

Bright Line Watch/Online Misinformation Research Fellow Application

We are recruiting a research fellow to work with [Bright Line Watch](#), an organization that researches the state of democracy in the United States, and [Professor Brendan Nyhan](#), a political scientist in the Department of Government at Dartmouth College who studies misinformation.

. The research fellowship is designed for a scholar who:

- Has completed a bachelor's degree in political science or a related field;
- Intends to pursue graduate studies in political science or a related field;
- Has developed strong skills in data management, analysis, and visualization, including extensive experience with R, Stata, and/or Python;
- Has strong substantive interests in research on democratic erosion and misinformation.
- Wants additional experience in research design, data analysis, and project management.

The fellow's responsibilities include:

- Supporting the development and fielding of surveys by BLW or Nyhan, including survey design, pre-testing, data collection, archiving, and analysis.
- Collecting, cleaning, and analyzing data measuring online (mis)information exposure and dissemination from Twitter and online panels.
- Conducting research to support public reports and scholarly articles by BLW or Nyhan, including literature reviews, writing/editing, creating graphs, and estimating models.
- Assisting in the planning and organization of BLW conferences and events in conjunction with partner scholars and institutions.
- Providing administrative support for BLW and Nyhan and conducting outreach to external audiences, including maintenance of the BLW website.
- Other projects to be determined.

The fellowship requires a one-year commitment, from summer 2020 to summer 2021. Within that range, the specific start and end dates are flexible to accommodate the schedule of the fellow and the needs of BLW and Nyhan.

The research fellow will be in residence at Dartmouth College and will be provided with institutional affiliation (including library and computing resources), access to shared work space, the opportunity to attend academic events at the host institution, and will be eligible to enroll in or audit one class per academic term without paying tuition fees.

The fellowship requires a commitment to work 30 hours per week on research under the supervision of Nyhan and the other BLW principals. Salary is: \$38,200.

Applicants should provide the following information to Professor Brendan Nyhan by email at brendan.nyhan@dartmouth.edu. BLW will begin reviewing application materials as of January 27, 2020 and will continue to consider applications until the position is filled.

- Name
- Email and phone/text contact
- Current position, or academic affiliation
- Date of (expected) undergraduate degree
- Academic concentration(s)
- List all academic classes (and final grades) you have completed that focus primarily on statistics, computer science, data visualization, applied mathematics, or other quantitative research methods.
- Briefly describe your data management and analysis skills. Include programming languages and/or software and levels of proficiency.
- Briefly describe any experience in conducting or assisting original social science research. If you worked as a research assistant, include the name and contact information for the faculty member or your direct supervisor.
- Provide a brief personal statement (maximum 200 words) describing your educational and career goals and how the the research fellowship would advance them.
- Provide a brief (maximum 200 words) proposal for *either*:
 - a. A novel analysis of existing Bright Line Watch data that has not yet been published in a BLW report, or
 - b. A survey question, battery of questions, or survey experiment that is consistent with BLW's research agenda and could be included in a future survey.
- If you have produced original social science research yourself or in collaboration with another author, you may submit it as a writing sample. **Note: A writing sample is not required to complete your application.**