Graduate Research Assistant

Start Date: September 2019
End Date: April 2020
Hours: 6 hours per week, over 8 months
Salary: $1,003.71 – $1,215.63 per month
Research Supervisors: Dr. Bonnie Stelmach
Application Deadline Date: August 1st, 2019

Description of the context for the research activities:

The instructor is seeking for an opportunity to mentor a graduate student for a project called “Out from the Shadows of Teacher’s Dilemmatic Spaces: How is the Intensification of Parenting Intensifying Teacher’s Work?” This project emerges from two of the instructor’s current studies. One is about parents as a source of risk for school leaders, and the second focuses on the tensions and challenges that current Alberta school leaders face. "Dilemmatic space" is a term that Honig (1996) coined to describe a tension-filled, conflicting experience that constitutes teachers’ lives. Teachers are increasingly responsive to parents' demands and expectations, which means they are not simply partners as the rhetoric suggests. Rather, as Vincent (2019) suggests, parenting has become more intense, and as parents ramp up their efforts to give their children opportunities, teachers are ultimately expected to do more.

This project is in a nascent stage; therefore, the graduate student will have the opportunity to learn to search for and identify relevant literature, and write an annotated bibliography.

Overall, the GRA will provide the student with opportunities to gain competencies in preparing an annotated bibliography, literature review, online KMb, and conference proposal. With an extension to a second term the student will have an opportunity to develop skills in co-authoring and possibly co-presenting at a professional or academic conference.

Specific duties:

The student will co-write a conference application for a venue such as uLead or CSSE. If the student can continue beyond one term, the instructor will include the student in preparing the conference paper and possibly presenting (depending on location and funds available), as well as an application for funding to an appropriate competition (internal or external funding).

Qualifications:

• Strong research and writing skills and an ability to work independently
• Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or above throughout the academic year
• Desired skills/experience (please include any/all in your cover letter)

Applications should be sent to Izabela Martyniak (martynia@ualberta.ca)