



***Program in Statistics and Methodology (PRISM)***

Professor Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier, Director

Department of Political Science

The Ohio State University

<http://polisci.osu.edu/prism/>

**Application for the position of *PRISM Senior Methods Fellow, 2009-2010***

The *PRISM Senior Methods Fellow* position fulfills half-time graduate associate duties in the department. The position begins in the autumn of 2009 and extends until the end of summer quarter, 2010. The position comes with summer funding, the opportunity of collaboration and coauthorship with faculty, a top-of-the-line computer that is designated for them, an office that will be shared with at most one other person (2049Q) PRISM, and a small budget for books, software, and travel. Students whose strengths lie in any area of statistical methodology, whose substantive interests lie in any substantive field, and whose training may go beyond political science are encouraged to apply. It is generally expected that this person will be a fifth year student or beyond for this position.

The duties and activities of the Senior Methods Fellow include: 1) Providing technical assistance to advanced methods classes, including being available to provide special lectures in those classes. 2) Presenting his/her own research during the year for the PRISM Paper Series and the departmental Methods Luncheons. 3) Holding regular consulting hours on methods and data analysis programs for advanced graduate students and faculty. 4) Being a resource for people in the department on data acquisition, manipulation, and programming problems. 5) Collaborating with OSU faculty members on research projects.

PRISM, which is affiliated with the Political Research Laboratory, offers a wide variety of services to the department, including statistical consulting, a speaker series, and methods luncheons. PRISM maintains the Senior Methods Fellow and the Junior Methods Fellow positions.

**Instructions:** Applications can be downloaded off the PRISM webpage. Please email completed applications to Janet Box-Steffensmeier, PRISM Director. If you have any questions about the application or PRISM in general, please email or talk to Janet Box-Steffensmeier (steffensmeier.2@osu.edu); Yoon-Ah Oh, Junior Methods Fellows (oh.146@osu.edu); or Byungwon Woo, Senior Methods Fellow (woo.54@polisci.osu.edu).

**PART I:** Please provide your responses on the lines below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Major Field: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary subfields: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Minor Field: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary subfields: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the statistical methods courses you have taken so far, along with the name of the instructor, the department in which you took the course, and your grade. Please include courses taken outside of the Department of Political Science (e.g., Economics, Sociology, ICPSR, etc.).

<u>Course Number &amp; Name</u>	<u>Instructor &amp; Dept.</u>	<u>Grade</u>
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____

Please list the statistical methods courses you plan on taking in the future, either in the Department or outside of the Department.

<u>Course Number &amp; Name</u>	<u>Instructor &amp; Dept.</u>	<u>When?</u>
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____

Please list the statistical software programs in which you are proficient: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PART II:** Please type your responses to the following questions. Try to keep your responses to about 1 or 2 paragraphs in length.

1. Please describe your interests in political methodology. What types of methods are you particularly interested in? Feel free to discuss methods topics you would like to explore in the future.
2. Briefly describe your substantive research interests. How do you plan to use methods to gain empirical leverage on research questions in which you are interested? What is your philosophy on the use of statistical methods in political science? Feel free to use an example from a research project you are currently working on or one that you have in mind.
3. One of the most important duties of the Senior Methods Fellow is to assist advanced graduate students and faculty on methods questions they have. What skills do you possess that will help you carry out this duty? What statistical packages are you familiar with? What kind of approach would you take in assisting graduate students and faculty on statistical questions? Feel free to discuss how you have assisted your colleagues in the past.
4. One of the exciting PRISM functions is the ongoing *PRISM Luncheon Series*. This series offers an excellent opportunity for both graduate students and faculty to attend presentations on applied and timely methodological topics. The series also facilitates interaction between methods oriented faculty and graduate students. Past luncheons include: *Introduction to Stata*, *Post-Estimation Techniques in Statistical Analysis: An Introduction to Clarify and S-Post*, and *Endogeneity in Political Science Research*. What topic presentations would you be interested in offering for faculty and graduate students?