



Position Announcement: Researcher

The FrameWorks Institute -- a nonprofit think tank that designs, conducts, interprets, and explains communications research to advance social justice -- seeks a Researcher to participate in its multi-disciplinary, applied research process. The successful candidate will join FrameWorks' research team in investigating how to effectively reframe a wide range of social and scientific issues. This is an outstanding opportunity for an early- or mid-career professional with experience in social science research.

The Researcher will collect, analyze, and synthesize multiple streams of data to produce framing recommendations for advocates, experts, and scientists working to engage the public. Other responsibilities include advancing the theory and methods used in Strategic Frame Analysis®, presenting FrameWorks research, and contributing to the organization's efforts to engage communicators across multiple nonprofit sectors.

FrameWorks Institute staff is comprised primarily of Ph.D.-level researchers and the organization has a vibrant intellectual life. We are seeking individuals who are excited about engaging in a multidisciplinary approach to communications. This involves understanding a wide range of existing theory and methods, designing innovative approaches to understand how members of the public think about social issues and to test candidate reframing strategies, and developing useful recommendations for advocates, policy experts, and scientists. Candidates should be intellectually curious, informed about contemporary policy issues, and have strong conceptual and analytic skills.

This is a full-time position based in Washington, DC. The position requires up to 35% travel.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop deep knowledge of Strategic Frame Analysis® and generate creative, effective ways to build the rigor, utility, and theoretical underpinnings of this approach to communications on social issues
- Collect and analyze data from individual interviews, focus groups, media content, and advocacy communications
- Contribute to the design and development of survey experiments that test the frame effects of values, metaphors, and other communications tools
- Analyze and interpret research findings to generate applied communications recommendations
- Write up research findings in a variety of formats and styles suitable for different audiences

SKILLS NEEDED:

- Ability to design research to answer applied communications questions
- Strong qualitative research skills, and ability to integrate qualitative and quantitative findings
- Interpretive sensibility needed to identify and unpack implicit cultural understandings
- Ability to distill and interpret complex research findings for non-academic audiences
- Strong writing and presentation skills; ability to present to audiences without social science backgrounds
- Sensitivity to issues of race, equity, and inclusion
- Ability to work effectively in a collaborative, multi-disciplinary, client-oriented setting
- Exceptional organizational and time-management skills; ability to thrive in a fast-paced organization

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION:

The ideal candidate will possess:

- Ph.D. in a discipline relevant to Strategic Frame Analysis*
- Training and experience in conducting multi-method research, on a wide range of topics
- Experience in ethnography, person-centered cognitive interviewing, focus group research, and/or experimental surveys
- Experience in using race and ethnicity as a factor in designing and conducting social science research
- Experience in identifying the implications of social science research for applied questions
- Track record of producing high-quality, timely analytic research products for non-academic audiences

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:

Salary will be commensurate with experience. At every level within the organization's personnel structure, FrameWorks' salaries are competitive with similar nonprofits of our size. FrameWorks values its staff and offers a comprehensive benefits package including generous medical insurance, vacation, and family leave benefits; retirement benefits and life insurance; optional pre-tax salary deductions for child care, medical, and transportation expenses; options for occasional telework; and more.

TO APPLY:

So that we can assess what you might contribute to FrameWorks, please submit the following materials to jobs@frameworksinstitute.org, using the subject header line Researcher Summer 2017:

- Resume or CV with complete employment history and educational background
- Cover letter explaining your interest in the position and its relevance to your career goals and your past experience
- Up to three writing samples – a mix of styles, genres, and audiences is a plus

Review of all applications will begin on August 17, 2017, and continue until the search process concludes. Please check FrameWorks' website (www.frameworksinstitute.org) to ensure position is still available before applying. No solicitations please.

FrameWorks Institute is committed to diversity and inclusion. Applications from people of color, women, persons with disabilities, and people who identify as LGBT are warmly encouraged.

ABOUT FRAMEWORKS:

The FrameWorks Institute conducts, publishes, and shares communications research to prepare nonprofit organizations to expand their constituency base, build public will, and further public understanding of specific social issues. Since 1999, FrameWorks has combined theories and research methods from the cognitive and social sciences to investigate how Americans view a variety of social issues: children's issues, education, public health and health access, oceans and climate change, racial disparities, immigration, aging, the role of government, and more. This work has now expanded to other parts of the globe, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, South Africa, and the United Kingdom. In recent years, FrameWorks has developed an ever more sophisticated curriculum, including new online interactive courses, to help policy experts and advocates, scientists, and community educators use this research to improve public understanding of complex social issues. Over this period, we have built an institution that is highly regarded in the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors and have contributed to the development of a community of active framers who access and use our research to build public will and redirect public thinking. In 2015, FrameWorks received the MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions, also known as the "organizational genius grant," from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.