Undergraduate Research Opportunity

War Brides Acts: Marriage and Migration in the Post-WWII Era

Prof. Julian Lim
History

I am currently working on a book about marriage priorities in U.S. immigration law. During the Spring semester, I seek research assistance with a chapter dealing with relations and marriages between American GI’s and the foreign women they met during their stays abroad during and after WWII, and in both the European and Asian contexts. Part social history and part legal history, the research will explore the circumstances under which American soldiers come into contact with foreign women, the similarities and differences between Europe and Asia, and the history of the legislative and any executive actions taken on behalf of the GI’s and their foreign spouses.

Research assistant's duties:
The research assistant will review the relevant secondary literature, create an annotated bibliography, flag important and relevant primary sources and archival collections, and review available primary sources. The research assistant needs to be comfortable requesting assistance from subject librarians (at both Hayden and the Law library), and will need to travel to the Hayden library and/or the Law library in downtown Phoenix for materials. The assistant will also ILL materials where necessary, and possibly review materials that only exist on microfilm (no prior experience for either necessary - I or a librarian can help you with both). We will meet twice a month to discuss the results and progress of the research conducted.

Required skills or qualifications:
Reading proficiency in any of the following languages are desirable, but not required: German, French, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Spanish.

Skills student will acquire:
The student will learn how to conduct research in both the humanities and law libraries, review and work with a variety of secondary and primary sources, curate sources and materials, and present research results in an organized fashion. The student will also gain familiarity with the social history of World War II and the post-war era, European as well as Asian histories, and marriage and immigration law in the U.S.