

English Graduate Assistantship Available

ELIGIBILITY

If not yet enrolled in the M.A. program in English:

- An undergraduate degree in English or the humanities (before the assistantship would begin)
- A completed application to the M.A. program in English
- An excellent academic record

If currently enrolled in the M.A. program in English

No more than 20 hours of graduate credit in English (at the time the assistantship would begin) and
An excellent academic record

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 1

GENERAL TERMS

As a Graduate Assistant, you may be asked to assist a faculty member in tutoring, grading essays and exams, leading discussions and delivering occasional lectures. This will involve 15-20 hours of work each week during the semester.

While you hold the assistantship, you must also be enrolled in eight hours of graduate credit each Fall and Winter semester. You are expected to complete your degree in two years.

The assistantship normally is awarded on a semester by semester basis and is renewable. In the past it carried a stipend of \$2,500 per semester and included remission of tuition. While funding for next year has not yet been established, we anticipate that the assistantship will be maintained at these levels. Graduate Assistants will be reviewed each semester to determine if the assistantship will be maintained.

Applications and/or questions should be directed to:

Natalie Cole (cole@oakland.edu)
Graduate Program Committee
Department of English
Oakland University
Rochester, Michigan 48309

248-370-2250

(see over for further application details)

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS FOR GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

THE GRADUATE ASSISTANT

The Graduate Assistant is a candidate for an advanced degree in English, dividing his/her time between eight credits for course work and fifteen to twenty hours a week of supervised pre-professional activity. S/he is assigned each semester to a different faculty member and the duties may include any activities relevant to the teaching and scholarship of the supervising professor and to the Graduate Assistant's own growth in these areas. Assistants may not accept additional employment without permission of the Graduate Dean.

PROCESS OF APPLICATION AND SELECTION

Applicants are selected on the basis of the following: a letter of application; transcripts of graduate and undergraduate work (provided by the applicant); two letters of recommendation (sent directly to the department by the referees); written applications are reviewed to determine finalists, who will be interviewed. (Applicants who are already in the English M.A. program need not provide undergraduate transcripts, but do need to provide an updated transcript of their graduate work.)

Applicants should ask writers of recommendations to comment on their qualifications for an assistantship. Awards are renewable Fall and Winter semesters throughout the period of the student's work toward his/her degree. Any student in financial difficulty may apply for help through the University's Office of Financial Aid, but Graduate Assistantships are awarded on the basis of competence and potential.

LETTER OF APPLICATION

We ask for a letter of application which will give us a full and personal sense of who you are. Such a letter might ideally address itself to questions like these:

- 1) What ideas, writers, and approaches to language and literature have interested and involved you most fully in your undergraduate work?
- 2) What are your major interests in non-literary areas of human concern?
- 3) What experience have you had in teaching or related activities? Describe and evaluate it.
- 4) What are your expectations as a graduate student and teaching assistant? What would you like to learn and do?

Our questions are meant to be suggestive, not prescriptive, and your own concerns and commitments will provide the most appropriate focus for your letter of application.