



# RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY: NASA Mission Data Analysis Internship

**Course Credit:**

Research Practicum registration #: 389 (COMM\_ST) or  
Independent Study registration #: 399-0 (IEMS)

**Duration:**

Winter Quarter 2017 (possibly extended to subsequent quarters)

**Location:**

SONIC Lab, Frances Searle Building 1-459  
2240 Campus Dr.  
Evanston, IL 60201

**Organization Overview:**

The Science of Networks in Communities (SONIC) research group advances social network theory and methodology through the development of cutting-edge techniques to understand and enable networks in diverse communities. For more information, please visit <http://sonic.northwestern.edu/about>

**Internship Description:**

The NASA Mission Data Analysis Intern will work in a research team that is using datasets from NASA including: International Space Station logs, human exploration research analogs, and astronaut interviews to understand the behavior of individuals and teams during space missions. Interns will gain an opportunity to learn about the full spectrum of the social science research process by applying text mining and social network analysis to examine a variety of research questions relating to task switching, team composition, and shared mental models. In particular, the intern will be involved in the preparation and analysis of data, programming of computational models, review of articles on recent theories and analytic methods, and will work toward co-authoring a paper for an academic conference or journal.

**Required Qualifications:**

This position is open to current undergraduates enrolled in an accredited degree-seeking program at Northwestern, except for those who hold Chinese citizenship due to the contract with NASA. Candidates must be able to demonstrate close attention to detail, proficient writing/communication skills, analytic thinking, emphasis on deadlines, and the ability to collaborate on evolving projects.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

Ideal candidates will have a strong interest in social science research and will have experience with Python and/or the R programming language. Prior experience with research, independent projects, and knowledge of statistical methods is highly preferred.

**Application Instructions:**

Please send a resume and brief cover letter describing your interest in the position to Michael Schultz ([michael.schultz@northwestern.edu](mailto:michael.schultz@northwestern.edu)) in time for the 2017 Spring Quarter registration on March 31, 2017.