

Graduate Student Instructor TEACHING & RESOURCE CENTER

The Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) Teaching & Resource Center is an academic unit in the Graduate Division that prepares graduate students for the teaching they will do at Berkeley and the teaching they may do in future careers. The Center also works with faculty and departments in their role of providing GSIs mentorship in teaching. Please contact us at gsi@berkeley.edu or 642-4456, or stop by the Center, located in 301 Sproul Hall, if you need assistance.

Programs and Services

TEACHING CONFERENCES

The Center sponsors a teaching conference each semester to prepare new GSIs for teaching. The fall conference consists of two full days. The first day addresses teaching in the U.S. Classroom and is geared to international GSIs; the second day provides intensive teaching preparation for all new GSIs, domestic and international. The spring conference offers a full day of teaching preparation for new GSIs.

WORKSHOPS • SEMINARS • COURSES

Workshops on Teaching

Our workshops focus on issues of particular interest to GSIs and are offered throughout the semester. Recent workshop topics have included teaching critical reading; using group work and other active learning strategies; assessing teaching and learning; developing statements of teaching philosophy; and designing courses and course syllabi.

Professional Standards and Ethics in Teaching

This online course, required of all new GSIs, provides instruction on the following topics: Promoting Learning through Diversity: The Inclusive Classroom; Teaching Students with Disabilities; Creating an Educational Environment Free of Sexual Harassment; Fostering Academic Integrity; and GSI Professional Responsibilities and Ethics. Berkeley GSIs, faculty, students, and staff may enroll in and take the course by going to our website.

GSI Teaching & Resource Center

Graduate Division

University of California, Berkeley

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gsi@berkeley.edu

gsi.berkeley.edu

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to noon/1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Faculty Seminar on Teaching with GSIs

This seminar for faculty focuses on how to teach effectively with GSIs and how to enhance faculty-GSI collaboration.

Summer Institute for Preparing Future Faculty

The Center, in collaboration with the Graduate Writing Center, offers a six-week summer institute for approximately 40 graduate students who are preparing for future academic positions.

Institute Fellows enroll in the core course, “From Graduate Student to Faculty Member,” and one elective, either “Editing, Academic Writing, and Academic Publishing,” or “Developing a Teaching Portfolio.”

Graduate Student Professional Development (GSPDP) Courses

The Center offers credit-bearing, academic courses for graduate students on the topics of *Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (GSPDP 375)*, *Mentoring in Higher Education (GSPDP 301)*, and *Reading and Composition Pedagogy for GSIs (GSPDP 302)*. These courses are listed in the University’s online schedule of classes.

CONSULTATIONS

Consultations with experienced Teaching Consultants are available to individual GSIs, faculty mentors of GSIs, and departments. Video consultations and classroom observations are also available to GSIs who would like to be taped or observed in the classroom and receive feedback on their teaching. All consultations are confidential and are designed to assist GSIs in their development as teachers.

Teaching and the Academic Job Search

Consultations are also available to graduate students seeking academic positions who would like feedback on statements of teaching philosophy and teaching portfolios and assistance in preparing a teaching demonstration for an on-campus job interview.

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Berkeley Graduate Division

GRANTS

Course Improvement Grants

These grants provide funding for GSIs who wish to incorporate special projects into their teaching to increase student learning. Grants have been used to provide stipends for guest speakers, purchase nonstandard course materials, and fund museum or theater visits.

Departmental Grants

These grants provide support for departmental programs that prepare GSIs for teaching. Grants are typically used to establish or enhance 375 pedagogy seminars, to support a video consultation program for GSI teaching development, or to prepare or revise handbooks and other pedagogical materials. Grants may also be used to enhance the effectiveness of sections in large courses. Further information and application forms can be found at gsi.berkeley.edu.

AWARDS

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award

This award gives campuswide recognition to those GSIs who have demonstrated excellence in teaching. Recipients are presented with certificates of distinction at a spring ceremony that honors them for their outstanding contributions to the educational mission of the University.

Teaching Effectiveness Award

This award recognizes and rewards GSIs who devise solutions to teaching or learning problems they have identified in their classes. Teaching Effectiveness Award essays are published on the GSI Teaching and Resource Center's website.

Faculty Award for Outstanding Mentorship of GSIs

The Center also sponsors the *Faculty Award for Outstanding Mentorship of GSIs*. Statements of mentoring philosophy written by award recipients are posted on the Center's website.

CERTIFICATE OF TEACHING AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The Center's newest program is its *Certificate of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education* launched in Fall 2012. Certificate requirements include: participation in the Teaching Conference for First-Time GSIs; successful completion of an approved 300-level course on pedagogy in the relevant discipline; successful completion of the GSI Professional Standards and Ethics in Teaching Online Course; participation in six Workshops on Teaching; at least two semesters of teaching as a GSI at Berkeley; classroom observation by a faculty mentor using approved guidelines; development of a course syllabus; use of mid-semester teaching evaluations; creation of a Teaching Portfolio.

Graduate Students who begin teaching in Fall 2012 or after may enroll in the certificate program. For more information, see the Center's website: gsi.berkeley.edu

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY PROGRAM

The *Language Proficiency Program* provides testing of oral English proficiency and a course (Lan Pro 100A) for prospective GSIs who do not speak English as a native language. All courses combine in-class work, videotaping of teaching, and individual or small-group tutorials.

The Center also offers individual consultations once an international GSI (IGSI) has begun to teach.

LIBRARY

Books, articles, videos, DVDs, and other reference materials that address both practical and theoretical issues in teaching are available in the Center's library and can be checked out for short-term use.

WEBSITE

Our website gsi.berkeley.edu offers a rich array of resources to assist GSIs in their teaching and to support faculty in their role of mentoring GSIs.

Materials include our *Teaching Guide for GSIs*, information on grants and awards, *Teaching Effectiveness Award* essays, *Language Proficiency Program* information, and program and event information.

Materials and speaker presentations from our *How Students Learn* initiative can also be found on our website.