

# Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Research Assistant (SoTL Specialist)

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HOURS PER WEEK

6-12

SALARY / WAGE

\$30.24/hour

## JOB DESCRIPTION

The term Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) refers to a multi-disciplinary scholarly process of systematic inquiry into teaching and learning, and parallels other forms of applied education research. SoTL Specialists work closely with faculty members from all disciplines on teaching and learning evaluation projects. These projects are managed and supported by the Institute of Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISoTL) as part of the SoTL Seed program, and focus on evaluating innovative pedagogies and learning technologies. Example projects can be found here:

<https://isotl.ctlt.ubc.ca/sotl-seed-program/sotl-awarded-projects/>

This position is ideally suited for those who are interested in higher education and in developing skills in: applied educational research, analysis/interpretation of educational evidence and data, research design, higher education, and collaboration.

Successful candidates will join an existing, vibrant group of SoTL Specialists. Profiles of current Specialists can be found here:

<http://isotl.ctlt.ubc.ca/about/people/>

Each Specialist is assigned a primary role on a handful of projects. Within projects, SoTL Specialists support all elements of the research process. These commonly include consulting and collaborating with faculty on:

- Designing evaluation and/or research plans
- Preparation of ethics proposals
- Data collection (e.g., surveys, experiments, interviews)
- Quantitative and qualitative data analysis

As Specialists have primary responsibility for various components of each research project, the position requires a high degree of ability to work independently, lead projects and manage problem solving in complex environments. The work is highly collaborative in nature, working within a team and with tight collaborations with faculty members. Thus, it requires superb communication and teamwork skills.

A typical project takes 1-2 years. Specialists are expected to contribute expertise in SoTL design, data collection, and analysis (often using social science and/or behavioural research methods) to complement faculty expertise in their own discipline and disciplinary teaching practices. Training and support are provided by Ido Roll, Director, Institute for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, and Adriana Briseño-Garzón, Manager, Learning Evaluation and Research. This includes just-in-time support, participation in the SoTL Seed Specialist group, and collaboration on projects.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Ideal candidates are graduate students with knowledge of **both qualitative and quantitative methodologies**. Students would also have familiarity with the research process (e.g., ethics, data handling etc.). Experience in conducting research with human subjects is an asset.

While training in particular methodologies will be provided, the ideal candidate will have a strong background in mixed methods research design and methodology either through prior involvement in research projects, or upper level research methodology coursework.

We place a great value on the following attributes:

- A keen interest in teaching and learning in higher education, and their research
- A mature ability to consult for, and work collegially with faculty members
- Strong teamwork and collaboration skills
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- An ability to meet and coordinate deadlines (while overall time commitments are flexible, some aspects of projects may be highly time sensitive)
- Significant time remaining at UBC as a student (2-3 years)

## PREFERRED DEGREES/DISCIPLINES

Education; Behavioral Sciences; Data and Information Sciences; Social Sciences; CIRTL.

## EXPERIENCE LEVEL

Current students registered in a UBC Graduate Program are welcome to apply.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Adriana Briseño-Garzón  
[ADRIANA.BRISENO@UBC.CA](mailto:ADRIANA.BRISENO@UBC.CA)

## HOW TO APPLY

Please submit your application to Adriana Briseño-Garzón, in a single email with the subject heading: "SoTL Specialist application – NAME" (first and last name) and attach your CV, a brief cover letter (MAXIMUM 1,000 words), and the name of three references.

The cover letter should address the following three points:

- (1) Why you are interested in the position and what you hope to learn and/or gain
- (2) How you meet the qualifications specified above
- (3) Your current student status at UBC (i.e., what you are studying, estimated time to completion of your degree)

**DEADLINE: November 10th, 2018.**

**ISoTL**

**Institute for the  
Scholarship of Teaching and Learning**