ students will receive one-on-one mentorship from the Asian Institute’s RCL postdoctoral fellow and will develop their research and writing skills on Asia-related topics connected to terrorism, security, surveillance, disinformation, or the political applications of social media.

To be eligible for this internship program, candidates must be enrolled in full-time undergraduate studies in the Peace, Conflict and Justice program at the University of Toronto. Please note this is an unpaid position. Participants who complete the program will receive a 0.5 FCE through PCJ499H.

OBJECTIVES

• To learn to conduct original research on topics pertaining to security and/or human rights issues in modern Asia, led by the Asian Institute’s postdoctoral fellow, Dr. Joseph McQuade.

• The internship placement will involve essential training and one-on-one mentorship in research and writing skills, as well as opportunities to publish original work.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific duties and responsibilities include:

• Participate in two workshops co-organized by the Insights through Asia Challenge program at the Asian Institute to learn strategies for effective grant proposal writing, research ethics, and project management. (10%)

• Conduct a write-up of an Asian Institute event for publication on the Asian Institute website. (10%)

• Research and write two short articles for submission to online platforms including undergraduate journals or local NGOs. (20% each, 40% total)

• Assist postdoctoral fellow Dr. McQuade in conducting research and preparing notes for the publication of his ongoing research projects or op-eds on topics related to peace, conflict, and justice in Asia. Intern will receive acknowledgment as a Research Assistant on any published work coming out of these projects. (35%)
Write a short reflective essay (500-1000 words), describing the internship experience and reflecting on its applicability to the PCJ academic program (to be graded by the PCJ Program). (5%)

COMPETENCIES
Education: Registered in full-time undergraduate studies in the Peace, Conflict and Justice program at the University of Toronto.

Core Competencies:
- Demonstrated interest in qualitative and archival research methods
- Demonstrated interest in Asia-related topics connected to terrorism, security, surveillance, disinformation, or the political applications of social media
- Excellent writing and editing abilities
- Demonstrated ability to work well in a team as well as independently
- Some prior experience in data gathering and research
- Creative thinker able to work within deadlines
- Strong academic record
- Highly organized and self-motivated
- Competency with a language other than English considered an asset

DURATION
The placement will take place in the winter 2020 semester (a maximum of 8 hours/week), beginning the week of January 13, 2020. The internship position will be in the RCL-APRL, located within the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, 1 Devonshire Place. This is a part-time position, allowing for flexibility with studies.

The RCL-APRL invites interested applicants to submit a resume/CV and cover letter to Shannon Garden-Smith, Research Coordinator at the Asian Institute ai.coordinator@utoronto.ca by January 10, 2019. Please use the subject line “RCL-APRL Internship - Your Last Name_UofT Student ID #”.