

Department: **Biology**

Working Title: **Graduate Assistant for Bentley Laboratory**

Classification: **Graduate Assistant**

Number of Openings: **1**

Pay Rate: **\$3675 (Full time monthly base rate) Actual rate based on appointment time base.**

Appointment: **20/hrs per week**

Expected Dates of Employment: **Fall 2025 (August 21, 2026 – December 23, 2026)**

Deadline to Apply: **August 20, 2026. The position will remain open until filled.**

Requisition #: **BIO_GA_BENTLAB_FALL26**

DUTIES OF THE POSITION

Major duties of the position include, but are not limited to, the following: The student graduate research assistant will work under the direction of the Principal Investigator (PI) to support research on current NSF grant. The student graduate research assistant will develop a framework that uses spectral time series in Google Earth Engine (GEE), supported by calibration and validation ground-truthed and LiDAR datasets, to visualize woody vegetation change across Sonoma County, California at multiple temporal scales between 2012 and 2022 and attribute its drivers.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of the subject matter of the discipline in which assigned. Ability to relate well to others within the academic environment; ability to supervise, assist and train students; and ability to assist faculty in the conduct of special projects or research within the discipline. For initial appointment, evidence of satisfactory achievement in previous academic work; for the subsequent appointments, evidence of satisfactory progress toward completion of degree. Education equivalent to completion of the requirements for a bachelor's degree and registration in a University graduate degree program; students enrolled in credential programs are not eligible for this position. NOTE: Exceptions to the minimum eligibility qualifications may be granted at the sole discretion of the University.

HIRING CRITERIA

B.S. or B.A. in Biology or related field. Ability to work independently or in a team. Intermediate proficiency with computers and Microsoft Office Suite (Outlook, Word, Excel) required. Knowledge of terrestrial laser scanning techniques and 3D point cloud processing software (Lidar360, CloudCompare, RiScan) and database or statistical software (R) preferred but not required.

HOW TO APPLY

Please email your qualifications and work experience by email to lisa.bentley@sonoma.edu

HIRING NOTIFICATION

Applicants will be notified by email.

SUPERVISOR

Dr. Lisa Bentley, lisa.bentley@sonoma.edu

OTHER INFORMATION

- The classification, Graduate Assistant, is one of three classifications in a collective bargaining unit, Unit 11. The Graduate Assistant classification provides currently enrolled or admitted University graduate students the opportunity to assist faculty or teaching staff by performing various professional and technical duties associated generally with the subjects or program which the Graduate Assistant is doing graduate work.
- Sonoma State University hires only individuals lawfully authorized to work in the United States. All offers of employment are contingent upon presentation of documents demonstrating the appointee's identity and eligibility to work, in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act.
- The university is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. We consider qualified applicants for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, medical condition, disability, marital status, or protected veteran status.
- This position is considered a "mandated reporter" under the California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act and is required to comply with the requirements set forth in CSU Executive Order 1083 as a condition of employment.
- Successful candidates may be required to do a background check (including a criminal records check) before work in the position can begin.

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