





Faculty Member Contact Information

Name	Dr. Sorin Nastasia
Contact Info	
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Department	International Studies

2 Unfunded URCA Assistant

	This position is ONLY open to students who have declared a major in this discipline.	M
	This project deals with social justice issues.	
	This project deals with sustainability (green) issues.	
	This project deals with human health and wellness issues.	
	This project deals with community outreach.	
X	This mentor's project is interdisciplinary in nature.	I

Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?

- Yes, social sciences and humanities

How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?

(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

- 8-10 hours

Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?

- Yes-- INTS 401 Independent Project in International Studies (3 credit hours)

Location of research/creative activities:

- Mostly virtually

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?

In Fall 2016, a new International Studies undergraduate degree program was launched at SIUE, preparing students for careers in various sectors of a globalized world. During the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 academic years, URCA student assistants, under guidance from the program director, pursued a project of mapping international studies resources and a follow-up content analysis of websites of International Studies academic programs. In 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022, additional URCA assistants studied student and faculty perceptions of International Studies programs through administering and analyzing interviews and a survey. In Fall 2024, an URCA assistant is sought to review broad themes pertaining to current educational and research trends in the International Studies interdisciplinary area.

Brief description of student responsibilities?

Student responsibilities include:

- contributing to the selection and summarizing of materials
- analysis of the data collected
- writing up of the research results
- work towards presentations and publication

URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals.

What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

The research experience outcomes will include:

- acquiring expertise in completing an academic literature review
- building capability for analyzing research results
- building capability for writing a research report
- increasing presentation skills

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:

- The schedule will be flexible and determined by Dr. Nastasia in collaboration with and with input from the student.

If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?

- All activities will take place virtually. The meetings of the student with Dr. Nastasia will take place through Zoom. Data collection and analysis as well as preparation of presentations and publication will be pursued remotely.

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

- No prerequisites, however an understanding of the basics of theory, research, and international studies is a plus.

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

- The student should be prepared to engage in examinations of international issues with rigor and critical thinking.