

ASSISTANTSHIPS

The School of Communication offers graduate teaching assistantships that include teaching discussion sections of our basic course, or specific introductory courses as an instructor of record, or assisting faculty in large lecture courses. A full-time assistantship involves a 20 hour per week commitment. As a graduate assistant, you will be required to enroll in at least 6 graduate hours each semester.

Benefits: Teaching assistantships provide an annual stipend plus a tuition waiver of 9 credits per semester, credits not used in fall or spring semester may be used in summer terms. New teaching assistants (TAs) receive intensive training from a faculty supervisor prior to the semester they begin teaching, as well as structured mentoring and teaching development throughout their first year.

Required qualifications

- Meet enrollment requirements
- Regular admission to the School of Communication Master of Arts program
- Remain in good academic standing

Preferred qualifications

- An undergraduate degree in communication
- Teaching or researching experience, or a combination of both

Assistantship Application Letter and Process

All assistantship applications are reviewed alongside your application for admission to the graduate program. The application letter is **in addition** to your personal statement required for graduate admission. **Email your assistantship application letter to com-grad@wmich.edu by Feb. 1 of the academic year for which you are applying.**

Consider the following as potential topics in your letter (approximately total 250 words).

1. What, if any experience, do you have in
 - a) teaching (e.g., traditional classroom, tutoring, formal training others in the workplace),
 - b) research (e.g., course projects, independent studies), and/or
 - c) creative activities (e.g., film production, media campaigns)?

If none, what interests you in pursuing these types of activities as a graduate assistant?

2. What would you like to achieve, contribute, and/or take-away from your graduate teaching experience?

Please direct questions about assistantships to com-grad@wmich.edu.