Counter Measures against Extremism and Terrorism (CoMET) Database

Fall 2011 Research Opportunities

PROJECT SUMMARY

CoMET is part of a multi-year project that uses quantitative coding of open sources to primarily assess the effect and effectiveness of specific countermeasures in response to five specific terrorist groups/movements: Animal Liberation Front/Earth Liberation Front (ALF/ELF), Anti-Abortion Terrorists (AAT), Armed Forces of National Liberation in Puerto Rico (FALN), Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), and homegrown Islamist terrorists in the United Kingdom (UKJ).

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE INTERNSHIPS

The CoMET project is accepting applications for multiple Fall 2011 internship positions. These are hourly appointments, funded through a grant from the Department of Homeland Security.

This project seeks graduates or undergraduates with exceptional academic records to primarily identify and review open sources on counterterrorism measures and quantitatively code these measures using an existing codebook. In addition, interns will participate in regular project meetings to assess the project's direction and suggest improvements for refining analysis and outputs.

The hourly rate of pay for these positions is $8-12/hour, depending on the qualifications and previous experience of the applicant. Course credit also is available.

Qualifications

Required:
• At least 18 hours of coursework in social sciences, with a 3.0 GPA
• Ability to commit to working 10-20 hours a week at the START Center at the University of Maryland campus

Desirable:
• Academic background in terrorism studies, crisis management or related field
• Previous research and/or coding experience and/or research methods coursework
• Foreign language capacity in Arabic or Spanish

• Regional expertise/knowledge for the groups covered in the project
• Ability to continue working during Spring 2010

HOW TO APPLY

For best consideration, submit a letter of application, undergraduate and/or graduate transcripts, resume, and contact information for three references by August 1, 2011. The letter of application should indicate how many hours the applicant can work per week.

Application materials should be emailed to lead faculty investigator Dr. Brooke Liu at bfliu@umd.edu and senior researcher Jonathan Kennedy at jkennedy@start.umd.edu. All materials should include the applicant's name as part of the emailed files' names (e.g., John Doe. resume; Jane Doe_application letter, etc.). All applications will be considered until the positions are filled.