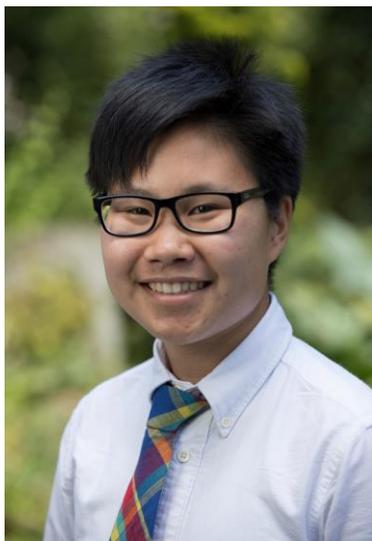


BSOS ALUMNI CAREER PROFILE: RESEARCH ASSISTANT & RESOURCE COORDINATOR

CAREER THE TURTLE
...because SUCCESS starts here.



Cooper Kidd '17 (they/them)

Title: Research Assistant
& Resource Coordinator

Employer: Children's
Hospital of Philadelphia

Major: Sociology with a
Focus in Stratification
[LinkedIn](#)

What do you enjoy most about your current position?

The opportunity to do a multitude of tasks at work. My position is half research and half administrative, so it is a great opportunity to learn how to do a wide array of different tasks and, subsequently, build on a wide array of skills. As a person who is going back to school in the near future in order to further my research career trajectory, it is helpful to know how to do both research and administrative tasks.

What is a typical day like?

There is no typical day. I think this holds true in a variety of fields. Prior to working at CHOP, I worked at Swarthmore and the same was true there.

Which undergraduate experiences did you find most helpful in preparing?

I completed an internship every semester and summer of undergrad, which proved immensely helpful in securing a job after graduation and having a variety of work experience to talk about during my interviews.

Going to UMD was an amazing experience, but there are thousands of students just like you. You need to make sure that you stand out. Do an internship at places that make your resume 'pop'. For example, I interned at the Library of Congress and can you believe that all of my interviewers asked about that experience.

Also, talk to professors who are doing work in fields that you want to work in-- their advice and experiences are invaluable.

How has your coursework helped you?

The courses that were quantitative in nature helped me a lot. It does not matter if you major in English or Statistics, having quantitative skills is a huge asset.

Job/internship advice:

Use your network. I got my first job out of undergraduate through a family friend who knew someone. Keep applying for jobs. I applied to 65 jobs before securing my position at CHOP. The job search and internship process is hard. Do not give up.