2016-18 GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP MSN SPECIFICS

The Meredith College Graduate Assistantship is a commitment of an average of 20 hours per week for a total of 280 hours for each semester. Faculty mentors will continuously evaluate GAs to maintain high standards, and end of semester reviews will be completed at the end of the Fall and Spring semesters.

Graduate Assistantships will be awarded to students showing particular academic promise and leadership potential. Compensation includes full tuition coverage for the typical enrollment schedule for the MSN program (two academic years). Academic fees are not included as part of the assistantship, nor is any undergraduate tuition. Awards are typically made during the admission process before students begin the program. Graduate Assistants (GAs) work with MSN faculty in teaching or research assistant positions.

MSN Graduate Assistantship Requirements:

- Superior academic qualifications including strong undergraduate GPA
- Strong GRE scores that demonstrate quantitative and verbal proficiency
- Previous experience in leadership, either in education or professionally
- Incoming students are given preference for this position
- Essays should indicate thoughtful critical thinking skills and concise writing ability
- Full time enrollment as an MSN student throughout the MSN program
- Minimum GPA of 3.0 maintained during MSN program

Types of Graduate Assistantships

Graduate Assistantship Positions are designed to provide opportunities for graduate students to enhance academic skills by engaging with course content material beyond what is available through the classroom experience. MS Nutrition Graduate Assistantships are also designed for students to gain professional skills including oral and written communication skills, critical thinking skills, and organizational skills. Faculty members in Food and Nutrition are committed to the idea that GAs should be learning experiences for the graduate student. Graduate Assistantships typically involve either teaching or research or in some cases a combination of both. GAs will work alongside one or more faculty members for at least a semester and in some instances for the academic year.

Opportunities for learning and engagement for the MSN Graduate Assistantship, Teaching Assistants (TA) include:

- Acquire proficiency in the course content and methodologies used in the course
- Perform course duties as assigned such as; secretarial duties (making copies or securing library resources), conducting research to inform coursework, preparing items for course use and activities as directed by faculty
- Grading assignments and exams
- Time management in balancing TA responsibilities along with other academic work, keeping to deadlines, and advancing appropriately through academic milestones
- Meet regularly with the faculty supervisor, obtain feedback, and seek opportunities to continually develop content and methodological knowledge and skills
- Hold regularly scheduled office hours or study sessions to collaborate with students for mastery of course content
- Become familiar with college or school policies, requirements, and deadlines pertaining to topics such as academic integrity, safety protocols, maintaining a classroom respectful of diversity, as well as the Registrar’s procedures and deadlines
- Opportunities to teach course lessons or assist with course activities as assigned. TAs are not required to attend every class in person, however a TA is welcome in class as often as they would like to be successful in the position.

Opportunities for learning and engagement for the MSN Graduate Assistantship, Research Assistant (RA) include:

- Acquire proficiency in the research approach, design, and methods as directed by faculty advisor
- Perform course duties as assigned such as; secretarial duties (making copies or securing library resources), conducting research to inform research, preparing items for research as directed by faculty
- Perform research duties such as; conducting literature research and reviews, assisting research design, collecting data, analyzing data, facilitating discussion in research meetings, drafting and editing research writing, and presenting results visually or orally.
- Time management in balancing RA responsibilities along with other academic work, keeping to deadlines, and advancing appropriately through academic milestones
- Meet regularly with the faculty supervisor, obtain feedback, and seek opportunities to continually develop research design and methodology knowledge and skills
- Hold regularly scheduled meeting with research team to collaborate, troubleshoot obstacles, and keep research process moving forward
- Become familiar with college or school policies, requirements, and deadlines pertaining to topics such as academic integrity, safety protocols, maintaining a research team respectful of diversity, as well as the Registrar’s procedures and deadlines