

JOB AD

FrameWorks Institute
Job Description: Researcher

The FrameWorks Institute — a nonprofit think tank that designs, **conducts, interprets and explains communications research to advance the resolution of social problems** — seeks a researcher to contribute to its iterative, multi-method research process, and to participate in its intellectual life. The Researcher will support the research division in **datacollection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of content and findings related to Strategic Frame Analysis® (SFA)**. The SFA approach stresses an **iterative combination of research methods (qualitative and quantitative)** that supports both descriptive and prescriptive investigations of public understanding, and of the power of frames to expand public thinking and discourse on social and scientific issues. We are seeking an individual who is excited about engaging in multidisciplinary approaches to the study of how Americans think about a wide range of social issues (from adolescent development to global warming, race, and other topics) and **how scientists, policy experts and advocates can do a better job of engaging the public in solutions to these issues.**

The successful candidate should have **significant experience using a range of research methods and analyzing data on a broad range of topics.** Candidates must also have strong experience **synthesizing multiple streams of data, presenting findings, and interpreting results for those who do not have backgrounds in the social or behavioral sciences.** Candidates should have some familiarity with the scholarship on cultural models, the framing of social problems, and/or cognitive approaches to understanding how communications in general, and media in particular, influence public support for social programs and policies. Experience in ethnographic research, person-centered cognitive interviewing and/or experimental surveys is highly desirable.

REQUIRED SKILLS:

- Master’s Degree required; Ph.D. preferred.
- Training and significant experience in conducting qualitative or quantitative research and analysis.
- **Demonstrated ability to distill and interpret complicated research findings and create clear, high-quality products for non-academic audiences.**
- Strong writing and presentation skills.
- Excellent analytic, logic and organizational abilities.
- Experience bringing implications from social science research to bear on applied questions and issues.
- Demonstrated ability to meet multiple concurrent deadlines.
- **Experience working in a multidisciplinary setting, or in synthesizing and interpreting the results of multi-method research.**
- Professional, enthusiastic, hard-working and “can do” attitude.
- Capable of independently managing time and the tasks associated with a fastpaced research agenda and organizational objectives.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Conduct multiple forms of qualitative and/or quantitative research and data analysis to produce deliverables in written, video and oral form. Research methods will include: individual cognitive interviews, on-the-street interviews, group discussions, focus groups, expert interviews, experimental surveys and media content analyses.
- **Interpret** research findings to generate applied communications recommendations.
- **Integrate** research findings into a wide variety of application materials.
- Contribute to academic papers, working papers produced by the Institute, and other **written materials** as necessary.
- Master the presentation of FrameWorks’ communications perspective and past research findings and recommendations.
- Read and assimilate all FrameWorks research and presentations explaining the SFA approach.
- Participate in regular collaborative research meetings.
- **Contribute to ongoing process of developing innovative research methods.**
- Maintain a strong organizational posture to ensure the integrity of data and the analysis presented to clients.
- Attend client meetings as necessary to explain research findings and aspects of the SFA approach.
- Ensure the delivery of timely and high-quality responses to research questions by FrameWorks Director for Research, Vice President and other management staff.
- Stay abreast of the scholarship in his/her field and contribute this information to the intellectual life and research initiatives of the Institute.

Notice the emphasis on the organization’s mission and address how it aligns with your experience (beliefs, volunteer work, past employment, etc) . Demonstrate your cultural fit for the employer’s workplace.

Be sure to familiarize yourself with prevailing industry processes – or in this case, organization-specific methods like Strategic Frame Analysis – and explain how your experience enables you to master them.

Address this requirement with reference to the “required skills” listed below and give one or two specific cases of using those skills (for example, qualitative and quantitative methods) in your work.

Think about projects (writing, presentations, etc) you’ve delivered for non-specialist publics. Bolster your examples with the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result) and include numbers where possible.

Identify the defining activities repeated throughout the job description and employ the same key terms in your cover letter and resume to demonstrate how you meet the required person specification.