



## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY: Sociometric Badges

### **Course Credit:**

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

### **Duration:**

Spring 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:**

This project focuses on understanding the questions and data we can extract from sociometric badges. Sociometric badges are electronic devices used in research to collect unobtrusively interaction data from individuals in a social context. In this case, we used the badges at an interdisciplinary conference hosted here at Northwestern. We are interested in exploring what information we can gather about the conference participants' interaction from these badges.

Interns will perform literature reviews to develop their understanding of this space, assist with collection and analysis of data, and explore their own questions using the data collected. Meetings will be held bi-weekly with our partner lab to inform team members on progress in these efforts. Interns will design an academic-style, conference-level abstract at the end of this internship. The graduate lead(s) will provide mentoring and guidance throughout this project.

### **Required Qualifications:**

This position is open to current undergraduates enrolled in an accredited degree-seeking program at Northwestern. Candidates must be able to demonstrate a competitive GPA, interest in exploring network data to answer their own questions, and experience with how to conduct research.

### **Preferred Qualifications:**

Ideal candidates will have a strong interest in research on social systems and be interested in pursuing graduate school. Preference will be given to candidates with prior research experience, prior exposure to network concepts, or prior exposure to basic statistics.

### **Application Instructions:**

Please send a resume and brief cover letter describing your interest in the position to Zachary Gibson ([zgibson@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:zgibson@u.northwestern.edu)) in time for the closing of Spring Quarter registration on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.