Danielle Allen

*Surveying the Declaration*

When imagining the Declaration of Independence, many Americans picture the signed parchment at the National Archives. But most Americans living at the time of the Revolution would have had a far different picture in mind. The average individual experienced the Declaration of Independence in the forms of broadsides, newspapers, and books. The study of these myriad editions allows us to track the spread and popularity of the text of the Declaration in a specific period of American history, from 1776 through the death of the last living signer, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, in 1832. The research assistant will help collect data on dozens of contemporary versions of the Declaration of Independence. They will produce accurate transcriptions of each version, and will analyze contextual information to assess the audience, printer’s bias, and potential political associations of each edition. Finally, the research assistant will map publication trends and locations over the nearly sixty-year period of interest.

**Prerequisites (courses and/or methodological skills):** At least one course in American history and/or politics required. Experience working with primary sources and conducting historical research strongly preferred.

**Contact:** If you’re interested, send a CV, 2 references, and a short paragraph on why this project interests you to: Emily Sneff, Research Manager of the Declaration Resources Project, emilysneff@fas.harvard.edu.

Ryan Enos

*New Dynamics in Urban Politics*

Professor Enos and his team are studying new and changing phenomenon in urban politics. Cities are the centers of innovation in the United States and, in many respects, the center of democratic life - but, despite this, cities are understudied. We are undertaking a large-scale data collection on cities to better understand their politics and policies. This includes a large-scale survey of mayors, collection of administrative data, such as 311 calls, and infrastructure data, such as quality of public transportation. Research assistants will work with Professor Enos and his team to develop strategies for data collection and then will be responsible for the collection and creation of original data sets.

**Prerequisites (courses and/or methodological skills):** None, other than being organized and comfortable reaching out to people.

**Contact:** If you’re interested, send a CV, 2 references, and a short paragraph on why this project interests you to: Professor Enos: renos@gov.harvard.edu

Harvey Mansfield

*Our Parties*

To help write a book on Our Parties, the Democrats and the Republicans, considering what are the ideas they hold and what kinds of people are one or the other. To get an idea of what I mean, read my articles on the parties in two issues of City Journal, [Winter 2015](#) and [Spring 2015](#).

**Prerequisites (courses and/or methodological skills):** An interest in partisan politics and a desire to learn about both parties, as citizen and as researcher.

**Contact:** If you’re interested, send a CV, 2 references, and a short paragraph on why this project interests you to: Prof. Harvey Mansfield: h_mansfield@harvard.edu
Robert Putnam

*The Strange Arc of the 20th Century*

Many statistical measures of major aspects of American society, politics, and economics from 1900 to today following a puzzling similar pattern—rising strongly and steadily from about 1900 to about 1970, then falling equally strongly and steadily from about 1970 to today. The measures that follow this pattern include (1) income and wealth equality, (2) associational membership and personal philanthropy (social capital), (3) cross-party collaboration (vs. party polarization), (4) social integration as measured by inter-class intermarriage, (5) union membership, (6) progressivity of the Federal income tax, and (7) native-born fraction of population. Though some of these individual trends have been studied in isolation, no one has (I believe) yet observed or explained the entire pattern. This research is exploratory, and it is hard to predict its outcome, but in principle, understanding such a massive, simultaneous pendular swing from extreme individualism to communitarianism and back again could inform our thinking about how to restore balance to America.

**Prerequisites (courses and/or methodological skills):** Familiarity with US history in the 20th century and some experience in actual research (e.g., a research paper for a junior seminar or advanced course) would be highly useful.

**Contact:** If you're interested, send a CV, 2 references, and a short paragraph on why this project interests you to: Prof. Robert Putnam, Robert_Putnam@hks.harvard.edu. Please also include a list of all previous courses in history and social science.

Yuhua Wang

*Wars in China*

This project examines wars that happened within the Chinese territory in the last two thousand years, including revolts, foreign invasions, and civil wars. I want to hire several research assistants who can help me with coding the information of each war, including their locations, times, casualties, and outcomes.

**Prerequisites (courses and/or methodological skills):** The ability to read Chinese is required.

**Contact:** If you're interested, send a CV, 2 references, and a short paragraph on why this project interests you to: Prof. Yuhua Wang: yuhuawang@fas.harvard.edu