

The Forum

The Forum is a not-for-profit 501C (3) educational institution registered in California. It is an independent, non-partisan, innovative, dynamic, and task force organization. Its mission is to shape the public debate and facilitate global coordination at the intersection of technology and geopolitics.

It achieves its mission by:

- Bringing together global thought leaders to engage in constructive dialogue and to cultivate cross-ideological and trans-partisan and interdisciplinary networks and build consensus; and
- Providing both an intellectual foundation and educational opportunities through in-depth research.

Internship Program

Accelerate your professional success while making a difference.

The Forum is growing fast and interns are central to our efforts as we champion a path forward to a sustainable future. Our internship program offers opportunities to gain valuable work experience, explore a career path, gain an edge in the job market, develop and refine work skills, and gain confidence. We seek interns who are committed to our mission, are talented, enthusiastic, effective communicators, entrepreneurial, collegial, and enjoy the fast pace of learning and growth. [See our team.](#)

ArcGIS Mapping Intern

The Forum is immediately seeking an intern starting during the spring 2021 semester who will work through the summer. The ideal candidate is a thinker and researcher with ArcGIS skills who will assist the Forum's staff, Associates, and Fellows, including [Dr. Gregory F. Treverton, professor of the practice of international relations and spatial sciences.](#)

Our research program offers three main themes: *Globalization and Geopolitics, The Future of Democracy, and Sustainability.* See our programs and current initiatives here: <https://technopolitics.org/programs/>. This intern will start work on a defined project exploring emerging digital corridors in Central Asia that have the potential to

shift the balance of power and control of information away from the west and towards eastern superpowers, chiefly China. The key research questions are: is a digital corridor possible, who/what can make it possible, and, ultimately, can it challenge western hegemony? The mapping intern will work as part of a team to support the research process of defining, collecting, coding and mapping the data. Data sets may include but not be limited to: geography and climate; population centers; resource/commodity locations which might drive development; existing transport, communications and industrial infrastructure; existing military bases and infrastructure; industry and infrastructure sources of financing; types of government practices related to rule of law and digital governance; levels of economic and political partnerships in the area, etc.

Candidates must have a deep knowledge of, and interest in, international relations and related disciplines, such as human security and geospatial intelligence and public policy. While writing skills will be necessary, this person must be capable of using ArcGIS to create an integrated interactive Web-based product. A successful candidate will have proven research and GIS skills and a passion to make a difference every day at a fast-moving organization. The candidate must be entrepreneurial, collegial, results-oriented while also being an effective communicator who thrives in a fast-paced and quickly growing organization. The candidate must be discreet, engaging, reliable, and exceptionally organized.

Compensation/Course Credit

This internship position is unpaid. The successful applicant will gain valuable skills, experience, knowledge, and contacts, along with briefings with fellows, as well as other senior-level staff.

USC undergraduates interested in fulfilling this internship for course credit may register for *SSCI 397: Spatial Sciences Internship* during the Summer 2021 semester. For more information, please contact Ken Watson, Spatial Sciences Institute Academic Programs Director, at watsonke@usc.edu.

Responsibilities

- Participate in research briefings on a range of topics, write summaries of research findings, and condense research materials into digestible form, particularly as it pertains to geospatial mapping presentations;

- Monitor national and international news sources for information related to your projects;
- Participate in developing concepts and topics using mapping tools to support projects;
- Participate in regular editing and fact-checking;
- Integrate mapping data and information into preliminary drafts or speeches, articles, and other research-related projects;
- Participate in background research for meeting preparation, speeches and articles, some historic research for special projects, present summaries of research findings with written and geospatial materials, and condense research materials into digestible written and visual form; and
- Other mapping projects as required.

General Requirements

- **Duration:** Present through Summer 2021, with the option to extend.
- **Commitment:** Applicants must be able to commit to a minimum of 10 hrs/week during the spring semester and a minimum of 20 hrs/week during the summer semester.
- **Location:** Remote
- **Education:** Preferred course prerequisites or comparable prior work or internship experience are SSCI 301L: Maps and Spatial Reasoning and SSCI 382L: Geographic Information Science: Spatial Analytics. SSCI 383L: Geographic Information Science: Geospatial Modeling and Customization is a bonus.
- **Achievement:** Must achieve at least a 3.0 GPA (out of 4.0) scale or equivalent.
- **Language:** Excellent English language communication skills, both written and oral.
- Proficiency in the following foreign languages is a plus: French, German, or Chinese.

International students are welcome to apply, but candidates must be authorized to work in the United States. We do not sponsor visas for interns.

Apply here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LW7G3G5>

Deadline: Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and will continue until a successful candidate has been selected.