Faculty Member Contact Information

Name	Dr. Rodrick Whetstone
Contact Info	
SIUE Email	rowhets@siue.edu
Campus Box	1774
Department	Art & Design

1 Funded, 1-3 Unfunded URCA Assistant

	This position is **ONLY** open to students who have declared a major in this discipline.	**M**
X	This project deals with social justice issues.	💙
	This project deals with sustainability (green) issues.	🍃
X	This project deals with human health and wellness issues.	➕
X	This project deals with community outreach.	✋
X	This mentor's project is interdisciplinary in nature.	I

Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?

- Yes, my project is truly interdisciplinary

How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?
(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

- 7-8

Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?

- No

Location of research/creative activities:

- Edwardsville on campus. Also in St. Louis.

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?

If I am selected, I plan to work with my URCA student to make provocative and eye-catching posters using a blend of digital and analog technologies. This project will focus on the lives of the victims of police brutality and the activities they were participating in when they were killed. This is a continuation of my previous body of work Faulty Reasoning which I completed with the help of the URCA program. Faulty Reasoning has been shown in several venues in St. Louis and will be included in an upcoming show called We the People at the St. Louis Art Museum in the Spring of 2025.

The URCA student will also gain invaluable exposure to the professional practice of exhibiting artwork. The URCA student will gain insight on sharpening their technical craft, maintaining a content-driven creative process, and developing a clear aesthetic vision. The skills and information gained during this process can be brought toward the student's own creative practice as an artist/designer.

Lastly, I am a board member at Central Print in St. Louis. Because of this, the student may also learn aspects of Printmaking along with Graphic Design.

Brief description of student responsibilities?

Student will start with helping the professor brainstorm or mind map the research project. From there, the student will assist by collecting letters and textures.

The student will assist the professor and learn a variety of skills in the graphic design process. Those skills are as follows but not limited to brainstorming/mind-mapping, learning the latest design techniques, and creating a typeface. I anticipate that this project will focus heavily on the art of typography. The student will then assist the professor in learning specific skills of making typography such as type rules, anatomy, and when to break the rules. There is an heir of randomness associated with this project. The randomness stems from the random reasons the victims were killed by the police. Because of this adventitiousness there should be randomness in the presentation of the letters of the typeface.

URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

The student will have learned a variety of skills such as page layout, how to choose in categorize fonts, sharpening their technical craft, various ways to manipulate an image on the computer, using design software, how to find answers to solve creativity problems, and possibly learn aspects of printmaking

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:

- I am very flexible with my time and can accommodate ANY schedule the student has. The student will need to be able to meet face-to-face or virtually during the week.

If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?

- Yes, sometimes we will work in St. Louis. The student must provide their own transportation to the city. We will also work in Edwardsville on campus. The student will need to provide their own transportation there as well.

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

- Students do not need to have any prerequisite classes. They just need to be willing and eager to learn new things and have fun.

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

- Students do not need to have any experience in graphic design. I will teach them everything they need to know.