ENGLISH MA GRADUATE PROGRAM
TEACHING and RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate Assistantship Philosophy
The English MA Graduate Assistantship Program offers the opportunity to enact English Studies in real world teaching and research contexts. A graduate assistant can apply, test, develop, and revise his or her understanding of English by teaching composition or literature in a variety of settings or by researching literature at rare books libraries. Our graduate assistantships offer unique experiences that are:

- carefully sequenced over a series of semesters
- “student community” defined and practiced
- individually mentored by faculty
- coursework supported and theoretically informed

Teaching Assistantships
Our Teaching Assistants (TAs) teach English in the UMass Boston and wider Boston communities. In the first year, the TA typically works as a tutor and then moves on to an apprenticeship experience. That experience can include leading a community literature group, shadowing a professor, or teaching a lecture section. In the second year, the TA continues the apprenticeship or applies to be a “Teaching Associate.” The Associate works with fellow TAs to design and teach his or her own UMass Boston undergraduate composition or literature course. For pedagogy training, TAs take our “Teaching of Composition” or “Teaching of Literature” courses.

Research Assistantships
Our Research Assistants (RAs) work in area rare books libraries, such as the Boston Public Library and Mass State Archives. In the first year, the RA typically performs exploratory research, followed by an individually-defined transcription and editing project. In the second year, the RA can serve as a “Research Associate” and develop a rare books project that has a public component, such as a website or conference paper. This work can support thesis projects and Ph.D. applications. RAs take our “History of the Book” or “Books, Manuscripts, Libraries” courses.

Benefits
Graduate assistants receive a full tuition waiver, a payment of a portion of their Education Fees, a reduction in university health insurance, and a small stipend.

Application
Students interested in a graduate assistantship must fill out a short application form and submit a resume; applications are available from the English MA Office. Assistants must be “full-time” students (taking two or more courses per semester) and be able to work during daytime hours.

PLEASE CONTACT US!

information • materials • meet the director

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