PAID UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY IN

EGALITARIAN STRATEGIES OF SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC GROWTH

Professor Samuel Cohn is looking for a team of talented undergraduates to work with him in testing a new strategy of economic growth for underdeveloped nations.

We are looking at the how historical rise of the currently wealthy nations actually occurred – but are challenging the orthodox stereotypes about manufacturing excellence, factory work, sweated labor and military dominance as being the basis of growth. By considering the rise of under-studied countries such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Norway and Denmark, we hope to show the viability of more egalitarian, less exploitative and more sustainable models of growth.

I will be asking students to do library research, reading secondary histories of countries with both successful and unsuccessful economies. Students will be provided with an analytic rubric of what they are looking for in the secondary accounts. Their task is change the organization of the source books from “chronological” to “scientific and theory driven” and then taking the source material in its more usable form, to test various hypotheses concerning successful growth. Students will do the analysis themselves and draw the final conclusions based on the evidence they have collected.

This project is supported by the National Science Foundation and carries with it reimbursement as an official Research Experience for Undergraduates. We will be doing this under the rubric of the Undergraduate Research Scholars program through LAUNCH (launch.tamu.edu), and following all of the regulations of that program.

Interested students should contact Professor Samuel Cohn (s-cohn@tamu.edu) in the Sociology Department. Here are the rules and regulations:

1) The project is open to students of any major.

2) Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 to apply. GPA will be a key component in evaluating candidates. Project participants are likely to have GPA’s substantially higher than 3.0

3) Interested students are expected to submit an application to Professor Cohn by email by Monday June 13, 2016 at noon. An application consists of a statement of interest, a brief biographical statement (one page) and an official version of the student’s transcript in PDF form.

4) Students who are accepted will have to work together as a team to submit a joint application to the Undergraduate Research Scholars program through LAUNCH by August 22, 2016. This is a four page proposal and all the students will work on it together, giving each student responsibility for producing approximately one page. More information about the Undergraduate Research Scholars program can be found at ugr.tamu.edu/ugr/ugrs. Direct questions to ugr@tamu.edu.

Prospective participants are encouraged to contact the Professor to get more details.