

Name: Farid Azfar, History

Cosmopolitanism, Sexual Space, and Newspapers in Enlightenment Britain. The student research assistant would conduct research related to my current book project. They would look through databases (and possibly microfilm) with certain guiding principles in mind and provide a preliminary analysis of their findings (also in response to pre-specified questions). I have three specific projects in mind, and could use help with any of the three. Together and/or separately they could take up 6 weeks. The first project would involve an analysis of debates over urban sexual spaces in early eighteenth-century newspapers, sermons, and pamphlets. The second would examine patterns within the same newspapers' coverage of foreign crises and calamities, particularly those in Persia. The third would locate trends with newspapers' coverage of the fluctuating fortunes of the East India Company. The project could take up to six weeks and could be broken up in segments and distributed across multiple students.

Special skills required: Just basic computer skills.

The project would benefit students with interests in questions of sexual control, cosmopolitanism, the urban experience, and/or the Enlightenment. It should also interest students preparing to write senior theses or contemplating graduate studies in history, English or any humanities subject. Students will have the opportunity to do far more than find and deliver: The process of research and analysis will be intellectually stimulating and analytically challenging.