

Faculty Name	Thomas Ogorzalek
Summer 2018	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fall 2018	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Winter 2019	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Spring 2019	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Project Title	Chicago Democracy Project
Project Description	<p>The Chicago Democracy Project has constructed a large, user-friendly database of Chicago and Chicagoland area election results. This will serve as a resource for scholars, students, local activist organizations interested in more specific analyses of the data. Having constructed a minimum viable product for the database, we are beginning the second phase of the project, which entails continuing processing additional data (demographic and policy-related) to the site as well as the creation of analysis and content for our site. Summer research assistants will continue this effort and to conduct original research using the database. These efforts will include some elements of the CDP : gathering data from suburban Cook County jurisdictions to include data about suburban elections in our database; the collection of US Census and Chicago city policy data; processing and preliminary analyses of a new survey about local politics and context; the statistical analysis of spatial-quantitative data to answer important questions in urban politics; refinement of a new survey instrument measuring the attitudes of participants in a new redistributive pilot program in California; and helping to collect data in an ethnographic study of school integration in Chicago.</p>
Position Expectations	<p>The RA(s) in this position will be collecting elections return data, incorporating demographic Census information into the database, analyzing election results using statistical and GIS software, and writing text interpretations that make those results meaningful to the public.</p>
Skills/Experience Required	<p>This position will require the use of several kinds of software, including Excel and GIS (training will be provided as required), and to use news sources to create narrative summaries of select elections. We will provide necessary training, but an interest in engaging with data analysis software and with city politics is required.</p>
What Will the FF Gain?	<p>We hope the Fellow will gain concrete skills and experience working with electoral data and using creativity to answer interesting questions about local politics. We also hope they'll gain an affection for public engagement and using reason and evidence</p>

to engage in political debate. Because we already have a loose team of ex-RAs at Northwestern and the city, the Farrell Fellow will also gain new connections with this network, and insights into how work like this can connect with meaningful later life work. Previous Fellows have used their work with the project to construct senior thesis projects, win prestigious external awards, gain admission to excellent graduate schools, and build social media skills applicable to their later careers.

**Time
Requirement**

~30-40 week for the summer (on average; can be flexible).
