

University of South Alabama
English Department/M.A. Program
Teaching Assistantships for Fall and Spring of the Academic Year

Overview:

A teaching assistantship (TA) requires that the TA serve in this capacity a minimum of 20 hours per week each semester. The TA's instructional duty will involve teaching EH 101 (Composition I): one section in fall, and either two sections of 101 or a related teaching activity in spring. TAs must have 18 hours of graduate coursework in English.

This assistantship is for fall and spring of the next academic year, assuming satisfactory performance as a TA. Normally, a student can be awarded an assistantship (regardless of whether it is a teaching or graduate assistantship) for a total of two years depending on department needs in terms of GAs and TAs. Renewal of an assistantship for a second year is contingent on remaining in good standing in the MA in English program, satisfactory performance of TA duties, and financial exigency of the University.

TA Supervision and Coursework:

The TA will perform instructional duties under the supervision of the Director of Composition and will be required to attend a two-day, pre-fall workshop (the week before fall semester), enroll in EH 505 (three credits) in fall, meet with the Director regularly, and enroll in a one-credit training course in the spring. All TAs are expected to follow program guidelines and syllabi for EH 101.

TAs normally enroll for at least six hours of English coursework per semester. TAs taking more than nine hours should consult with the Director of Composition and the Graduate English Coordinator.

Graduate Assistants may not be employed in any other positions on campus. Because of the time-consuming nature of being a graduate student and a teaching assistant, it is not advisable for TAs to be employed in other positions off campus.

Response and Paperwork:

Contact Dr. Patrick Shaw <pjshaw@southalabama.edu> within ten days of the date of any offer message or letter you receive for a TA; after ten days, the offer will be void. Should you receive an offer, you will receive the Graduate School's official offer letter and paperwork only after you have contacted Dr. Shaw with your intent to accept.

Compensation:

Each semester, a TA receives a stipend of \$4,000 per semester, and each semester, a TA has tuition remission for up to ten hours of coursework within the degree program. Some fees, such as computer and student activity fees, are the student's responsibility. Failure to complete a given semester's duties will necessitate reimbursement of tuition fees to the university.