

Dear ASML Hiring Committee,

I'm thrilled to submit my application for the Special Projects Research Assistant role with the Applied Social Media Lab. As a PhD student in Communication with a background in both research and teaching, I've spent the last few years thinking deeply about how digital platforms shape human connection and how we can reimagine them to better serve the public good. The mission of ASML resonates with me on both an intellectual and personal level, and I'd be honored to contribute to a team so thoughtfully positioned at the intersection of technology, ethics, and social impact.

My research sits at the crossroads of media studies, platform governance, and digital communities. I've conducted extensive literature reviews and built datasets from scratch, but more importantly, I've learned how to translate complex ideas into usable insights for students, for collaborators, and for broader public audiences. I bring strong writing and synthesis skills, experience managing multi-layered projects, and a collaborative spirit that thrives in interdisciplinary environments. Whether I'm coordinating across stakeholders, supporting product direction with qualitative insights, or just making sure a meeting runs smoothly, I take pride in being dependable, curious, and intentional in my work.

This summer, I'm available 30hrs a week, and I'm based in Washington state and fully eligible for remote work. I'm especially excited about the chance to support ASML's efforts around transparency, platform design, and healthy discourse. I believe research can be both rigorous and imaginative, and I see ASML as a space where that balance is not only possible, but actively pursued.

Thank you for considering my application. I'd love the opportunity to contribute my energy and experience to this important work and to learn from a team pushing the boundaries of what public interest technology can be.

Warmly,
Ellie Mercedes Ross

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