

SPC Graduate Teaching Assistantship Information

Teaching Assistantship Duties:

Teaching assistants teach *two sections* of the Basic Course, either SPC 103 (Interpersonal Communication) or SPC 105 (Public Speaking), as assigned by the Basic Course Director (Dr. Alicia Alexander). In most cases, it will be Public Speaking.

Teaching assistants in the Speech Communication Department have autonomous responsibilities (under supervision of the Basic Course Director) for structuring and teaching their courses. Teaching assistants design their syllabus; create their own lectures, activities, exams, as well as all grading and administrative duties related to the course. Teaching assistants receive training and mentoring to help them succeed in all aspects of teaching at the college level.

Teaching Assistant Requirements:

- Attend and successfully complete TA training sessions held in May/June/Aug
- Attend the Graduate School orientation in August
- Enroll in SPC 560 in the first fall semester taught by Dr. Alicia Alexander

About the Courses:

Interpersonal communication is designed to teach students the importance of communication in their everyday lives and relationships and to provide them with interpersonal communication skills that may enhance their relationships. This course covers topics such as: self-concept, perception, verbal and nonverbal communication, messages, relationship development deterioration, conflict, family, and friends, among many other topics.

Public Speaking is designed to teach students how to be more effective public speakers. Topics include researching topics, audience analysis, organizing and outlining ideas, as well as effective delivery techniques for informative and persuasive speaking situations.

Applying for a Teaching Assistantship:

- In order to apply for the teaching assistantship, you must have applied for admission to the SIUE Graduate School AND the Speech Communication Master's Program. If you have not done this already, you will need to do so now. (Go to www.siue.edu/GRADUATE). You must be accepted into the Graduate School *and* the Speech Communication Program in order to be considered for this position.
- Complete the "**Teaching Assistant Application Form**" and submit it to Dr. Wai Cheah no later than February 18th at noon. The SPC secretary (Ginny) has copies of this form.
- Current TAs may reapply for a teaching assistantship, although they are not guaranteed a position. They need to complete the "**TA Application Form for Current TAs.**"