RECCS- LITE

Are you interested in mentoring community college students in discovering research? Do you have two weeks at the end of June to mentor a student online, and a data set that could provide an interesting entry-level project? “RECCS-lite” is your opportunity!

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, instead of a 9-week research experience, this year’s RECCS Research Experience for Undergraduates will be a 2-week mini-research course. This fully online program will be held June 15-26. We are looking for mentors or mentoring teams to support our community college participants in conducting a very small research project to build confidence and skills in research.

We expect the mentoring commitment to be approx. 1 hour/day for the 2-week period, with perhaps a little more time at the beginning and end. The project will be very scaffolded, with daily tasking and extensive support from the RECCS team. Students will be expected to work between 20-30 hrs for each of the two weeks, and develop and present a poster of their findings. This is a great opportunity to try out mentoring with a small time commitment for yourself or your grad student and perhaps to further explore a new or old data set!

Contact RECCS if you want to learn more: reccs@colorado.edu

What does mentoring for RECCS-lite entail?

Prior to the program, mentors will:
● Select a small research project - the subject of the research is up to you!
● Identify and provide a data set. This should be in a format that is easy to read and manipulate (e.g., Excel or similar) but sufficient to develop at least three different plots/figures/statistics that could contribute to a research question. Identify ~3 papers that provide background and context to the research (and are ideally reasonably accessible).
● Participate in a short training session with RECCS staff.

During the program, mentors will:
● Support mentee in learning the “how and why” of their research, including how to use, plot and analyze the provided data to investigate the research question, as well as to understand the limitations of the work.
● Check in with mentee at least once every day using online virtual meeting tools to discuss progress, help with research and provide feedback.
● Provide feedback and guidance on the mentees final poster, and provide feedback on a presentation “practice”
● Schedule meeting to discuss your own career path and ask about mentees’ career plans.

The RECCS team will provide support and daily check ins and training to the mentee. Mentees will receive $600/week for their participation in the research.